

Doc SAVAGE

The Man of Bronze

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SECOND DRAFT
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All of what follows is true.

FADE IN:

EXT. BELGIUM - NIGHT

RAIN HAMMERS DOWN on a dark, jagged landscape. EXPLOSIONS light up the clouds for miles, rendering the world surreal.

A title comes up:

BELGIUM
The Western Front
1918

CAMERA BOOMS DOWN to reveal the German rear trench, MACHINE GUNS CLATTERING. We are behind the trench, less than thirty yards away. FRENCH SHELLS are landing closer and closer, sending up BRILLIANT GOUTS OF FLAME in No-Man's Land.

CAMERA CONTINUES DOWN past a rickety wooden guard tower...

EXT. POW CAMP - NIGHT

... to REVEAL a prison camp, CAMERA DESCENDING into the squalid yard. HUNDREDS OF ALLIED PRISONERS huddle miserably in groups, shielding themselves from the rain as best they can with coats and tarps. The perimeter consists of razor wire coiled between tall wooden poles. Another title:

German POW Camp Near Mons

CAMERA CONTINUES DOWN, moving along group after group of wretched men huddled in the mud under their tarps, terrified and muttering as they share a few meager cigarettes...

... and we MOVE toward a SPECIFIC GROUP OF PRISONERS huddled at the fence as GERMAN SOLDIERS converge outside the wire:

GERMAN SOLDIER
(subtitled; in German)
The French have overrun our forward line! If they punch through, we're next!

GERMAN SERGEANT
(subtitled; in German)
Damn it! Prepare to move the prisoners tonight! Spread the word!

The Germans scurry off. CAMERA KEEPS CLOSING IN on the group of prisoners at the fence, shapeless under their tarps in the pouring rain...

... and we PUSH IN TIGHT as a flap of fabric is thrown back to reveal --

DOC SAVAGE

The Man of Bronze. Chiseled, powerful features. Strange, gold-flecked eyes. A FLASH OF LIGHTNING as:

DOC

You heard him. It's now or never.

The others reveal their faces to the rain. A dozen men in all. One of them is SERGEANT ANDREW BLODGETT MAYFAIR, nicknamed "MONK," a burly American infantryman with the strength and appearance of a bull gorilla.

Hunkered beside him is LIEUTENANT MAJOR THEODORE MARLEY BROOKS, aka "HAM." He's British, aristocratic, and effete.

CAPTAIN SIMON WOLF is from Alsace, wearing the uniform of a French Legionnaire. His eyes glitter like the animal he is named for.

WOLF

This is madness! Even if we get past the German trenches, we'll be running into the muzzles of our own guns! If the Germans don't kill us, our side will!

MONK

Oh, brother, picture getting out of this hellhole only to get greased by our own guys. One thing about me, I hate irony.

HAM

The odds do seem steep. No-Man's Land is hardly a stroll.

The men mutter agreement. Suddenly, a voice speaks up:

SPARKS

Doc's gotten us this far, hasn't he?

The men turn. CAPTAIN JOHN SPARKS, American aviator, draws back his tarp to reveal his pale, strained face. His leg is badly wounded, swollen and mangled, roughly splinted.

SPARKS

C'mon, who's gonna tell me I'm wrong?

This simple question hangs in the air like a challenge. The men trade glances. Monk tosses a guilty look to Ham.

MONK

Not me, that's for sure. I'd be dead if not for Doc. I figure I'm in.

SPARKS

Let's do it. Billy, pass it up.

BILLY, a young American soldier, pulls a bolt cutter from his rags. The men pass it up to Ham, who goes to work snipping the razor wire strand by strand.

WOLF

Dammit, listen to reason! Why tonight? Why now?

Doc hesitates, decides to tell them:

DOC

Szilard.

MONK

Szilard? What's a Szilard?

DOC

Not what, who. Hungarian scientist. Top man in physics. The Germans would do anything to get their hands on him. I can't let that happen.

(off their looks)

I have to get him out. That's been my mission all along.

WOLF

He's here? In camp?

SZILARD (O.S.)

At your service.

The men turn to look. A flap of tarp rises to reveal PROFESSOR JOSEF SZILARD (pronounced si-LARD), a Hungarian scientist disguised in the uniform of an Italian major.

MONK

You? All this time, I thought you were just some Italian!

HAM

(to Doc)

Why wait till now to tell us?

DOC

The Germans always plant spies in these camps. I couldn't run the risk. I'm sorry.

WOLF

I notice your accent isn't pure New Jersey. How do we know you're not the spy?

4.
With a flash of rage, Doc grabs Wolf by the collar and yanks him close, nose to nose.

DOC

My father gave everything for our freedom. To make us American citizens. I won't explain that more than once.

WOLF

(teeth clenched)

Your devotion is heartwarming. But it still doesn't explain how we get past the Germans.

Doc lets him go, opens a burlap bundle to reveal six rusty tin cans with jury-rigged fuses.

DOC

Sugar and Epsom salts.

Off their looks, we go --

OUTSIDE THE PRISON CAMP

The last of the razor wire gets clipped and falls away. Doc comes wriggling out in the mud, leading the way. Szilard is helped through, then Sparks, followed by Ham and the others. A dozen men in all.

Doc offers Sparks his shoulder, but Sparks gets his crutch under his arm and waves him off with a pained grin.

SPARKS

You just try to keep up with me.

DOC

Soon as we get back to our lines, I'll fix that leg of yours. You won't lose it. That's a promise.

SPARKS

If you say it, I believe it.

DOC

Monk, Ham, stick close to John and the professor. The rest of you...

He tosses the tin can bombs to the men at random.

DOC

(continuing)

... light 'em up.

THE GERMAN TRENCH

The GERMAN MACHINE GUNNERS are BLAZING AWAY WITH THEIR MAXIM MACHINE GUNS. Smoke and thunderous noise. Searchlights are sweeping No-Man's Land, seeking the enemy.

Suddenly, from behind them, six sputtering tin cans arc through the night and bounce into the trench line. THICK WHITE SMOKE billows up from the cans, engulfing the trench.

DOC
(subtitled; in German)
Poison gas! Run for your lives!

The Germans run screaming in panic, scrambling from the trench and abandoning their posts to the roiling smoke, many dropping their weapons as they go.

Doc and his men run up from behind and jump into the smoke-filled trench without hesitating, gathering up weapons.

DOC
OVER THE TOP! LET'S GO!

Doc leads the men over the top into No-Man's Land, leaving the German trench behind.

ANOTHER ANGLE

In the smoke and panic: a GERMAN LIEUTENANT is struggling to fasten his gas mask. He glances back toward the trench and sees Doc and the others fleeing unharmed through the cloud of "poison gas." He rips his mask off.

GERMAN LIEUTENANT
(subtitled; in German)
IT'S A TRICK!

EXT. NO-MAN'S LAND - NIGHT

A cacophonous, surreal nightmare of barbed wire, smoke, explosions, and sweeping searchlights. Doc and his men come running and weaving among the shattered obstacles, slipping and sliding in mud and slime.

A French shell EXPLODES nearby, sends them diving/tumbling into a shell crater half-filled with water. Monk splashes and crawls to the lip of the crater, spitting water.

MONK
DON'T SHOOT! WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE!

Monk ducks as BULLETS CHEW the muddy lip to fragments!

HAM

They can't hear you, you baboon!

Suddenly, bullets come from behind them, too!

THE GERMAN SOLDIERS

are swarming back to their machine guns, OPENING FIRE on our group.

DOC AND HIS MEN

MONK

This just ain't working out!

Doc sees an abandoned farmhouse in the middle of No-Man's Land, half-destroyed by the shelling.

DOC

We have to get to that farmhouse!

Thinking fast, Doc spots the tattered remains of a CRASHED BIPLANE some twenty yards away, nose-first in the mud. Before anybody can stop him, he lunges from the crater --

DOC

Wait here!

Doc goes racing toward the plane, doing some serious broken-field running as BULLETS CHEW THE GROUND at his feet!

Doc dives behind the plane as MACHINE GUN BULLETS shatter the wood and canvas to fragments!

He lunges up, wrenches the plane's drum-fed LEWIS GUN off its mount, and turns the muzzle at the German trench. BRRAAAAAAP! The MACHINE GUN BLAZES in his grasp.

THE GERMAN TRENCH

Doc's bullets CHEW THE LIP OF THE TRENCH, spraying mud in the air, sending the German soldiers ducking for cover.

DOC'S MEN

break cover and run like crazy across No-Man's Land toward the farmhouse. Doc brings up the rear, FIRING BURST AFTER BURST, covering their retreat, keeping the Germans pinned down.

Several of the fleeing men are wounded and go down. The others grab them, dragging them toward safety.

Sparks is hit! Doc drops to his side, finds him gasping in pain:

SPARKS

Leave me.

DOC

Like hell.

Doc picks him up with one arm and heaves him onto his shoulder. He falls back toward the farmhouse, FIRING THE LEWIS GUN one-handed.

Doc glances back and sees the last of his men get safely into the house. His Lewis gun runs dry at that moment. He tosses it in the mud, turns and disappears inside as GERMAN BULLETS RIP THE DOOR FRAME TO SPLINTERS.

THE GERMAN LIEUTENANT

hollers to the artillery positions:

GERMAN LIEUTENANT

(subtitled; in German)

ARTILLERY! ZERO THAT FARMHOUSE!

The cannon muzzles start cranking...

INT. FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

The men are spent and terrified, several of them wounded. Doc has Sparks on the floor near the entrance, checking his wound. Szilard and Wolf are right next to them, concerned.

SPARKS

I'll be fine. Just got my wind knocked out.

MONK AND HAM

are at the rear of the house with most of the men. Ham crouches at the crumbled remains of a window, SIGNALING MORSE CODE at the Allied trenches with a flashlight. A light starts flashing in response.

HAM

They see us! They're going to hold their fire!

MONK

Well, it's about time! Remind me to send flowers!

But suddenly: KA-BOOM! The world EXPLODES as a German artillery shell hits! Everybody gets knocked flat as a wall collapses, spewing debris and plaster dust.

Dazed, Doc looks up and sees the massive main ceiling beam giving way. The entire roof is about to come down on them!

Doc jumps to his feet and catches the falling beam on his shoulder, shoving it back up with a mighty cry! He strains with all he's got, buying them precious seconds.

DOC

EVERYBODY OUT! HELP THE WOUNDED!

The men behind Doc scramble outside, making it to safety. Only Szilard and Wolf remain, still near the entrance.

DOC

Professor! Go!

Szilard starts forward, but he never gets past Doc --

-- because a broom-handled Mauser pistol appears in Wolf's hand like a magic trick, the muzzle pressed to Szilard's temple! Doc is stunned beyond words.

WOLF

You were right about one thing. Those camps are crawling with spies.

Wolf glances up, smiles. The ceiling is crumbling. Doc can't hold out much longer.

WOLF

Enjoy wearing the ceiling.

He turns to go, pulling Szilard with him...

... but Sparks rises up from the gloom and dust, blocking his escape! He was still there by the entrance!

DOC

JOHN, NO!

Sparks takes a mighty swing at Wolf's head with his makeshift crutch, but Wolf ducks the blow by inches. BLAM-BLAM-BLAM! Three quick shots from the Mauser. Sparks goes down with three holes in his chest.

DOC

DAMN YOU!

Wolf darts to the door, dragging Szilard with him. KA-BOOM! ANOTHER ARTILLERY SHELL HITS! The world gets torn apart as the house comes CRASHING down on Doc's head, leaving us with:

SMOKE AND CHOKING DUST

It starts to dissipate. We find Doc crawling through the rubble toward Sparks. Doc is dazed with concussion, his head streaked with blood. FLAMES are spreading everywhere.

Sparks is still alive, though barely. Doc tries to stem the bleeding, but sees it's hopeless.

DOC

You're going to be fine... just fine.

SPARKS

That's the first... lie... I've ever heard you tell...

Sparks pulls out a small silver picture frame from his breast pocket. It opens like a tiny book to reveal a family portrait: Sparks, his WIFE, and their INFANT SON.

SPARKS

You look after Jack for me... He's only two. Take care of him...

DOC

Don't worry about that...

Sparks grabs Doc's hand, squeezing with bloody fingers.

SPARKS

Swear it, Doc. Swear it to me.

Doc looks him in the eye. Softly:

DOC

I swear it.

Sparks smiles, blood flecking his lips. And then he dies.

A FLARE bursts overhead, drifting like a burning red star. As Doc looks down at the picture of Sparks' family, his tears finally come. PUSH IN on the photograph as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

THE SURFACE OF THE OCEAN

Jeweled waves reflect the setting sun, glinting with scintillating fire. Suddenly --

A SILVER TRI-MOTOR AIRPLANE

ROARS into frame, its hull gleaming in the sun. CAMERA FOLLOWS its approach over the water, REVEALING...

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EXT. NEW YORK CITY (1938) - DUSK
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City of dreams. This is not New York as it actually existed. In a SERIES OF SHOTS, we see that this is the city the visionaries of the 1930's always hoped it would become.

Manhattan is an art deco Camelot. ZEPPELINS, AIRPLANES, and GYROCOPTERS share the crowded skies with the radiant spikes of lustrous skyscrapers. This magical place couldn't be further from the bloody trenches of the Great War if it were on another planet.

A title comes up:

NEW YORK CITY
Capital of the World
20 Years Later

MONTAGE ENDS with the glorious steel and concrete spire that is THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING. Olympus. Wherein live the gods.

CUT TO:

EXTREME CLOSEUP - A PAIR OF STRANGE, GOLD-FLECKED EYES

It's Doc, of course. His sweating brow is furrowed with deep concentration...

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - OPERATING ROOM - DUSK

The CLINKING of surgical implements echoes through the silent room. Doc is performing a delicate brain operation, peering through a crane-like operating microscope.

A GROUP OF EMINENT DOCTORS is watching from behind a glass wall. They're all dressed in surgical scrubs.

Monk and Ham are with them. Strangely, they're both wearing tuxedos. Ham carries a slender black cane and is sartorial perfection in his dapper tailcoat. Monk is wearing a clip-on tie and an unsightly plaid vest. Ham opens an elegant pocket watch and glances at it impatiently.

TWO SURGEONS

are looking over Doc's shoulder and whispering...

SURGEON #1
It's working... He's preserved the
cortex!

SURGEON #2
That's impossible...

Doc does not look up from his painstaking work.

DOC
Not impossible. Just very difficult.

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - CORRIDOR - DUSK

Doc, Monk, and Ham burst through a set of swinging doors onto a CROWD OF DOCTORS and REPORTERS waiting in the hallway. FLASHBULBS POP amid shouted questions. Monk wades in and clears a path.

MONK
All right, make a hole here! Doc's comin' through and he ain't answerin' none of your cockamamie questions!

Monk leads Doc and Ham through the crowded hallway.

HAM
(to Doc)
Naturally, you're running late. However, I took the liberty of selecting a tuxedo. I've laid it out for you upstairs.

Before Doc can respond, Surgeon #1 pushes through the crowd.

SURGEON #1
Congratulations, doctor! That operating microscope of yours is going to revolutionize the field!

DOC
It's still too expensive to be practical.

SURGEON #1
You're being too modest. As usual. It's nothing short of brilliant.

Monk calls an elevator and they step inside. The anxious surgeon moves to get in with them, but Monk stops him.

MONK
Am-scray, sawbones. The doctor is out.

Monk hits the button for the 86th floor, closing the elevator doors in the man's face.

EXT. RUNWAY - DUSK

The propellers of the TRI-MOTORED AIRPLANE we saw earlier CLICK to a halt and a short stair is pushed into place.

One of the first passengers to step out is someone we recognize -- Prof. Josef Szilard, now a white-haired old man in his 60's! His darting, fearful eyes scan the tarmac as he descends the stairs...

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - 5TH AVENUE - NIGHT

POLICE are directing traffic and putting up barricades on the street to keep back a CROWD that is forming at the skyscraper's entrance.

INT. DOC'S H.Q. - 86TH FLOOR - OFFICE - NIGHT

One thousand feet above the street, Doc Savage stands at a huge window, looking down at the gathering crowd. He's putting on a tuxedo shirt.

Behind him, the deco-modernistic room is cluttered with wrapped gifts and elaborate flower arrangements. One of them sports a banner reading, "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DOC!" Monk picks up one of the gift boxes and shakes it curiously.

MONK

Here, open this one!

He tosses it to Doc, who tears it open, revealing a box of expensive cigars. Doc eyes them distastefully.

DOC

Who sent these?

Ham quickly consults a list...

HAM

Winston Churchill.

DOC

Tell him he should know better. These things are very bad for you.

Doc drops them in a nearby waste basket, which is filled with discarded gifts of candy and alcohol. Ham is flipping through a huge pile of telegrams and messages.

HAM

This is from Johnny in Africa. And these are from Renny and Long Tom in Honduras. They send their apologies.

DOC

Good. Tell them they're all fired for missing my birthday party.

Monk laughs. Doc's eye falls to a pair of photographs on an oak desk. One is the old framed portrait of Sparks' family. The other is a picture of a YOUNG MAN in an Army uniform.

DOC

What about Jack?

HAM

Don't worry, he'll make it.

That's when they begin to hear a strange, droning BUZZ, growing louder and louder... The picture frames begin to CHATTER on Doc's desktop. Doc turns to the big window --

-- but the view of the city has been completely blotted out by a giant black swastika!

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - NIGHT

An enormous ZEPPELIN -- the "Valkyrie" -- is approaching the great skyscraper, preparing to dock at its mooring mast. SEARCHLIGHTS play across the ship, illuminating its silver skin. The tail rudder is emblazoned with the Nazi swastika.

INT. DOC'S H.Q. - 86TH FLOOR - OFFICE - NIGHT

Doc, Monk, and Ham watch the zeppelin from the window.

HAM

One of their passenger ships from Berlin. Looks like the Valkyrie.

Doc gives the zeppelin a dark look as it passes by...

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - LANDING PLATFORM - NIGHT

The great zeppelin drops its line and the mooring mechanism begins pulling it in. Once docked, a gangplank descends from the Valkyrie's nose to the landing platform.

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - ROOFTOP CONCOURSE - NIGHT

The Valkyrie's PASSENGERS are being cleared through customs. An UNSEEN MAN hands his passport to a CUSTOMS AGENT. The passport has a Nazi swastika embossed on it.

The picture inside is of a sinister-looking man named KURT MAHLER.

The customs agent stamps the passport and hands it back.
CAMERA PANS UP TO REVEAL Mahler as he lights a cigarette.
If anything, he's scarier in person.

CUSTOMS AGENT

Welcome to America.

MAHLER

Danke sehr.

EXT. TIMES SQUARE - NIGHT

A message runs in bright electric lights, crawling around the corner of a building -- "HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOC SAVAGE!!!"

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - 5TH AVENUE - NIGHT

At the entrance of the skyscraper, a huge CROWD mills and shoves. POLICEMEN are helplessly blowing their WHISTLES. Limousines are pulling up to the curb. MEN IN TUXEDOS and WOMEN IN FANCY GOWNS are stepping out onto a red carpet.

Mercury-vapor flood lamps blaze and a number of NEWSREEL CAMERAS are visible, mounted on tops of cars. A RADIO COMMENTATOR is on the scene, yelling into a microphone:

COMMENTATOR

Doc Savage's hundreds of patents and inventions have made him one of the richest men in the world. And one of the best-loved as well, if this crowd is any indication. The whole city has turned out to celebrate the birthday of this visionary philanthropist and adventurer. Anybody who's anybody is here tonight. I see Greta Garbo stepping out of a limousine now... And there's Rhett Butler himself, Clark Gable!

FLASHBULBS POP and people in the crowd CHEER and WHISTLE as they recognize their favorite celebrities. It's a spectacle the likes of which the city has rarely seen.

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - BALLROOM - NIGHT

A gala reception is in progress. POLICE OFFICERS and dark-suited SECRET SERVICE AGENTS cover the crowd.

Doc enters, sending a ripple of excitement through the room. The BAND strikes up "FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW" as he makes his way through the crowd, shaking hands with friends and well-wishers.

THE MARX BROTHERS are here and Doc takes some good-natured ribbing from them.

We recognize CORPORAL JACK SPARKS from the photo on Doc's desk. Like his father, he is rakish and dark-haired. He's wearing an Army dress uniform. A beautiful BLONDE DEBUTANTE is chatting with him over drinks, but her eye is on Doc.

DEBUTANTE

So you've known Doctor Savage your whole life?

JACK

Pretty much. He sorta took me under his wing when I was a kid.

DEBUTANTE

You are so lucky! He is really a great man... Oh, my gosh! Here he comes!

Doc greets Jack with a warm handshake.

JACK

Happy birthday, sir!

DOC

Thank you... Have you been drinking?

Jack guiltily hides his half-finished highball behind his back and dodges the question by introducing the debutante.

JACK

I'd like you to meet my friend Edith Cavanaugh. Edith, this is Doc Savage.

DEBUTANTE

It is such a thrill to meet you! I think you are such a great man --

Just then, a SECRET SERVICE AGENT appears at Doc's side.

AGENT #1

(interrupting)

Pardon me, Doctor Savage. The President has arrived.

DOC

Thank you.

(to Jack)

Have fun tonight. That's an order.

The Secret Service agent escorts him across the ballroom. The debutante watches Doc go, as if transfixed.

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DEBUTANTE

He is a great, great man...

Jack tries to get her attention, but it's no use. She's the first of many women who will fall in love with Doc tonight.

JACK

So... Edith?

(a beat; nothing)

Right.

Sighing, Jack gulps down the last of his highball and walks away. Edith doesn't even notice.

EXT. 5TH AVENUE (NEAR EMPIRE STATE BUILDING) - NIGHT

The celebrating crowd has traffic at a standstill. CAMERA BOOMS DOWN, CLOSING IN on a stopped TAXI CAB. The back door opens and Prof. Josef Szilard gets out, looking around frantically.

He gazes up at the Empire State Building a block away and gasps at the sight of the Nazi zeppelin docked atop it.

He hastily hands the cabbie a wad of bills and hurries toward the crowd, unaware of the TWO MEN in trench coats who have been keeping watch from the shadows...

It's Mahler and a NAZI HENCHMAN! They spot the old man and give chase. Szilard sees them coming, turns and runs. His pursuers are weaving through the stopped cars behind him, roughly shoving people out of their path!

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - BALLROOM - NIGHT

Doc is dancing with a MATRONLY WOMAN in her 50's. The debutante we saw earlier is mooning over Doc with some GIRLFRIENDS. Jack is watching them from across the room and slowly getting tipsy.

Monk and Ham are at the table with Jack. Monk tugs uncomfortably at the collar of his ill-fitting tuxedo.

MONK

Man, am I ever itchin' to get out of this monkey suit!

HAM

The one you were born in?

As the band wraps up its tune, the MASTER OF CEREMONIES takes the microphone for an important introduction...

M.C.

Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt!

The guests APPLAUD and the band strikes up "HAIL TO THE CHIEF" as FDR is wheeled onto the stage. He is helped over to the microphone and starts waving for Doc to join him.

FDR

All right, you rascal! Get away from my wife and come up here!

LAUGHTER from the audience. The woman Doc's been dancing with is ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. Doc leads her up to the stage and they stand next to the President.

FDR

I'd like to take this opportunity to announce that thanks to you, the Mercy Hospitals Project for the poor has raised over three hundred and fifty thousand dollars tonight! We are eternally in your debt.

The President leads the audience in a round of APPLAUSE. Doc is looking a little embarrassed. FDR motions him to the microphone.

DOC

Thank you, Mister President. Everyone has been so generous tonight. Now it's my turn to give a gift. Jack, can you come up here, please?

A spotlight lands on Jack, who's looking very surprised. There is polite APPLAUSE as he walks up to the stage. Two YOUNG WOMEN in evening gowns bring out an OVERSIZED CHECK.

DOC

(to Jack)

I'd like you to read this check for the people in the back.

Jack's eyes bulge when he sees what is written on it. There are astonished WHISPERS in the ballroom as he reads:

JACK

One million dollars! Payable to... the John Sparks Memorial College Fund?

DOC

That's right. In honor of your father, I've created a scholarship fund to help the children of American veterans pay for college.

Then Doc takes out a parchment scroll and hands it to Jack.

DOC

(continuing)

And who better to receive the first scholarship than the son of the man it honors!

The audience APPLAUDS. Doc is smiling proudly and clapping his hands. Jack shifts uneasily. He looks a little ill.

JACK

Boy... this almost makes me wish I was going to college...

Doc eyes him curiously. Jack pauses to gather his courage, then covers the mike so that the audience won't hear him.

JACK

(continuing)

I've already reenlisted. I ship out in two weeks. I'm sorry...

An awkward hush fills the room. Jack hands the scroll back to Doc and steps down from the stage. Doc watches him go, stunned.

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - 5TH AVENUE - NIGHT

Szilard is jostled about as he squeezes through the crowd. He looks back and sees Mahler and his henchman quickly closing in from behind...

The old man pushes his way free and runs up the red carpet toward the entrance. A COP blocks his path.

COP

Whoa! Where d'ya think you're goin'?

SZILARD

Please, let me through! I must speak with Doctor Savage!

COP

Yeah, you and everybody else, pops.

The cop pushes him away. Szilard looks back and sees Mahler and the other man in the crowd, waiting to pounce...

Suddenly, Szilard whirls around and tries to push his way past the cop. The cop grabs his arm, but Szilard bites his hand and twists from his grasp! Before the cop can react, Szilard is running through the doors!

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - LOBBY - NIGHT

Szilard races toward the elevators. POLICE burst in through the doors behind him.

COP

Hey, somebody stop that guy!

One of the elevators is ready to head up with a load of party GUESTS. Just as the doors are closing, Szilard dives inside, leaving the police to curse and vainly pound on the call buttons.

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - DIRIGIBLE MOORING MAST - NIGHT

A thick blanket of fog has rolled in. The Valkyrie stands anchored to the mooring mast...

INT. VALKYRIE - GONDOLA - NIGHT

The shadowy figure of a NAZI COLONEL stands at a window, looking down at the fog-choked city. A vile Nazi henchman named KOHL appears behind him and gives a snappy salute.

KOHL

(subtitled; in German)

Sir, they've lost him. He's in the building.

The colonel turns slightly, his face remains unseen.

NAZI COLONEL

(subtitled; in German)

Bring him back. Use any means necessary.

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - BALLROOM TERRACE - NIGHT

The band inside is playing Duke Ellington's "MOOD INDIGO." Jack is solemnly gazing out at the night. Doc steps out and joins him. A beat.

DOC

Why didn't you tell me?

JACK

I didn't want to ruin your birthday.

DOC

You told your mother you'd go to college when your commitment was up. You made a promise to her. And to me.

JACK

Well, it's too late now.

DOC

It's not too late. I can get you out of it tonight with one phone call.

JACK

I don't want any more strings pulled for me. I want to live my own life.

DOC

I know what you want. But when I look at you in that uniform, I see your father. You're the same age he was when he died.

A beat. Jack sobers at the mention of his dead father.

JACK

He's the reason I enlisted in the first place. I'm gonna be a pilot, just like him.

DOC

Your father wanted you to be safe. He made me swear that I would never let anything happen to you. And I keep my promises.

Suddenly, they become aware of a loud COMMOTION in the ballroom. Monk and Ham appear, beckoning urgently --

HAM

Doc, you'd better get in here!

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - BALLROOM - NIGHT

The party has come to a screeching halt. Doc and his friends hurry inside, where a knot of police officers are wrestling to subdue someone.

Doc wades into the mêlée, then stops short when he sees that the man the police are struggling with is Prof. Szilard! Doc looks as though he's seen a ghost.

DOC

Professor Szilard?!

SZILARD

Clark!

COP

You know this geezer?

DOC
(to Szilard)
I thought you were dead!

SZILARD
I didn't know who else to turn to.
They're after me --!

DOC
Who is?

SZILARD
-- They want the Pegasus Project!

DOC
The what --?!

He is suddenly interrupted by a strange sound -- a LOUD SCREECHING, like a huge power saw! Doc looks up and sees a SHOWER OF SPARKS cutting through the ceiling, carving a perfectly circular hole around the giant chandelier!

DOC
EVERYBODY DOWN --!

Just then, part of the ceiling collapses and the chandelier falls! Doc and the others hit the deck. Secret Service agents throw themselves on top of Roosevelt and his wife!

The chandelier CRASHES to the floor in an EXPLOSION of glass and debris! Then a dark shape drops down through the hole in the ceiling -- WHAM! The floor shakes with the impact!

For a moment, everyone just holds their breath. Nobody moves. In the silence, they begin to hear a low THROBBING sound. A massive shape rises up from the debris --

It's a ROBOT -- a 10-foot-tall mechanical monstrosity called VIER! A Nazi swastika is stenciled on its huge chest. In its right hand, it grasps a belt-fed HEAVY MACHINE GUN. In its left hand is an enormous BUZZ SAW, which folds back into the robot's arm like a giant Swiss Army knife accessory.

Vier slowly scans the room with its one glowing red eye. The cop who stopped Szilard runs out in front of it and draws his pistol! Vier turns and lumbers toward him.

DOC
Look out!

The cop FIRES his pistol at Vier, but the bullets just SPARK off its chest! The robot scoops him up in its giant hand...

VIER
(subtitled; in German)
You die.

And with that, it juices the cop like an orange. Suddenly, all hell breaks loose!

FRIGHTENED GUEST

It's after the President!

People are running in a blind panic! A SOCIETY WOMAN faints and is nearly trampled! Doc turns to Monk and Ham:

DOC

Get these people out of here!

The Secret Service men OPEN FIRE! Vier raises its machine gun and cuts one of them down! Roosevelt and his wife are trapped in the crossfire! Doc spins to Jack:

DOC

Take the professor up to my office and close the steel shutters!

Jack hustles Szilard away. Doc runs to help the President. Vier OPENS FIRE on him, but Doc dives behind the overturned table where Roosevelt and his wife are hiding! Doc grabs a Secret Service man:

DOC

We've got to get them out of here!

Suddenly, SUBMACHINE GUN FIRE erupts outside! The people fleeing through the main doors are being chased back inside by Kohl and a team of Nazis from the Valkyrie! The villains are wearing fedoras, trench coats, and gas masks.

Kohl is FIRING a Schmeisser over the heads of the panicked crowd! The cops turn their guns on Kohl and his henchmen.

But Kohl's people are prepared to trade hot lead and more -- they start lobbing TEAR GAS CANISTERS into the room!

Doc scoops the President into his wheelchair. He and the Secret Service men hustle Roosevelt and his wife toward the kitchen! Vier stomps relentlessly after them!

In the midst of the chaos, Kohl spots Jack and Szilard, slipping out a side door. Kohl barks an order in German and two of his henchmen chase after them...

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Doc rams Roosevelt's wheelchair through the swinging doors! KITCHEN STAFF are fleeing in all directions! Eleanor stumbles and is yanked to her feet by a cluster of Secret Service men.

Vier's POUNDING FOOTSTEPS can be heard getting louder and closer! Doc looks back in time to see --

-- the giant robot SMASH through the kitchen doors! Vier raises its machine gun and OPENS FIRE! Doc and the others duck behind a row of stoves, scurrying along as BULLETS FLY in their wake!

INT. BALLROOM - NIGHT

Monk and Ham are herding the crowd toward the other exits, but the choking gray HAZE OF TEAR GAS has everyone gagging and half-blinded. Monk points to a row of large windows.

MONK

We gotta get these windows open!

HAM

How do you suggest we do that?

Suddenly, Monk dashes out into the open! Kohl whirls on him and CUTS LOOSE with his Schmeisser!

Monk draws his fire, running along the row of windows, just ahead of a deadly HAIL OF BULLETS! The windows are SHOT TO PIECES, letting the gas out into the night air.

Monk dives behind a marble pillar and smiles back at Ham.

MONK

Like that!

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Vier is SPRAYING THE ROOM with its machine gun! Doc and the others fall back as BULLETS SPARK and RICOCHET all around them! Finally, Vier runs out of ammo, tosses the big gun aside, and lumbers toward them!

DOC

GO! WE'LL SLOW IT DOWN!

Two Secret Service agents hustle the President and the First Lady to the rear exit. Doc and the others stay behind to cover their retreat.

Doc grabs a frying pan and throws it at Vier's eye! It bounces off with a loud CLANG and the robot falters for a moment. Doc hazards a tentative smile.

Then Vier pulls a stove out of the wall and throws it across the room at him! Doc barely manages to duck as it flies over his head and SMASHES THROUGH THE WALL behind him! He gives the wrecked stove a wide-eyed look:

DOC

Oh, boy...

INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Jack and Szilard are running up the stairs, chased by two of Kohl's gunmen! The Nazis FIRE a couple of wild shots that RICOCHET dangerously in the narrow stairwell!

On one of the landings, Jack sees a fire hose mounted to the wall.

JACK

Go! Doc's office is on the top floor!

Szilard runs on ahead. As the gunmen turn the corner, Jack turns the fire hose on them full blast, knocking them off their feet!

One of the men drops his gun. Jack grabs the weapon and runs up after Szilard...

INT. 86TH FLOOR - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Szilard bursts from the stairwell and runs down the starkly modern corridor toward the metal door of Doc's office. He has almost made it when someone steps out from around a corner in front of him -- Mahler!

MAHLER

(subtitled; in German)

Going somewhere, Herr Professor?

MOMENTS LATER, JACK

bursts from the stairwell, just in time to see Szilard being shoved into the elevator! Mahler sees Jack and takes a SHOT at him as the doors close.

Jack sees the floor indicator arrow climb -- they're headed up to the dirigible mooring mast! Jack ducks back into the stairwell and runs up after them...

INT. BALLROOM - NIGHT

Monk and Ham are fighting Kohl and his henchmen. Monk HOWLS and pounces on two of them at once, knocking their heads together! Another gunman turns his pistol on Monk --

-- but before he can fire, Ham pulls a rapier from the shaft of his cane! He slashes the man's gun hand, then whacks him on the head with the hilt, knocking him out. Suddenly --

-- the Marx Brothers join the fray! Groucho throws a pie in a gunman's face! As the gunman lifts his gas mask to wipe it away, Chico pulls down the Nazi's pants and Harpo sprays him in the face with a seltzer bottle! The gunman trips in his tangled trousers and falls on his ass! WHIP PAN TO --

-- Kohl, whose machine gun has jammed! Monk sees his chance and rushes him. Kohl grabs a chair and tries to hold him off like a lion tamer, but Monk PUNCHES his fist through the seat of the chair, connecting with Kohl's chin!

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The giant robot is plowing through the room like an unstoppable juggernaut! BULLETS RICOCHET off of its invulnerable steel hide!

DOC

Aim for the eye!

As the agents start shooting at Vier's eye, little steel louvres close to protect it, reducing it to a thin red slit.

Doc spots an abandoned skillet of grease. He lights a match and tosses it in the pan -- FWOOF! Doc throws the flaming grease in the robot's face!

But Vier isn't even slowed down! The burning robot lurches toward Doc like a fiery demon and pulverizes a countertop with its fist! Doc scrambles to get out of its way...

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - LANDING PLATFORM - NIGHT

Mahler shoves Szilard up the gangplank at gunpoint and they disappear inside the zeppelin...

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - CONCOURSE - NIGHT

Jack races by the empty ticket offices and runs up a stairwell. The sign above it reads: "TO LANDING PLATFORM."

INT. VALKYRIE - SUPERSTRUCTURE - NIGHT

Mahler and the professor are hustling through the zeppelin's aluminum skeleton on a narrow catwalk. Suddenly --

JACK (O.S.)

Hold it!

Jack races up the gangplank behind them, gun drawn. Mahler whirls around and holds Szilard in front of him as a shield. He eyes the pistol in Jack's hand.

MAHLER

If you shoot one of the hydrogen bags,
you'll blow us all to kingdom come!

JACK

Then unless you're ready to die with
me, you'd better let him go.

MAHLER

I don't think you really want a
Hindenburg disaster in the middle of
mid-town Manhattan.

Jack hesitates a moment too long. The two henchmen from the stairwell run up the gangplank, soaking wet and pointing a gun at his back. Jack lowers his gun and tosses it aside.

INT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - SERVICE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Doc and the Secret Service men run out of the kitchen and into a long hallway. Up ahead, two agents are struggling to open a closed door. FDR and his wife cower at their side.

AGENT #2

It's locked!

Vier suddenly smashes through the wall behind them! They're trapped! While the agents try to break the door down --

-- Doc attacks the robot in a hopeless effort to stop it! He tries to yank some of Vier's exposed metal tubing, but to no avail. The robot picks him up in its crushing grip!

VIER

(subtitled; in German)

You die.

Doc struggles to push Vier's fingers apart, straining at the limits of his strength! The metal hand starts to close...

Suddenly, an antennae rises up from the robot's back! Vier freezes with Doc gasping in its fist. The filtered VOICE of the Nazi colonel can be heard giving orders via radio:

NAZI COLONEL (O.S.)

(subtitled; in German)

Vier! Command -- withdraw! Mission accomplished. Return to base.

Doc's eyes narrow. That voice...

VIER

Jawohl.

The antennae retracts.

Then, as FDR and the others watch in confusion, Vier simply drops Doc to the floor, turns around, and marches back to the ballroom!

INT. BALLROOM - NIGHT

Doc limps after Vier, following it warily. Monk and Ham are still here with the cops, mopping up the remnants of Kohl's team. But the giant robot ignores them completely.

Vier stomps across the room and stands under the hole in the ceiling. Suddenly, it is launched into the air by a pair of rockets in its feet! As Monk and Ham watch in astonishment, Vier shoots up through the ceiling, trailing jets of flame!

MONK

Well, for the love of little billy goats...

But Doc is wasting no time. He's already on his way out the door! He calls out to Monk and Ham:

DOC

Check on Jack and the professor!

HAM

Where are you going?

DOC

To stop that zeppelin!

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING - LANDING PLATFORM - NIGHT

The Valkyrie's propellers are WHIRRING to life. A pair of bomb bay doors swing open in the bottom of the zeppelin's gondola and Vier flies inside, propelled by its rocket feet. The bomb bay doors close behind it.

Doc races up the stairs, just as the Valkyrie drops its mooring line and STARTS TO PULL AWAY. Doc dashes toward it, but his fingers only brush the edge of the gangplank as it lifts from the platform and closes!

The PROPELLERS ARE ROARING now. Doc watches helplessly as the Valkyrie takes off, wind whipping all around him.

Then he notices someone watching him from the gondola. It is the Nazi colonel we saw earlier -- only now we can see his face. He is Simon Wolf, now of the Nazi SS! He looks down at Doc, smiles, steps back into the shadows...

Monk and Ham appear behind Doc.

HAM

Doc... The professor. He's not in your office.

DOC

They weren't trying to kill the President. They were after Szilard.

MONK

That ain't all.

(beat)

They got Jack, too.

Doc looks back at the Valkyrie and watches as it is swallowed up by the fog and vanishes like a grim ghost...

INT. DOC'S H.Q. - 86TH FLOOR - OFFICE - NIGHT

Doc and the President are here, looking bedraggled in their evening clothes. It's been a long night. Roosevelt hangs up a telephone and turns to Doc:

FDR

There's still no sign of that zeppelin. Probably won't be till morning.

DOC

They'll be long gone by then. Any word on this Pegasus Project?

FDR

Strange business. Rumors, really. Some sort of secret Nazi experiment conducted back in thirty-five. Apparently, they were using Einstein's Unified Field Theory to create electronic camouflage for their navy.

DOC

Electronic camouflage...? You're talking about invisibility.

FDR

That's right. Hitler wanted to build an invisible fleet. They tested the equipment on a U-boat code-named Pegasus, but there was an explosion onboard and the ship was lost with all hands.

DOC

Sabotage?

FDR
Nobody knows. The wreckage was never found.

Doc turns away and looks out the window at the dark cityscape. LIGHTNING FLASHES across the sky...

DOC
If the Pegasus Project was such a failure, why did Szilard risk his life to tell me about it? And why were the Nazis so desperate to get him back?

FDR
That's what I want you to find out.
(Doc turns to him)
Your country needs you, Doc. I'm depending on you.

INT. DOC'S H.Q. - 86TH FLOOR - LIBRARY - NIGHT

Kohl is groggily coming to, bound to a chair. Monk roughly smacks his face to bring him around...

KOHL
Where am I?

MONK
Behind the eight ball.

Doc and Ham are here, too. Doc rolls up Kohl's sleeve and produces a huge hypodermic syringe. Kohl eyes it nervously.

KOHL
What are you going to do with that?

DOC
Don't worry. It's 100-percent painless.

Doc jabs the needle into Kohl's arm, eliciting a sharp cry.

DOC
All right, ninety-nine.

Kohl slips into a half-conscious stupor. Monk swings aside a large bookcase, revealing a lie detector!

Doc looks deeply into Kohl's barely lucid eyes. Doc's gaze is powerful, hypnotically commanding his attention.

DOC
What is your name?

KOHL
Lieutenant Otto Kohl...

As Kohl starts answering questions, the styluses on the polygraph begin scribbling lines across the paper...

DOC
Who are you working for?

KOHL
German Intelligence...

DOC
Where are they taking Professor Szilard? Berlin?

KOHL
... Bangkok...

Doc and Ham exchange a perplexed look.

HAM
They must be taking the scenic route.

MONK
He's telling the truth, Doc. Or at least he thinks he is.

DOC
(to Kohl)
Why Bangkok?

KOHL
Don't know... colonel's orders...

Doc leans in close, weighting his next question carefully.

DOC
How is Simon Wolf involved?

Ham gives Doc a startled look. Monk jumps up from the lie detector as if he's been goosed.

KOHL
SS operations officer... wanted us to get to Szilard before you did...

Kohl is starting to fade. Doc grabs his sagging jaw and forces him to look him in the eye.

DOC
Why does Wolf want the professor?

KOHL
I don't know...

DOC

What does the Pegasus Project have to do with this?

KOHL

I don't know... don't know...

Kohl slips away, unconscious. Doc turns to Monk and Ham:

DOC

Monk, get our equipment together.
We're leaving for Bangkok. Tonight.

EXT. HIDALGO TRADING COMPANY - NIGHT

An old, brick warehouse sits quietly on the banks of the Hudson River. Half of the building extends out on a pier. A faded sign reads: "HIDALGO TRADING COMPANY."

INT. HIDALGO TRADING COMPANY - NIGHT

A corrugated metal door opens and a SLEEK BLACK CAR rolls inside with Doc riding on the running board. It's a 1938 Phantom Corsair. The license plate says it all: "DOC 1."

Monk and Ham step out of the car. Ham is dressed in natty tropical attire and carrying his ubiquitous sword cane. Doc is wearing a safari shirt, jodhpurs, and knee-high leather boots -- his classic adventure attire.

As they enter the old warehouse, we see that it is actually a modern air hangar and boat dock, storing dozens of vehicles: AIRPLANES, AUTOGYROS, YACHTS -- even a SUBMARINE!

EXT. HIDALGO TRADING COMPANY - DAWN

"HIDALGO." The one word fills the entire SCREEN. Then the word begins to split, right down the middle -- a giant door on the riverfront side of the warehouse is sliding open!

A large, amphibious SPEED PLANE taxis out onto the river with Doc at the controls. The tri-motor slices through the water and takes off in the fiery light of the rising sun...

EXT. BANGKOK - DAY

A motley fleet of WOODEN CANOES, PADDLE BOATS, and RICE BARGES crowds the busy network of canals and river tributaries that weave through the city. A title comes up:

BANGKOK

Venice of the East

A JAPANESE DESTROYER is anchored near the banks of the Chao Phraya River, Bangkok's main waterway. Doc's plane flies overhead.

INT. DOC'S SPEED PLANE - DAY

Monk checks out the gunboat with binoculars.

MONK

It's a Japanese destroyer, all right.
Asashio class.

Ham turns to Doc in the cockpit.

HAM

Looks like we've walked in on a little
gunboat diplomacy.

INT. JAPANESE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

But Monk isn't the only one with a sharp eye. The JAPANESE CAPTAIN is suspiciously watching Doc's plane through his binoculars. He turns to one of his OFFICERS and issues a curt order in Japanese...

EXT. BANGKOK - CANAL - DAY

Doc's plane draws curious looks from the LOCALS as it gracefully lands on the water and approaches a shabby WAREHOUSE which stands on wooden pilings at the end of a long jetty...

EXT. JETTY - DAY

Doc steps from the plane onto the pier, while Monk and Ham unload their gear. SMITH, a scar-faced Siamese man, emerges from the warehouse and crosses to Doc. They shake hands.

SMITH

Welcome to Bangkok, Doc. Good to see
you again.

DOC

Smith, it's been too long.
(cocks his head)
How long has that destroyer been here?

SMITH

About six weeks now. Our government
doesn't like it, but there's not much
they can do.

DOC

What do the Japanese want?

SMITH

They've been bringing up troops and supplies from the gulf, but nobody seems to know what they're up to.

DOC

Any word on the zeppelin?

SMITH

It's here. Word has it they brought an American with them.

DOC

What about a Hungarian scientist? An old man?

SMITH

Possibly. There were a lot of Germans. One American. They've got him locked up at the Japanese embassy.

MONK

(overhearing this)

Japanese? I thought we were looking for Nazis!

EXT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - NIGHT

A HUGE PAGODA, partially hidden by a grove of gnarled trees. A plaque near the guarded iron gate announces that this is the Japanese consulate.

INT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Jack is gagged and tied to a chair. A trickle of blood has dried to his face. He has been beaten. From the corridor, we hear the voice of COL. ITO of the Japanese Army.

ITO (O.S.)

Bringing him here was a mistake. You should have killed him!

INT. CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Ito is a dignified officer in his 40's with a thin mustache. A samurai sword hangs from his belt. Standing with him outside the interrogation room is Col. Simon Wolf himself.

WOLF

As long as he's our prisoner, Savage won't dare oppose us.

ITO

What makes you so certain?

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Jack can see Wolf and Ito through a barred slot in the door.

WOLF

I killed a friend of Savage's during the war. He underestimated me and it cost him. It's not a mistake he'll repeat.

Wolf and Ito turn away. Jack watches them go, the dark seeds of suspicion planted in his mind...

EXT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - NIGHT

Doc slips from a nearby alley and looks up at the pagoda. The compound is surrounded by a high wall. Monk and Ham peer out from around the corner behind him.

HAM

As your lawyer, I must remind you that once you climb that wall, you'll be on Japanese soil and subject to their laws.

DOC

If they catch me, sue them.

Doc takes a length of thin line from inside his Eagle Scout belt buckle. A tiny collapsible grapnel SNAPS open.

Doc tosses the grapnel and climbs the rear wall. Monk and Ham slip away down the alley...

INT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - TOP FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

A tiny periscope appears outside a barred window and peeks in, watching a PAIR OF OFFICERS approach...

EXT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - NIGHT

Doc is crouched outside, perched on one of the high tiers of the pagoda! He peers through the window with the periscope. When the officers have passed, he reaches into his shirt and takes a vial from a protective case...

He suddenly freezes, waiting as an ARMED GUARD passes in the courtyard below. As soon as the man is gone, Doc proceeds. Using an eyedropper, he drips acid on the bolts of the iron grate that bars the window. The bolts sizzle and break off.

INT. TOP FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Doc quietly steals through the embassy. He stops abruptly, listening. A GROUP OF SOLDIERS is headed this way!

Doc slips into a dark hallway. As the soldiers pass, he hears muffled VOICES from a doorway behind him. One voice in particular peaks his interest...

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Doc carefully peers through the partially open door. A meeting has come to an end. Ito stands up and is gathering his notes. Wolf and Mahler are here as well. Doc's eyes narrow to slits when he sees Wolf.

WOLF

I am sending Mahler to Berlin with a complete report on our situation. I am confident that the Führer will be pleased with our progress.

ITO

I am afraid I do not share your optimism. And neither does Tokyo. We are weeks behind schedule and I still have no guarantee from you that it will ever work!

WOLF

If our governments are going to work together, we must first learn to trust one another. You must have patience.

Doc sees Mahler slide a sheaf of papers and a MAP into a LEATHER DOCUMENT POUCH and handcuff the pouch to his wrist. Wolf dismisses Mahler, who heads for the door. Doc fades back...

WOLF

(continuing)

Besides, you've seen it yourself. Do you doubt your own eyes?

ITO

No...

As Mahler steps from the room...

INT. TOP FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

... a huge bronze hand reaches over his mouth and yanks him out of sight! Wolf and Ito don't hear a thing.

ITO

(continuing)

But what if the professor refuses to cooperate?

WOLF

He will be made to talk. I will see to that personally.

Wolf and Ito walk out into the corridor. Doc is hidden around a corner. He has his forearm across Mahler's throat, pinning him to the wall. Mahler's feet are off the ground! Doc pulls a gun from Mahler's holster and looks at it.

WOLF

It is only a matter of time now, Colonel. Only a matter of time...

Doc watches Wolf and Ito walk away. The Luger in Doc's hand is oily and evil-looking. Wolf's back is a tempting target. Doc closes his eyes and takes a deep breath, then stuffs the gun into the back of his pants.

Wolf pauses and looks back, as though sensing Doc's presence. But the corridor is empty. Wolf hesitates a moment, then turns and walks away.

Mahler is struggling in Doc's grip. Doc presses his thumb against the side of Mahler's neck and squeezes down hard. Mahler gasps and a cold sweat breaks out on his forehead.

DOC

This is called a pressure point. Painful, isn't it?

Mahler hastily nods. His eyes are bulging from his head.

DOC

If I keep this up for thirty seconds, you'll be dead. So talk fast. Where's Professor Szilard?

Mahler manages to catch a breath and wheeze out:

MAHLER

... he's not here... I swear it!

DOC

What about the boy?

MAHLER

Yes... take you to him...

Doc releases his grip and looks Mahler in the eye.

DOC

If you try anything, I can make it so
you'll never be able to go to the
bathroom by yourself again.
Understand?

Mahler swallows nervously. Doc drags him off.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

TWO JAPANESE SOLDIERS are in the room guarding Jack. There
is a KNOCK at the door, tapping out "shave-and-a-haircut."

JAPANESE GUARD

(subtitled; Japanese)

Who's there?

No answer. One of the guards stands up and is about to look
out through the barred slot in the door --

-- when Doc suddenly splinters it off its hinges by using
Mahler as a battering ram! The door, Mahler, and the guard
are thrown across the room!

As Doc charges through the doorway, the other guard raises a
rifle and SHOOTS him in the chest! Jack cries out through
his gag. Doc stumbles back, clutching at his chest --

-- then whirls around and kicks the rifle from the guard's
hands! The stunned guard comes at Doc with a crazed flurry
of martial arts moves, but Doc meets him blow for blow!

Doc knocks the guard off his feet and grabs his rifle! He
points it right at the guard's forehead, then flips it like
a baton and knocks him out with the butt.

Doc quickly goes to Jack and pulls his gag out.

DOC

Are you all right?

JACK

I think so... What about you?

Doc opens his shirt and shows him the BULLETPROOF UTILITY
VEST underneath. Doc flicks away the flattened slug.

DOC

Where's the professor?

JACK

They took him away. Somewhere in the jungle.

Doc uses a Swiss Army knife to slice Jack's bindings. Jack quickly grabs an automatic pistol from one of the unconscious guards. Doc gives him a concerned look.

DOC

Ever kill a man before?

Jack pauses and glances at the gun.

JACK

Of course not.

DOC

Then this is no time to start.

Doc snatches the gun away from him and hands him a strange handgun with a curled magazine. Jack eyes it warily.

DOC

It's loaded with mercy bullets.
Knock-out rounds.

Mahler is starting to come to, looks up at Doc.

DOC

Tell me where they took the professor.

Mahler smirks, drawing his pouch closer.

MAHLER

Why? You're not going anywhere.

Mahler glances past Doc. Doc follows the look and sees that the door was wired! A LITTLE RED LIGHT is flashing -- it's a silent alarm!

Suddenly, TWO SOLDIERS burst into the room, rifles raised! Doc kicks over a heavy wooden table and pulls Jack behind it as the BULLETS START TO FLY! Jack FIRES the machine pistol! The gun utters an ear-splitting MOAN and the soldiers in the corridor wither under a RAPID-FIRE HAIL OF FLAMING TRACERS!

Jack gives the gun a surprised look, but MORE SOLDIERS are on the way. Doc pulls a metal canister from his vest.

DOC

Stand back!

Doc squeezes the canister and a steaming liquid squirts out. Where the liquid splashes, the wooden floor begins to crystallize -- it's freezing!

JACK
What is that stuff?

Doc snatches a pistol from one of the fallen guards and points it at Mahler! Mahler's eyes widen in shock --

DOC
Liquid nitrogen.

-- and Doc pulls the trigger, SHOOTING off the handcuff that held the document pouch to Mahler's wrist! Amidst a HAIL OF BULLETS, Doc grabs the pouch, then pulls Jack to his feet. They jump on the frozen floor and it shatters like glass!

INT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - DIPLOMAT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

A DIPLOMAT and his AIDE are startled as the ceiling above them EXPLODES! Doc and Jack fall through the frozen hole in the ceiling and run out the door as the diplomat and his aide gape in astonishment!

EXT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - COURTYARD - NIGHT

A STAFF CAR is parked in front of the embassy. The DRIVER holds the back door open and a Japanese GENERAL gets in.

Suddenly, Doc and Jack dash out of the embassy! Doc PUNCHES the driver and takes the keys! He and Jack jump into the car and drive away!

The GUARDS try to close the gate, but the general's car SMASHES through it and escapes!

IN THE CAR

The general in the back seat draws his sidearm! Doc slams on the brakes! When the general is flung forward, Doc grabs his collar, yanks him over the front seat, and bounces his face off the dashboard, knocking him out!

EXT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - COURTYARD/STREET - NIGHT

SOLDIERS are jumping onto motorcycles to give chase! As they rev up, we see that Monk and Ham are crouched outside the wall on either side of the gate! Monk unrolls a long spike strip. Ham catches the other end and holds it down...

The motorcycles hit the spike strip and the cyclists are THROWN OFF THEIR BIKES! Jack gives Doc an incredulous look. Monk and Ham run to Doc's car and jump on the running board.

MONK

Welcome to Bangkok, kid.

Doc stomps on the gas and the staff car peels out...

EXT. JETTY/WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Doc's speed plane is tied up at the end of the pier, bobbing gently in the water near the warehouse. Doc and his gang emerge from an alley and run out onto the jetty. From the warehouse, Smith looks out a window and sees them coming...

Suddenly, they are all stopped short by a low BOOM from the river! The Japanese destroyer has dropped anchor not far away -- and it's just FIRED its cannon!

A 50-pound shell lands in the river near the warehouse, sending up a GEYSER of water! Another low BOOM from the deck cannon --

DOC

SMITH! GET OUT OF THERE!

Smith appears in the doorway of the warehouse -- and an instant later, he and the warehouse are BLOWN TO BITS!

DOC

Get to the plane! Hurry!

They scramble to their feet and run toward the plane, but before they can get to it, the DECK CANNON ROARS AGAIN and Doc's sleek tri-motor EXPLODES in an ENORMOUS FIREBALL! Doc throws himself on Jack as the debris falls all around them.

The destroyer lobs another volley over the water, hot on the heels of the last -- BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! A SHRIEKING chorus of ARTILLERY SHELLS rips through the night sky!

MONK

Hell's bells!

They turn and dash back up the jetty as the shells come raining in, POUNDING the wooden pier into kindling!

They run out into the street, just as TWO TRUCKS filled with SIAMESE RIOT TROOPS turn the corner! Doc and his men duck down an alley, chased by the trucks...

EXT. BANGKOK - FLOATING MARKET - NIGHT

... but the alley ends on the banks of a canal and the Floating Market of Wat Sai! The canal is completely choked from one side to the other with sampans and canoes. Farmers are selling their goods and produce from the boats.

With the trucks closing in, Doc and his gang run across the canal, leaping from boat to boat! They leave angry shouts and overturned fruit baskets in their wake, but make it safely to the other side.

The first truck SCREECHES to a halt at the edge of the canal. But the second truck SLAMS into the back of the first, pushing it into the water! A DOZEN TROOPS fly into the drink and come up sputtering and shouting.

JACK

Does this happen to you a lot?

DOC

Why do you think I travel with a lawyer?

Ham tips his pith helmet to Jack and they run off...

EXT. BANGKOK - ALLEY - NIGHT

They haven't gone far when a group of CHINESE HATCHET MEN appears! Monk, Ham, and Jack raise their machine pistols.

JACK

Now who're these guys?

The LEADER of the hatchet men jumps down from a rooftop with an acrobatic leap! Doc readies himself for an attack, but the leader only gestures for him to be quiet.

A police patrol sweeps through the street ahead of them. The leader of the hatchet men peers out around the corner. When the police are gone, he motions for Doc to follow.

Monk tosses a look to Ham -- what's going on here?

EXT. BANGKOK - CHAO PHRAYA RIVER - NIGHT

The hatchet men have Doc and his men on a sampan. They sail down the river to a fantastic CHINESE JUNK, its gossamer sails glowing silver in the moonlight. The sampan paddles alongside the junk and Doc's gang is taken aboard...

INT. LADY LIN'S JUNK - AUDIENCE CHAMBER - NIGHT

A door opens and Doc's gang is led into a tableau right out of "THE ARABIAN NIGHTS." Beautiful Siamese WOMEN dance to strange MUSIC. Shadowy figures rest on pillows and smoke from bubbling hookahs. Jack is a little overwhelmed.

MONK

Long way from Jersey, eh, kid?

41
Monk waves to a DANCING GIRL. Ham elbows him in the ribs. As they are led through the smoke-filled den, two fans made of peacock feathers are drawn aside to REVEAL...

... LADY SAFFRON LIN, mistress of exotica, lounging on a dais, surrounded by BODYGUARDS and ATTENDANTS. She is a mysterious enchantress of mixed race and captivating beauty.

DOC

I should have guessed.

HAM

You know her?

DOC

We've... met.

Lady Lin appraises Doc with a patently lascivious look. Her strange accent is at least partly British.

LADY LIN

Doctor Savage... Always a pleasure.

DOC

Lady Lin. The pleasure is ours.

Doc bows in greeting and the others follow his lead.

LADY LIN

I understand you've run afoul of our distinguished Imperial guests. Nothing serious, I hope.

DOC

My man here has been killed over it. But I suspect you know that.

Lady Lin's eyes narrow. She takes a draw from a cigarette holder and French-inhales the smoke through her nose.

LADY LIN

I've heard some things. I've heard that you broke into the Japanese embassy. That you stole a general's car.

JACK

(muttering)

And a general.

DOC

My intentions were honorable.

LADY LIN

I don't imagine the Japanese see it that way. Or the Bangkok police.

DOC

Is that why you sent your men to find us?

LADY LIN

I am offering you and your companions sanctuary in my court. But in return, you must perform a service for me.

She raises a suggestive eyebrow. Doc eyes her suspiciously.

DOC

What's the service?

LADY LIN

Oh, I think we'll come up with something, don't you?

She dismisses them with a wave of her hand and smiles deviously as Doc and his gang are ushered from the chamber.

INT. LADY LIN'S JUNK - DOC'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

Jack has his shirt off and a beautiful SERVANT GIRL is washing his wounds with water. As Doc is packing up his medical kit, he points to a tattoo of a half-naked woman straddling an airplane on Jack's shoulder.

DOC

Where did you get this?

Jack looks at him blankly. His mind is elsewhere.

JACK

Hmm? Oh, back at Fort Dix. Bunch of the guys got 'em.

DOC

You could have gotten hepatitis.

Jack doesn't answer him. Something is weighing on his mind. A long beat. When the servant girl has left the room...

JACK

There was a man back at the embassy. A Nazi colonel named Wolf. He talked like he knew you.

A solemn beat. Doc doesn't like where this is headed.

JACK

(continuing)

He said he killed a friend of yours.

Doc ignores him. He tosses Jack's uniform shirt to him.

DOC

You're fine. Go on and get dressed.

He turns to leave, but Jack jumps up and blocks the door.

JACK

Was that the man who murdered my father?

Doc hesitates for a moment, about to say something. Then he gently pushes Jack aside. Jack clenches his fists.

JACK

I should have killed him when I had the chance!

Doc pauses in the doorway.

DOC

I thought about killing him myself. I've thought about it for twenty years.

JACK

So why didn't you?

DOC

Killing never solves anything. I've seen enough of it to know.

Doc exits.

INT. LADY LIN'S JUNK - CABIN - NIGHT

The map from Mahler's document pouch lies spread out on a table. Monk and Ham are examining it, but they're distracted by the shapely servant girl. She sets out a tray of food. Ham bows and puts his hands together in a gesture of thanks.

HAM

Sawasdee.

Monk bows too, patently ogling her scantily clad figure.

MONK

What he said.

As Monk and Ham watch her sashay from the room, Doc appears behind them, startling them from their reverie:

DOC

Have you found where they've taken the professor?

HAM

Er, yes, I think we have...

Jack enters, but Doc refuses to look him in the eye.

They all turn to the map. Ham points to a spot where the latitude and longitude have been written alongside some notes in German.

HAM

It's a Japanese construction site in the jungle about 300 miles from here.

MONK

And these guys ain't pikers. Whatever they're doin' out there, they're doin' it on a big scale.

Then Doc notices a strange coin sitting on a corner of the map as a paperweight. Doc examines it carefully.

DOC

Where did this come from?

HAM

It was in the pouch with the papers.

Doc rubs the tarnished coin, revealing the golden image of the Naga -- the multiheaded cobra of Hindu mythology.

DOC

The Japanese have found the lost city of Angkor Naga.

MONK

Anchor whatta?

DOC

The City of the Snake...

(off their looks)

For over 300 years, the Khmers ruled the most powerful empire in Southeast Asia. They built Angkor Naga to protect their treasure.

OUT IN THE CORRIDOR

The servant girl is spying on them! She's at the doorway, peering through the beaded curtain. She sees the Naga coin.

DOC

(continuing)

If the stories are true, there's a fortune in gold and jewels hidden in a temple at the center of the city.

Monk lets out a low whistle.

MONK
The original Fort Knox!

HAM
Yes... That would fill out the
Japanese war chest very nicely,
wouldn't it?

The servant girl slips away to report to her mistress...

DOC AND THE OTHERS

continue, unaware of Lady Lin's meddling.

JACK
But where do the Nazis fit in?

HAM
Or the Pegasus Project, for that
matter? Why do you suppose they
kidnapped the professor?

Doc leans on the table and jabs a finger down on the map.

DOC
We'll find the answers there. In
Angkor Naga.

EXT. LADY LIN'S JUNK - APT DECK - NIGHT

It is the night of the Loy Krathong festival. In homage to the water spirits, thousands of candles are set adrift on the rivers and canals of Bangkok. The magical lights seem to bring the water to life. A perfect night for romance.

Doc is led to the poop deck, where the beautiful Lady Lin is reclining on a voluptuous lounge, surrounded by candles, food, and other sensual delights. She is just barely wearing a sheer silk kimono. Doc shifts uncomfortably.

DOC
Sorry to interrupt.

LADY LIN
I was expecting you. Do you wish to
see me privately?

To Doc's chagrin, the bodyguards silently leave.

DOC
That's not necessary.

LADY LIN
(pats the cushion)
Sit.

Doc reluctantly takes a seat. She shifts on the divan. The kimono falls away a bit, revealing her bare legs.

LADY LIN
Now... what's on your mind?

DOC
I need to hire a plane as soon as possible.

Lady Lin sits up and offers Doc a glass of wine.

LADY LIN
Always in such a rush! You don't call, you don't write. What's a girl to think?

DOC
I have urgent business.

LADY LIN
Anything I might be interested in?

DOC
I'd hate to bore you with the details.

Lady Lin takes a sip of wine and starts playing with the buttons of Doc's shirt. Doc sets his glass aside untouched.

LADY LIN
I may know someone who can help you. But what's in it for me?

DOC
My undying gratitude.

She slides in closer and starts running her hands all over his body. Doc tries to move away, but he's cornered.

LADY LIN
You can do better than that. After all I've done for you. Hiding you and your men here has put me in a very difficult position.

She shoves Doc onto his back and pounces on top of him!

LADY LIN
(continuing)
And you know how much I enjoy being put in difficult positions.

Lady Lin begins kissing his neck and carefully picks his pocket! She pulls out the gold Naga coin and slips it into her kimono...

LADY LIN

You give me what I want... and I'll see that you get what you want...

DOC

How can I be sure you'll keep your end of the bargain?

LADY LIN

You'll just have to put your faith in me.

She tries to kiss his mouth, but Doc gently pushes her away.

DOC

I'd rather not put anything in you until I've seen the plane.

Doc leaves. Lady Lin takes out the Naga coin and admires it smugly, then tucks it into her cleavage...

EXT. RICE FARM - DAWN

The junk has anchored in a canal on the outskirts of Bangkok. Doc and his men have come ashore with Lady Lin.

A ramshackle GRUMMAN SEAPLANE is standing on the banks of the canal. A young American woman wearing oversized coveralls is up on the wing repairing one of the engines.

This is PETE MACNAMARA. She's in her 20's and attractive in a tomboy sort of way. Pete climbs down and approaches them.

MONK

Where's the pilot of this heap?

PETE

You're lookin' at him, ape-face.

(gestures to Doc)

Who's the tree trunk?

LADY LIN

Pete MacNamara, this is the eminent Doctor Clark Savage, Jr.

PETE

Never heard of him.

Monk and Ham bristle at the slight. Jack raises an eyebrow.

DOC
Is the plane ready?

PETE
She'll get you where you're going. By the way, where are you going?

DOC
I'm afraid I can't tell you that.

PETE
I don't like surprises. I get a flight plan and half the money up front.

DOC
Who says you're coming with us?

PETE
I do. You got a problem with that?

DOC
We need the plane. Not the pilot.

PETE
Suit yourself. But you're not gonna find another plane around here that the Japanese haven't got sewn up.

Doc gives Lady Lin a suspicious look, then turns to Pete and takes off his belt. He splits the belt open lengthwise, revealing dozens of shiny gold mint coins that have been stitched inside! Pete's eyes nearly pop out of her head.

DOC
Fifty British sovereigns. All in advance. No questions asked.

She reaches for the belt, but Doc lifts it out of her reach.

PETE
All right. But this old hen is my bread and butter. Where she goes, I go.

Jack gives a crooked grin. He's smitten with the Yankee flier. Monk and Ham are grumbling behind her back.

MONK
I don't think I like the idea of flying with a lady pilot...

JACK
Then you're in luck. 'Cause she ain't no lady.

EXT. RICE FARM - DAY

The faltering engines of Pete's seaplane spark, grind, and WHEEZE helplessly. They refuse to start.

PETE (O.S.)

Son of a bitch!

INT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

Pete is in the cockpit, coaxing the engines. She's changed into a leather flier's jacket.

PETE

Come on, now... Mama's been treating you real nice...

Monk, Ham, and Jack are in the passenger cabin. Monk drums his fingers impatiently. Ham idly files his nails.

HAM

Do you think we'll get off the ground?

MONK

I don't think this crate is gonna float, much less fly.

EXT. RICE FARM - DAY

The ENGINES FINALLY START with a puff of black smoke and a noisy BACKFIRE. Pete leans out the window and gives Doc an enthusiastic thumbs-up.

Lady Lin is standing on the shore. Doc steps up behind her and puts his hands on her shoulders. She pouts prettily.

LADY LIN

Will I see you again?

DOC

Of course. We had a deal, remember?
And I still owe you that favor.

Doc turns her around and pulls her close. He leans in and she closes her eyes, lips parted to receive his...

DOC

Saffie...

LADY LIN

Yes, Clark?

He gives her a brotherly nudge on the chin with his fist.

DOC
You've been a brick.

LADY LIN
(irritated)
Don't mention it.

As he turns and walks away, Lady Lin quickly puts a hand to her cleavage and curses. Something is missing!

Doc stops in the doorway of Pete's plane and opens his hand, revealing the Naga coin, which he has just stolen back! He pockets it and bids Lady Lin farewell. She scowls darkly...

INT. COCKPIT - DAY

Doc joins Pete and gives the instrument panel a worried look. All of the dials are still pointing toward zero.

DOC
None of these instruments are working.

PETE
Naw, you just sorta have to go by the smell of her. When she gets too hot, she starts to stink.

Back in the cabin, Monk mutters to Ham:

MONK
I used to date a girl like that.

EXT. RICE FARM - DAY

Pete GUNS THE ENGINES and the seaplane lurches awkwardly down the canal, gains speed, and takes off, arcing into the sky...

EXT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

A full moon shines down on the dark pagoda...

INT. JAPANESE EMBASSY - NIGHT

Wolf is here with Col. Ito, who is pacing and upset.

ITO
If we'd known this sooner, we might have stopped them from escaping.

CAMERA PANS to REVEAL... Lady Lin! She's seated at a table, calmly smoking from her long cigarette holder.

LADY LIN
It couldn't be helped. Savage was holding me captive. I was lucky to escape with my life.

WOLF
You disappoint us, Lady Lin. That is not your reputation.

LADY LIN
I may still be able to help you.

ITO
How?

LADY LIN
Savage's plane is transmitting a signal via shortwave radio on a very specific frequency.

WOLF
And you know this frequency?

LADY LIN
I do. I may even be persuaded to tell you what it is.

ITO
We have already paid you enough. And you have given us nothing!

LADY LIN
No, Colonel. You have taken me for a fool. I'll give you the frequency. But first, you're going to tell me all about the treasure of Angkor Naga.

Wolf and Ito exchange a surprised look. Lady Lin smiles and takes a long draw from her cigarette.

EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

The dilapidated Grumman flies over the lush treetops of the subtropical jungle. A title comes up:

SOMEWHERE OVER INDOCHINA...

INT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

Pete is alone in the cockpit. She looks back at her passengers in the cabin. Doc is sitting near the cockpit, plotting their course on the map from Mahler's pouch. Pete gives him a careful glance...

... then tunes the shortwave and quietly begins tapping out a message in Morse Code!

Jack enters the cockpit and she hastily turns away from the radio. He sits in the copilot's seat with a friendly smile. She gives him an indifferent nod. An awkward beat.

JACK

Pete. Unusual name. Short for something?

PETE

Yeah. Peter.

Jack can't help but laugh. She gives him a dirty look. He turns away and looks around the cockpit, taking it all in.

JACK

Must be a helluva thing owning your own plane. And a Goose to boot!

PETE

You fly?

JACK

Not yet. Going to, though. My father flew during the war.

PETE

No kidding? That's how I got the bug.

JACK

Your dad was a pilot?

PETE

No, my mom was.

Pete points to a dog-eared photo of Amelia Earhart taped to the control panel. Jack raises a skeptical eyebrow.

JACK

Your mother was Amelia Earhart?

PETE

I'd like to think she was. My spiritual mother, anyway.

She eyes the rumpled uniform shirt that Jack is wearing.

PETE

You in the Army or something?

JACK

Yeah. I'm gonna join the Air Corp. Fly fighter planes.

Pete seems impressed, but Doc mutters from the cabin without taking his eyes off the map:

DOC
No, you're not.

EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

The Grumman soars over the misty jungle. ANGLE WIDENS to REVEAL TWO JAPANESE ZEROES moving into attack formation! The fighters are stalking the fat seaplane like a pair of lean and hungry wolves...

INT./EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - AERIAL SEQUENCE - DAY

Doc looks up from his map and compass.

DOC
We're getting close now. Keep your eyes open...

Suddenly, he hears something -- the shrill HOWL of a plane in a screaming dive!

DOC
GET DOWN!

Monk and Ham dive for cover, just as the Zeroes swoop by, spraying the seaplane with MACHINE GUN FIRE! BULLETS CUT through the fuselage and CHOP UP the cockpit's windshield!

PETE
Goddammit!

Monk scrambles to a window and looks out:

MONK
We gotta couple of zekes out here!

Doc leaps into the cockpit. He has to yell to be heard over the ROAR of wind buffeting through the broken windshield.

DOC
Are you two all right?

PETE
Who the hell is shooting at us?!
Nobody said anything to me about shooting!

The Zeroes are swinging around for another pass!

MONK
Here they come!

PETE

(to Doc)

This is all comin' outta your pocket!

Pete yanks on the stick, but the clumsy seaplane is simply outclassed. The fighters SCREAM in, CANNONS BLAZING!

DOC

You're trimming speed! Keep the nose down!

PETE

I'm trying!

Monk and Ham duck as BULLETS CHEW UP the seats on either side of them! When the fighters have passed, Monk and Ham draw their super-firer machine pistols.

DOC

Switch to demolition rounds! Try to break up their formation!

Monk and Ham drop the ammo clips from their guns and replace them. Monk opens the fuselage door, letting in a hurricane of wind! Ham leans out a window and takes aim. As the Zeroes close in, Monk and Ham OPEN FIRE!

INT./EXT. ZERO #1 - DAY

The Zeroes suddenly find themselves flying straight into a barrage of EXPLODING TRACERS! The lead pilot curses and veers off. His engine is SPUTTERING and trailing smoke.

INT./EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

Ham smiles triumphantly.

HAM

Bagged the blighter!

MONK

My foot, you did! That was me!

Zero #2 moves in directly behind them. Monk tries to sight it, but the Goose's tail is blocking his aim!

MONK

He's in our six! I got no shot!

DOC

(to Pete)

Dive! Now!

Pete pushes the stick and the Zero BUZZES right over them, but still manages to cut a line of ragged holes in the wing!

DOC

Don't pull up! Let him come around!

The seaplane continues its dive. The Zero circles and follows them down. Doc pulls a lever on the control panel.

PETE

What the hell are you doing?

DOC

Dropping the oil pressure in the starboard engine.

INT./EXT. ZERO #2 - DAY

As the Zero pilot lines up his sights, the Goose's starboard engine begins spewing a thick cloud of black smoke! Doc's turned the engine into a smoke screen! The pilot suddenly finds himself flying headlong into a choking black haze!

INT./EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

The Goose is in a steep nose-dive, its engine still trailing a blinding cloud of oily smoke! Just as the jungle is threatening to swallow them --

DOC

All right, pull up!

Pete wrestles with the yoke, but the seaplane just SHAKES and RATTLES like an old buckboard!

PETE

(to Jack)

Don't just sit there, fly-boy! Help me out!

Jack grabs the copilot's yoke and yanks it back hard! He and Pete struggle to pull the Goose out of its dive, its metal hull GROANING at the limits of its endurance...

Finally, the seaplane begins to level out! Monkeys and birds flee as it ROARS by, scraping along the treetops!

INT./EXT. ZERO #2 - DAY

The Zero pilot is right on their tail, vainly squinting to see through the smoke screen. But when it finally clears --

-- the jungle floor is rushing up to meet him! The Zero rips through the trees and EXPLODES IN A BALL OF FLAME!

INT./EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

The Goose SOARS AWAY, leaving the FIERY WRECK behind.

Monk lets out a loud victory whoop. Doc returns the oil pressure to normal and gives Monk a dark look. Monk quickly swallows his glee. Jack sees that Doc is upset.

JACK

He would've done the same to us.

Suddenly, Monk catches a whiff of something foul. A slow look of dread comes over his face...

MONK

Hey... What's that smell?

Pete and Doc smell it now. They exchange a dire look. As if on cue, one of the engines RATTLES and dies.

JACK

What's wrong?

Suddenly, the other engine begins to falter! Monk and Ham exchange a nervous look.

PETE

Everything!

Pete spots a blue ribbon of river twisting through the jungle and guides the Goose toward it, engine SPUTTERING...

EXT. JUNGLE RIVER - DAY

Pete's plane swoops down out of the sky and bounces to a rough landing on the river.

INT./EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

Moments after settling on the water, THE SECOND ENGINE EXPIRES WITH A WHEEZE. Pete gives Doc a smug grin.

PETE

Perfect timing.

But her smile quickly fades. With the engine stopped, they can hear another sound -- the ROAR of rushing water! As the current pulls them around a bend in the river, they see that they are being drawn toward an ENORMOUS WATERFALL!

DOC

Drop anchor!

Pete pulls a switch. An anchor drops from the plane's nose!

EXT. JUNGLE RIVER - UNDERWATER - DAY

The anchor plunges into the water. It scrapes and bounces along the muddy river bed, but fails to grab hold!

INT./EXT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

The current sweeps them faster and faster toward the falls!

PETE

It's not holding!

She desperately tries to restart the engines. Doc spots a large ISLAND OF ROCK in middle of the river, right at the lip of the waterfall. He opens the cockpit emergency hatch.

PETE

Where the hell are you going?

Doc crawls from the cockpit and steps out onto the nose! He starts hoisting the anchor line up by hand. The plane rides the rapids, tossing spray in Doc's face!

The waterfall is coming up fast! So is the rock island! Doc twirls the heavy anchor and tosses it like a grappling hook! It CLANKS and bounces on the rock, then snags hold!

DOC

Pull it in!

Pete starts the winch, pulling the plane toward the outcropping! The Goose scrapes up onto the rocks and stops with a sharp jolt.

Jack turns to Pete, who has her face buried in her hands.

JACK

You okay?

Pete gives him a withering glare. If looks could kill...

JACK

Forget I asked.

EXT. JUNGLE RIVER/ROCK ISLAND - DAY

Doc jumps off the nose of the plane onto the rocky outcropping.

ROARING WATER plummets over the falls on either side of him. There seems to be no way of reaching the shore.

Jack, Monk, and Ham climb out to join him.

HAM

Well, this is a hard bit of cheese, isn't it?

Jack looks over the edge of the cliff. His jaw drops.

JACK

Hey, come take a look at this!

The rocky island they are stranded on is the top of an enormous, vine-covered carving of a wrathful Hindu god! The great stone face juts out of the middle of the waterfall! The angry god's open mouth forms a dark cave!

JACK

We can climb down to --

Suddenly, twin lines of MACHINE GUN FIRE chew their way across the rocky island!

INT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

Pete is pulling out a heavy toolbox when BULLETS start PUNCHING through the hull! Pete is SHOT in the leg! She drops the toolbox and falls, clutching at her wound!

PETE

Aw, goddammit!

EXT. JUNGLE RIVER/ROCK ISLAND - DAY

Doc and his men hit the deck, just as a low-flying plane buzzes over them! It's the first Zero -- damaged and trailing smoke, but still deadly!

MONK

He's comin' back around!

Monk and Ham draw their super-firer machine pistols. As the Zero starts its strafing run, Monk and Ham OPEN FIRE!

INT. ZERO #1 - DAY

The pilot has got our heroes in his sights when the control panel suddenly BLOWS UP IN HIS FACE! Monk and Ham have found their mark! The pilot slumps forward on the stick...

EXT. JUNGLE RIVER/ROCK ISLAND - DAY

Doc and his men watch in horror as the Zero wobbles drunkenly and dives straight toward them!

JACK

Uh-oh...

HAM

(to Monk)

You shot the pilot, you hairy oaf!

MONK

You shot the pilot! I missed him completely!

Doc runs to the seaplane and yells back to the others:

DOC

Over the side! Now!

INT. PETE'S SEAPLANE - DAY

The ROAR OF THE ZERO is getting louder! Doc bursts through the door and sees that Pete has been shot. He grabs her --

PETE

I can walk! You don't have to -- oh!

-- and throws her over his shoulder like a sack of potatoes! In a flash, he grabs a HATCHET from Pete's spilled toolbox and dives back out the door!

EXT. JUNGLE RIVER/ROCK ISLAND - DAY

Monk, Ham, and Jack grab hold of some vines and rappel down the slippery wet stone of the angry god's face! They drop into the cave formed by the giant sculpture's open mouth.

ON TOP OF THE CLIFF

The Zero is practically on them! Doc runs to the front of the Goose with Pete on his shoulder, cuts the anchor line with the hatchet, wraps the cable around his arm, and runs toward the cliff!

The Zero CRASHES into the river behind him! Pete is slung over Doc's shoulder and is facing the plane when it hits.

PETE

Oooh... my... God...!

The wrecked Zero SMASHES into Pete's Grumman and both planes EXPLODE in a CATACLYSMIC FIREBALL!

Doc leaps off the waterfall with the burning hulks of both planes chasing him over the edge! Doc and Pete plunge through empty space!

Then suddenly, the anchor line in Doc's fist pulls taut and with a swashbuckling swing, Doc lands in the mouth of the cave with the girl on his shoulder! Errol Flynn couldn't have done it better himself.

An instant later, the twisted, flaming wreckage of the two planes PLUMMETS past them and CRASHES into the water below!

INT. CAVE - DAY

Doc gingerly lays Pete down on the floor of the cave.

PETE

My... Goose... You maniacs wrecked my Goose!

HAM

Don't blame us. File your complaint with the Japanese Air Service.

JACK

What I'd like to know is how they found us so fast.

Pete turns to hide her guilty look. Doc rips her pant leg open to examine her wound. She cringes when he touches it.

DOC

You'll be all right. It's hardly a scratch.

PETE

Easy for you to say...

Doc reaches into the vest beneath his shirt and pulls out a small medical kit. He starts to clean and treat her wound.

Monk lights a match on his rough chin and explores the cave. He lets out a low whistle. It ECHOES in the darkness.

MONK

This must go clear through to China!

HAM

We're in China, you homunculus!

Monk discovers something on one of the dripping cave walls.

MONK
Hey, Doc! Come here!

Doc waves Jack over to finish wrapping Pete's wound. Pete eyes Jack uneasily as he glances at her bare leg and smiles:

JACK
I just want you to know... I usually don't do this on the first date.

Doc and Ham join Monk, who holds up the match and shows them what he has found. It's a carving of the Naga.

MONK
Ain't this the same snake as what's on that doodad?

Doc pulls out the gold Naga coin and compares it to the carving on the wall. They're identical! Doc pulls out a flashlight and twists it on.

DOC
Everyone stay behind me.

Jack helps Pete to her feet and she manages to hobble on her own. Doc leads them into the cave. As they travel deeper and deeper underground, the temperature rises. Monk tugs at his collar. He's sweating gratuitously.

MONK
It's getting plenty hot in here...

DOC
We must be in a volcanic vent.

Suddenly, Doc hears something in the darkness. He gestures for the others to stay quiet. Soon, they're hearing it, too. SOUNDS of activity ahead -- excavation work, earth movers, trucks... and VOICES. Japanese voices.

Doc edges forward and the others follow. There is daylight ahead. CAMERA PUSHES out of the cave, REVEALING...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - DUSK

The immense stone spires of the ANCIENT CITY are silhouetted ominously by the setting sun. At the center of it all is a dark temple, its stonework adorned with carved serpents.

The cave our heroes are in forms the mouth of another frightening STONE GOD. Other HORRIBLE FACES glare down from the sides of mountains ringing the city. In the distance, smoke curls from the smoldering maw of a VOLCANO.

The Japanese have built an elaborate encampment inside the walls of Angkor Naga. Great sections of the city have been leveled to make room for it. As we watch, another of Angkor Naga's inconvenient monuments is **BLASTED AWAY**.

Elsewhere, supplies are being unloaded from two ARMORED TRAINS. A stretch of railroad track leads off into the jungle, cutting through the trees like an iron scar.

And above it all, two flags flapping side-by-side -- the Nazi swastika and the rising sun of Imperial Japan.

Doc and the others crowd the cave entrance, anxious to get their first look at the ancient city.

JACK

Holy smoke...

MONK

If the professor's here, we're gonna have a devil of a time finding him...

PETE

Somebody want to tell me what the hell is going on here? What is this place? And who's this professor?

Doc reaches into his vest and pulls out a small glass vial.

DOC

Here, smell this.

Doc snaps the capsule under Pete's nose. Before she can stop herself, she takes a whiff and falls over unconscious!

JACK

What did you do that for?

DOC

She's working for Lady Lin. I overheard a message she sent out on the shortwave.

Jack and the others are startled by Doc's revelation, but before any of them can react, the ground suddenly lurches beneath their feet! Dust and pebbles rain on their heads!

It's an earthquake! The temblor ripples through the ancient city! A great stone column **TOPPLES** and breaks to pieces!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DUSK

Lady Lin has just arrived and is stepping off one of the trains when the quake hits. Her BODYGUARD helps her keep her footing. She gives the volcano an apprehensive look.

EXT. HEADQUARTERS TENT - DUSK

Finally, the tremors begin to fade away. The tent flap sweeps aside as Wolf and Ito step out into the waning light with their CHIEF ENGINEER. They gaze up at the volcano...

ITO

Mount Kannaki has laid dormant for a thousand years! I cannot believe it has chosen now to become active again!

CHIEF ENGINEER

It's not a coincidence. The geologists warned us it could happen if we continued blasting.

WOLF

How long do we have?

CHIEF ENGINEER

Impossible to say. It could erupt in five minutes or five hundred years.

WOLF

Then we must move to the final phase immediately. Is the situation in the temple under control?

ITO

Not yet. We've lost more than a dozen men in there since yesterday!

WOLF

I don't care how many lives it costs. There's too much at stake for us to be stopped now.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Pete is still unconscious. Monk is tying her up. Doc pulls out his periscope. By quickly reconfiguring the lenses, he turns it into a spyglass and looks out at the city. Jack is fiddling with his super-firer and feeling useless.

JACK

What do I do?

DOC

Stay here and be quiet.

MONK

And if she starts to squawk, don't be afraid to let her have it!

Doc unscrews the spyglass and tucks it away.

DOC

Let's go.

He climbs out of the cave. Monk and Ham draw their machine pistols and follow him over the top. Just like old times.

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - NIGHT

Doc and his men slip through the ruins of the ancient city. Powerful SEARCHLIGHTS sweep the camp from the tops of WATCHTOWERS and MACHINE GUN NESTS. Then, up ahead --

HALF A DOZEN JAPANESE SOLDIERS

in full-body protective suits and gas masks appear. They are bristling with machine guns, grenade launchers, and flamethrowers. Doc gestures for Monk and Ham to hang back.

The soldiers approach the dark temple at the center of the city. They are met by Wolf and Ito. The soldiers line up before them. Ito turns to the men and raises his sword:

ITO

(subtitled; Japanese)

FOR THE EMPEROR, THE GLORIOUS SON OF
HEAVEN!

The men solemnly bow and prepare their weapons. Through their gas masks, we can see their wide eyes and hear their heavy BREATHING -- they're terrified!

A giant hole has been blown in one of the temple walls. As Doc and his men watch, the soldiers nervously enter the temple through this crude opening. A long beat...

Suddenly, MACHINE GUN FIRE erupts from inside the temple! Grenades can be heard EXPLODING! The flamethrowers ROAR! And the SCREAMING! The horrible, blood-curdling SCREAMS!

MONK

What the hell is in there...?

The sounds of battle become sporadic and finally STOP. The screams fade. An OMINOUS SILENCE fills the night.

DOC

Something bad.

Wolf shakes his head and walks off in disgust. When he is gone, Doc turns to Monk and Ham, gesturing for them to move on. As they slip away, a giant metal foot SLAMS into FRAME!

IT'S VIER!

The robot's single red eye scans the camp, then stops as it detects suspicious movement. Vier's red eye glows brighter.

DOC AND HIS MEN

slip between columns, as silent as shadows. The ancient city is a labyrinth of crumbling ruins and roving JAPANESE PATROLS. Ham mutters to Monk:

HAM

How are we ever going to find the professor in all this...?

Doc climbs over a vine-covered wall, gesturing for them to follow. He drops to the other side and disappears into the dark, scouting the way ahead.

Monk nimbly scrambles up the wall, but Ham slips and falls.

MONK

Whatsa matter, fancy pants? Ya break a nail?

HAM

Unlike you, I am unaccustomed to swinging from vines, you missing link!

Ham brushes himself off and tries again. He spurns Monk's helping hand with a pointed huff. They climb over the wall, drop to the other side, and turn to catch up with Doc --

-- but suddenly find themselves standing face-to-face with Vier! Before either of them can react, Vier grabs them both, one in each hand, and lifts them up off the ground!

Up ahead, Doc turns back and sees his friends struggling futilely in Vier's grasp!

VIER

(subtitled; in German)

You die.

With only an instant in which to act, Doc calls out:

DOC

(subtitled; in German)

Vier! Command! Halt!

Vier stops. Doc has perfectly mimicked Wolf's voice! The robot turns toward him, peering into the dark with its glowing red eye...

VIER'S POV

We see the world as Vier sees it -- a strange, halated black-and-white swirl of grainy shadow and light. Doc is silhouetted by the FLAMES of a BLAZING CEREMONIAL FIREPIT. In the darkness, Vier can't make out Doc's face!

BACK TO SCENE

Vier's eye glows brighter...

DOC
(subtitled; in German)
This is Colonel Wolf! Report!

A beat. Vier's circuits BUZZ, trying to reason out this conundrum. Monk and Ham hold their breath...

DOC
(subtitled; in German)
Are you deaf? Report!

Another beat. Finally...

VIER
(subtitled; in German)
Vier has apprehended these intruders.
Vier will kill.

DOC
(subtitled; in German)
No! Release them. I will see to them personally.

Vier hesitates for a moment. Then...

VIER
Jawohl.

Monk turns to Ham with a knowing smile and winks. Vier is about to let them go when Doc has a sudden thought:

DOC
(subtitled; in German)
Halt!

Vier stops. Monk and Ham look at Doc like he's gone crazy!

DOC
(subtitled; in German)
Cancel last command. Put the intruders in with Professor Szilard.

VIER
Jawohl.

Monk and Ham gape at Doc, but before they can say anything, Vier stomps away, carrying them across the camp. Sticking to the shadows, Doc follows the marching robot...

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Meanwhile, Pete is coming to, bound and gagged. Jack regards her venomously as she struggles.

JACK

Save it. Doc overheard the radio message you sent.

Pete's shoulders slump. Then she begins shaking her head.

JACK

You didn't send a message?

She gives a guilty look and reluctantly nods.

JACK

You did send a message?

Pete sighs, shaking her head in frustration. Jack eyes her suspiciously. He moves to take her gag out, then hesitates.

JACK

If you make any noise... I'm gonna let you have it.

Pete skeptically rolls her eyes. Jack removes the gag.

PETE

Lady Lin betrayed us. All of us.

JACK

Yeah. And you helped her do it.

Jack starts to put the gag back in, but she twists away.

PETE

She told me you were all big time treasure hunters. She said she wanted to follow you and promised me a cut of whatever she found if I spied on you.

JACK

Then she turned around and sold you out to the Japanese?

PETE

That's how I'm figuring it. You mind untying these ropes now?

Jack steps back, still not entirely convinced.

JACK
I don't see as this makes us friends.
You're just the double-crosser who got
double-crossed.

Suddenly, they both hear a SOUND. Someone's coming! Jack
draws his super-firer and peers out of the cave...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - NIGHT

Wolf is walking across the camp, returning to his tent. As
he passes beneath the cave, the ground trembles for a moment
and Mt. Kannaki RUMBLES ominously. Wolf glowers at the
volcano and continues on...

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Jack's angry gaze follows Wolf as he enters a large tent
near the edge of the camp...

PETE
What is it? What are you --

Jack shoves the gag back in her mouth. He climbs out of the
cave and follows Wolf, ignoring Pete's muffled cries. When
he's gone, Pete wriggles over to the wall of the cave and
starts rubbing her bindings against the rough rock...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - PALACE - NIGHT

Vier carries Monk and Ham to an ancient palace flanked by
TWO WATCHTOWERS with machine guns and searchlights.

Doc has followed the robot here and hides behind a fallen
column. A PAIR OF MONKEYS regard him with curious, wide-
eyed looks from the branches of a nearby tree. Doc puts a
finger to his lips -- Sssh!

Doc peers out from behind the column and watches as Vier
approaches a JAPANESE GUARD...

VIER
(subtitled; Japanese)
Orders from Colonel Wolf. These two
are to be held here with the
professor.

The guard waves Vier through and the robot enters the
palace. The guard turns away, then stops short -- he's
heard something! A SCUFFLE of crumbling rock... from behind
the fallen column where Doc is hiding!

The guard raises his rifle and gestures to the SOLDIERS in the watchtowers. Two searchlights swing around, sweeping the pile of ruins with their blinding glare. The guard creeps up and looks behind the column...

Suddenly, a SHRIEKING figure lunges at the guard, knocking him on his ass! The rifle goes off! BANG!

The soldiers in the watchtowers are about to open fire when they see that the guard has been attacked by the two monkeys we saw earlier! Doc is nowhere to be seen.

The monkeys SHRIEK at the guard again and scamper away. The other soldiers laugh at their comrade, while --

DOC

slips by the watchtowers and sneaks into the palace unnoticed...

INT. WOLF'S TENT - NIGHT

Wolf is splashing water on his face from a wash basin. Suddenly, something taps against the back of his skull! He freezes. It's the muzzle of Jack's super-machine pistol!

JACK

Don't move.

WOLF

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

JACK

You speak English fine. Hands up.

Wolf raises his hands. Jack yanks the Mauser from Wolf's holster, points it at the back of Wolf's head.

WOLF

What do you want?

JACK

You killed a man during the war.

WOLF

I killed a lot of men.

JACK

The man I'm talking about was an American flier. A friend of Doc Savage.

Wolf reckons back to that fateful night, 20 years ago...

WOLF
Who was he to you?

JACK
My father.

Wolf's eyes narrow. Jack hesitates for a moment.

WOLF
Well? Are you going to shoot me in the back?

Jack bristles at the implication. He tries to hide how nervous he is, but Wolf senses his fear.

JACK
Turn around.

Wolf turns and is surprised to see who his captor is.

WOLF
You. I see it now. You have your father's eyes.

JACK
I wouldn't know.

Jack angrily pulls back the hammer on the Mauser.

WOLF
It was a war. He was a soldier. There are casualties in a war.

JACK
I hear you murdered him in cold blood.

WOLF
And what is it you are about to do?

Jack doesn't have an answer to that. His sweating hand wavers uncertainly...

WOLF
These things are never as black-and-white as they first seem. You would do better to think of this world not as a battle between good and evil, but between the weak and the strong.

Suddenly, a blackjack SLAMS DOWN on the back of Jack's skull, knocking him out! Someone has snuck in behind him...

It's Mahler, his seething face still bruised from his encounter with Doc. Wolf stands gloating over Jack's limp body...

WOLF

A battle that the strong will always win.

INT. PALACE - DUNGEON - NIGHT

TWO JAPANESE SOLDIERS are playing cards near a row of locked cells. Suddenly, Vier marches in carrying Monk and Ham. The robot speaks to the soldiers in Japanese.

HAM

(to Monk)

Well, this is another fine mess you've gotten us into...

Just then, a voice calls out from around the corner:

DOC (O.S.)

(subtitled; in German)

Vier! Command!

Vier pauses. Still imitating Wolf's voice, Doc barks out more orders in German! Monk and Ham exchange a curious look. Suddenly, Vier drops them both to the floor, then marches over and CLOBBERS the two guards, knocking them unconscious!

DOC

(subtitled; in German)

Mission accomplished. Return to your post!

VIER

Jawohl.

Monk and Ham watch nervously as Vier turns and stomps out of the room. Doc crouches in the shadows as it passes. When it's gone, Doc enters and helps his friends to their feet. Ham brushes himself off and straightens his clothes.

DOC

Are you two all right?

MONK

Oh, sure. Great plan, by the way.

HAM

It got us in here, didn't it?

Suddenly, a voice from one of the cells:

SZILARD (O.S.)

Who is that? Who is there?

Doc grabs a key ring from one of the unconscious guards. Monk and Ham draw their super-firers. Doc follows the voice and unlocks one of the doors...

INT. DUNGEON CELL - NIGHT

Doc throws the door open and they all rush inside. Prof. Josef Szilard sits crumpled in a corner! He has been beaten and tortured. Doc helps the professor to his feet.

DOC

Let's get you out of here.

SZILARD

We mustn't leave! We must destroy it!

DOC

Destroy what?

SZILARD

The Pegasus! I sent it here to hide it from the Nazis. But they found it!

DOC

Sent it here? I don't understand!

Suddenly, they all freeze at the sound of a GUN HAMMER BEING COCKED. Col. Wolf stands in the doorway, Mauser drawn!

WOLF

Don't worry. You will.

A SQUAD OF JAPANESE SOLDIERS appears behind him, rifles raised! Following Doc's lead, Monk and Ham drop their super-firers and put their hands in the air.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Meanwhile, Pete has managed to cut the ropes binding her hands by scraping them against a rock. She rubs her raw wrists, then quickly unties the ropes around her ankles and quietly climbs out of the cave...

INT. PALACE - DUNGEON - NIGHT

Doc and his men are manacled to a wall. Doc's shirt has been ripped open and one of the guards has taken his utility vest. Wolf turns to Monk and Ham...

WOLF

I should have known the two of you wouldn't be far behind. It's been a long time, eh, boys?

HAM

Not nearly long enough, you filthy
goose-stepping traitor!

MONK

I'm surprised the ratzis took you.
Even they gotta have some standards!

WOLF

The Nazis have done great things for
my country. There is going to be
another war. And this time, we will
win.

DOC

You're fooling yourself, Colonel.
Hitler isn't saving Germany. He's
destroying it.

WOLF

On the contrary, it was Versailles
that nearly destroyed us. The Führer
has made us strong again.

DOC

By preying on the weak and the
defenseless.

WOLF

Your conscience has always been your
failing. A pity, really. Imagine
what you could have accomplished if
you had chosen to rule the world
instead of serve it.

(to guards)

Release him...

Half a dozen soldiers point their rifles at Doc. One of
them carefully unlocks his manacles.

MONK

What're you gonna do with him?

WOLF

I am giving him a chance to serve the
Reich... and save your lives.

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TEMPLE - NIGHT

Wolf and Mahler are leading a group of armed guards. Doc is
being marched across the camp to the dark temple where the
soldiers we saw earlier met their grisly fates. Doc is
laden with leg irons and wrist shackles.

Ito awaits them. He pulls Wolf aside to confer in private.

Lady Lin appears with her bodyguard. She walks up to Doc, shaking her head and clucking disapprovingly.

LADY LIN

I heard they had you in chains. I just had to come and see for myself.

DOC

Is it everything you thought it would be?

LADY LIN

Well, I've always liked the torn shirt. It's a good look for you.

She smiles flirtatiously, but he doesn't even look at her.

LADY LIN

You're not happy to see me?

DOC

They're probably going to kill me. No thanks to you.

LADY LIN

Don't worry. You'll find some way out of it. You always do.

Wolf returns with Ito at his side.

WOLF

I wouldn't be so sure of that. Now, if you'll excuse us...

Lady Lin eyes Wolf disdainfully. She turns to Doc and leans in close, pretending to kiss him. Instead, she whispers:

LADY LIN

I can get you out of this. I can still be your friend.

DOC

You don't even know the meaning of the word.

Lady Lin is taken aback by this curt rebuff and even looks a little guilty. She hesitates, then walks away. Wolf turns Doc's attention to the dark temple.

WOLF

Two weeks ago, our men opened up a subterranean passage beneath this temple. Since then, everyone who's gone inside has been killed.

DOC

By what?

WOLF

Suffice to say that we need a man of your unique talents to deal with it.

DOC

I'll die before I'll help you.

WOLF

I assumed as much. That is why I took the precaution of providing you with a bit of incentive.

Wolf pulls a bloody handkerchief out of his pocket. He unfolds it, revealing a ragged swatch of human skin... with Jack's tattoo on it! Doc lunges at Wolf, but is beaten to the ground by soldiers.

DOC

What have you done to him?

WOLF

You will find him inside. If you hurry, you may save his life.

Wolf nods to the soldiers, who remove Doc's leg irons and shackles. Wolf returns Doc's utility vest.

WOLF

You'll need this. Everything is there. No tricks.

Doc eyes Wolf skeptically. He pulls the vest on over his torn shirt and begins buckling it up.

DOC

What if I don't come back?

WOLF

I'll have Brooks and Mayfair shot at dawn.

Doc nods and turns away. With machine guns tracking his every move, he starts walking toward the obsidian temple.

WOLF

By the way... was Captain Sparks really the boy's father?

DOC

... Yes.

WOLF

Small world.

Doc forces himself to continue on. The temple looks down at him like a dark god. Doc steps inside and is swallowed up.

INT. TEMPLE - NIGHT

Doc emerges from a dark passage and finds himself in a HUGE VAULTED CHAMBER. The place looks as if a tornado has blown through. EARTH MOVERS and BULLDOZERS have been knocked over like toys. As Doc enters, CAMERA PULLS BACK, REVEALING --

The fantastic treasure of Angkor Naga! There are MOUNTAINS OF GOLD COINS like the one found in Mahler's pouch. Not to mention piles of SILVER, a fortune in JEWELS... and the last thing in the world we ever expected to find here...

A GERMAN U-BOAT

juts out of the solid rock floor of the chamber like a giant steel porpoise, frozen as it leapt from the water! It looms over Doc as he approaches.

The silhouette of a winged horse is painted on the conning tower. The deck of the U-boat has been fitted with some peculiar modifications and is covered with dust and cobwebs.

Doc spots Jack in the shadow of the displaced steel giant. He's been handcuffed to the hull. Doc rushes to his side.

JACK

I guess they didn't like my tattoo.

Doc lifts a bloody flap of fabric on the back of Jack's torn shirt and grimaces at the wound.

DOC

You'll be all right. Let's just get you out of this.

Doc takes a tool from his vest and starts picking Jack's handcuffs. Suddenly, an evil HISSING fills the chamber...

DOC

What's that?

JACK

I don't know. It's been going on for the last five minutes...

The sibilant WHISPER slithers through the shadows again, LOUDER this time...

JACK

Whatever it is, it's getting closer.

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One of the mounds of gold slowly begins to move! Jack looks over Doc's shoulder and watches as the undulating pile of treasure grows higher and higher -- there's something beneath it! The gold falls away, revealing:

A GIANT PREHISTORIC SERPENT! It's easily two hundred feet long with a head the size of an automobile! Its forked tongue flicks out as if tasting fear. Doc, intent on freeing Jack, hasn't seen it yet.

JACK
I hope you brought a flute and a
really big basket...

Doc turns slowly and looks up. The serpent's reptilian eyes glare down at them through narrow slits. Doc gets the handcuffs off and motions for Jack to stand back.

DOC
I'll handle this.

Jack gives him a dubious look. Doc pulls out a canister from his vest and opens it, releasing a geyser of bilious green gas! The snake recoils from the fumes, spreads its massive hood like a cobra, and ROARS -- now it's pissed!

DOC
Oh, boy...

In a blur of motion, the serpent lunges! Doc and Jack run for their lives, ducking into the shadows behind a pillar! Jack makes a face as the green gas wafts over them...

JACK
What a stink!

DOC
It'll cover our scent.

The snake slithers by, confused by the foul-smelling gas.

JACK
What the hell is that thing?!

DOC
The Guardian of the treasure. The ancient Khmers called it Naga Thom.

JACK
What's that mean?

DOC
Big snake.

Doc looks around and spots a large GENERATOR connected to the tall WORK LIGHT GANTRIES.

DOC
Can you get that generator started?

JACK
If I can get to it. Why?

DOC
I'll cover you.

Doc puts two fingers in his mouth and WHISTLES. The snake turns, rears back to strike!

Doc pulls a flare from his vest and IGNITES it. A huge tongue of phosphorous FLAME shoots from his fist! He uses the flare to ward the snake off and lure it away from Jack.

DOC
Go!

Jack runs to the generator and yanks the starting cord. Nothing happens! He looks in the gas tank -- it's empty!

JACK
Great...

Jack looks around and sees a WRECKED BULLDOZER. A big gas can is fastened to the back of it. Jack runs for it.

Doc's phosphor flare SPUTTERS FITFULLY AND DIES. The snake slithers toward him, preparing to attack! Doc sees a cargo net draped over a stack of crates. He grabs the netting and holds it out like a gladiator!

Jack reaches the bulldozer. He grabs the gas can and shakes it -- it's empty, too!

The giant viper ROARS and lashes out at Doc, fangs bared! Doc deftly sidesteps and throws the netting, entangling the snake's head!

While the snake tries to free itself, Doc runs to one of the work light gantries. Fully extended, the light tower nearly touches the high ceiling. Doc tries to turn it on.

DOC
Where's my power?!

Jack is rummaging through a tool box. He finds a length of rubber hose and runs it into the bulldozer's gas tank.

JACK
Coming!

The snake shakes free of the net! Doc backs away and spots the ANTIAIRCRAFT GUN on the deck of the sub! He runs toward the U-boat with the snake in pursuit!

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Jack is desperately siphoning the bulldozer's tank. As Doc climbs up the side of the sub and races for the deck gun, Jack runs back to the generator with the full gas can!

ON THE SUB

The giant snake leers over the edge of the sub and sees Doc running up the tilted deck! As it rears up behind him, Doc gets behind the deck gun, spins it around, and OPENS FIRE!

The snake twists away with an anguished ROAR! Doc HAMMERS AWAY until the gun suddenly stops -- he's out of ammo! The giant snake whips back toward him and HISSES!

Meanwhile, Jack is hurriedly splashing gas into the generator's fuel tank...

Doc backs away as the giant snake coils around the sub like a python around its prey, forcing Doc out onto the foredeck!

DOC

Jack!

JACK

I know!

Jack furiously yanks on the starting cord! The engine CHORTLES and dies! He pulls it again -- nothing!

Doc's got nowhere left to go. The giant snake rises up above him. Hood raised. Eyes narrowed. Fangs glinting.

DOC

Now would be a good time, Jack!

Suddenly, the generator ROARS to life! Doc squints as the high-powered light tower BLAZES into brilliance overhead! The snake recoils momentarily from the glare!

Fast, Doc pulls his grappling line from his belt buckle, throws the hook, and snags the top of the light tower! As the snake strikes, Doc holds onto the line and jumps off the deck of the sub, pulling the light tower over!

When Doc hits the ground, he slips on a mound of gold and tumbles headlong into a dark crevice in the floor!

The light tower falls on the sub and the array SMASHES TO PIECES on the deck in an EXPLOSION OF WHITE-HOT SPARKS, electrifying the steel hull! The giant snake thrashes in the grip of an agonizing fist of arcing blue LIGHTNING!

Finally, the serpent CRASHES to the ground in a SIZZLING heap, its forked tongue dangling from its mouth.

Jack runs to the edge of the crevice that Doc fell into.

JACK

Doc! You okay?

No answer. Jack climbs into the fissure...

INT. SERPENT'S LAIR - NIGHT

Jack clambers down the rocky slope. Doc is lying atop a pile of rubble and treasure. He's slowly getting to his feet, head bleeding and a little dazed.

DOC

Is it dead?

JACK

Dead enough... Hey, what is this place?

Doc looks around for the first time. The floor of the room is littered with human remains! An old layer of the giant snake's dried skin lies in a crinkled heap nearby.

DOC

The snake's lair...

Suddenly, they hear Japanese VOICES echoing in the chamber overhead. Soldiers have entered the temple!

DOC

Go!

Doc and Jack escape through the subterranean passage...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TEMPLE - NIGHT

Wolf and Ito are waiting outside. A SOLDIER runs up to Ito and reports to him in Japanese. Ito smiles happily.

WOLF

Well?

Ito turns and cries out to his men:

ITO

(subtitled; Japanese)

THE BEAST IS DEAD!

A jubilant CHEER goes up -- the dragon has been slain!

The WORKERS quickly grab their tools and head for the temple, passing by a dark alcove where Pete has been hiding. She steps into the shadows and disappears...

INT. TEMPLE - NIGHT

The men run into the treasure chamber and quickly go to work, JACKHAMMERING the stone floor to extricate the U-boat.

Wolf and Ito enter, followed by Lady Lin. Wolf surveys the scene with mounting irritation.

WOLF

Where's Savage?

Ito asks a LIEUTENANT and his face darkens at the answer.

ITO

He's escaped!

WOLF

He won't go far. He'll have to show his face if he wants to save his friends.

Ito turns to the lieutenant and starts barking orders:

ITO

(subtitled; Japanese)

Double the guard on Savage's men! No!
Triple it!

Lady Lin watches them with a smug grin. Wolf snarls at her:

WOLF

He's not out of this yet.

INT. UNDERGROUND PASSAGE - NIGHT

Doc and Jack race through the dark cavern. Doc shines his flashlight onto a GURGLING underground aqueduct.

DOC

This drain should lead to the moat...

Suddenly, the earth begins to shake! The ground splits open and GEYSERS OF STEAM shoot into the cave! Doc grabs Jack and they run for cover!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - NIGHT

The ancient city is rocked by another earthquake! The panicked soldiers turn and look up at Mt. Kannaki, but the mouth of the volcano only glows like a demonic red eye...

INT. UNDERGROUND PASSAGE - NIGHT

The tremors slowly fade away. Doc helps Jack to his feet.

JACK

We're running out of time.

DOC

First things first. We have to get to Monk and Ham before they're shot at dawn.

JACK

What about that submarine?

DOC

The professor will help us with that.

JACK

But what the hell's a German U-boat doing here in the first place? How'd it wind up stuck in the floor?

DOC

It wasn't just stuck, it was fused. That can only mean one thing...

(off Jack's look)

The Pegasus isn't just a submarine. It's a teleportation device.

INT. DUNGEON CELL - NIGHT

Monk and Ham give Szilard an incredulous look. They've been thrown in with the professor and are having the same conversation as Doc and Jack.

MONK

It's a what?

SZILARD

A teleportation device. It's a means by which matter is transported contiguously through space.

MONK

In English!

SZILARD

It's like a magic trick. I make a solid object disappear into thin air...

(waves one hand)

... and instantly make it reappear...

(waves the other hand)

... anywhere in the world!

HAM

You invented this?

SZILARD

Quite by accident. The Nazis were trying to make the U-boat invisible by bending light around it. But I realized that the magnetic fields were capable of bending space as well!

HAM

Who else knew about this?

SZILARD

No one. I sabotaged the experiment so that when the Pegasus was tested, it would be teleported here, where nobody would ever find it!

HAM

So the Nazis saw it disappear... but they thought it had blown up!

SZILARD

Exactly. When they finally realized what had happened, they came for my plans. So I destroyed them. Then they came for me.

MONK

But how'd you know to send it here?

SZILARD

I was the sole survivor of an expedition that discovered this city forty years ago. I thought it would stay hidden forever. But I was wrong.

INT. UNDERGROUND PASSAGE - NIGHT

Doc and Jack still following the aqueduct...

JACK

If you're right about this, the Pegasus is the most powerful weapon ever invented. Hitler could put armies in the capitals of every nation in the world with just the flick of a switch.

DOC

Wolf was right. There's going to be another war. And they could win it before we even knew what hit us.

(MORE)

DOC (CONT'D)

All they have to do now is get the Pegasus back to Germany and figure out how it works.

INT. TEMPLE - NIGHT

The Pegasus crawls forward, LOOMING INTO FRAME like a dark colossus. ANGLE WIDENS to REVEAL the Japanese moving the sub out of the temple!

Logs have been placed beneath it so that it will roll. A steel frame has been built around it. Heavy chains are hooked to the frame.

MOUNTED ELEPHANTS have been harnessed to the chains and are driven under CRACKING whips! As the sub is pulled forward, more logs are placed in front of it to keep it rolling through the tunnel...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TEMPLE - DAWN

The sun is just beginning to burn on the horizon when the nose of the sub finally emerges from the temple! The hull GLEAMS magnificently in the morning light.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL Doc and Jack scrambling amongst the ruins. Doc points out a JAPANESE WATCHTOWER concealed in the branches of a tree. They have to get past it.

DOC

Wait here.

Before Jack can protest, Doc has slipped away...

INT. DUNGEON CELL - DAWN

Dawn is breaking through a narrow barred window. FOOTSTEPS echo ominously in the corridor. Monk and Ham look up. The door slowly CREAKS open, revealing Col. Wolf.

WOLF

Good morning, boys.

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - WATCHTOWER - DAWN

A GUARD is posted on the stairs of the treetop watchtower. He hears a RUSTLING in a neighboring tree and turns to see Doc lunging at him from the leaves like a jungle cat!

INT. WATCHTOWER - DAWN

The THREE GUARDS in the tower are alerted by the sounds of a SCUFFLE outside. A VOICE calls for help:

VOICE (O.S.)
(subtitled; Japanese)
I've got the American! Hurry!

One of the guards runs to the door and looks out, only to find his comrade lying in an unconscious heap on the stairs!

Suddenly, Doc CRASHES down through the thatched roof, KNOCKING OUT TWO GUARDS before he hits the floor! He KICKS the rifle from the hands of the third guard and lands an awesome punch --

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - COURTYARD - DAWN

-- that sends the soldier SMASHING through the wall of the tower! As he plummets to the ground, CAMERA FOLLOWS him, TILTING DOWN to REVEAL --

A MACHINE GUN NEST

TWO SOLDIERS see the man fall. They spot Doc up in the watchtower! As they bring their gun around, one of them is tapped on the shoulder. He turns --

-- and gets punched in the face! It's Jack! The other soldier jumps at him!

Doc sees this and leaps from the watchtower! He runs to Jack's aid, but is surprised to find both soldiers out cold by the time he gets there.

DOC
Where'd you learn to fight like that?

JACK
What do you think they teach you in the Army? Macramé?

Jack grabs a pistol from one of the unconscious soldiers. Doc doesn't like it, but he doesn't stop him either.

JACK
Just in case.

While their backs are turned, the guard who fell from the tower comes to! He raises his gun and is about to shoot --

-- when SOMETHING HEAVY THUMPS the back of his head!

Doc and Jack turn to find Pete standing over the soldier's unconscious body, hefting a monkey wrench in her hand!

PETE

So what's with this submarine?

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DAWN

Two mighty cranes are slowly lifting the Pegasus into the air! The U-boat is swung into place on an armored train. Four flatcars have been linked together to receive it. SOLDIERS take up positions at MACHINE GUN and CANNON EMPLACEMENTS on the train.

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - PALACE - DAWN

Monk and Ham are marched out under heavy guard. Wolf is accompanied by Mahler. Their eyes dart warily, looking for some sign of Doc.

MONK

You can't shoot a man with an empty stomach. It's cruel and unusual!

HAM

I'll take it up with the League next chance I get.

DOC, JACK, AND PETE

are watching from a safe distance.

JACK

Suppose we do get to them. How the hell do we get out of here?

DOC

We take the Pegasus.

Jack and Pete exchange a nervous look.

JACK

You mean actually use that thing? Teleport our way out?

PETE

Suppose it doesn't work? What if it just blows up for real this time?

DOC

Then we will have prevented it from falling into the hands of the enemy.

Jack and Pete don't seem particularly reassured by this. Doc moves to a better vantage point with his spyglass. Jack and Pete follow him...

PETE

(to Doc)

Why don't we split up? You get your men while we go find this professor? We can meet up on the sub.

Doc turns to Jack with a dubious look.

JACK

You think we can trust her?

DOC

We've already made that mistake once.

PETE

Look, if you want to save your men and free the professor before that train pulls out, you're gonna need my help!

DOC

And what's in it for you?

Pete is taken aback. She looks a little ashamed.

PETE

I guess... I just feel like I owe you is all.

Jack looks to Doc and shrugs. Doc gives an approving nod.

DOC

You're going to need more than a monkey wrench to get past those guards.

PETE

Don't worry. I've got a plan...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DAWN

The Japanese are chaining the Pegasus into position on the flatcars. ANGLE SHIFTS to a boxcar being loaded up with wooden crates. Lady Lin stops one of the crates and has her bodyguard open it. It's filled with Khmer treasure!

Lady Lin pulls out an eye-catching diamond and squints at it through a jeweler's eyepiece. Ito sees her and approaches.

ITO

I trust you find your share to be satisfactory.

LADY LIN

Far from it, Colonel. By all rights, one-third of that submarine belongs to me as well.

ITO

Our deal was for the treasure only.

LADY LIN

But you didn't tell me about the submarine!

ITO

You didn't ask.

Lady Lin scowls and storms off, followed by her bodyguard. As she is passing by a tall stack of crates at the edge of the train yard, a hand reaches out and grabs her!

It's Pete! She yanks Lady Lin behind the stack of crates and threatens her with the monkey wrench.

LADY LIN

Miss MacNamara!

PETE

Shouldn't you be asleep in your coffin?

The bodyguard moves to grab her, but Jack appears and points his pistol at him.

JACK

Take it easy, gruesome.

Pete snatches the diamond that Lady Lin took from the crate.

PETE

I'll take this for my plane. And while we're at it, let's see what else you've got here...

Pete suddenly puts a hand under Lady Lin's dress and reaches between her legs! Jack is startled by this until Pete pulls the dress up, yanking a silver derringer from a garter holster. Pete puts the little gun to Lady Lin's temple.

PETE

Same old tricks, Saffie. You're starting to get predictable.

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - PLAZA - DAWN

Monk and Ham are brought into a vast courtyard decorated with rows of ancient statuary and stone columns.

They are each positioned in front of a statue. A FIRING SQUAD moves into formation across from them.

HAM

Looks like Doc didn't make it...

MONK

We ain't licked yet.

HAM

You really believe that?

MONK

Naw, I just hate agreeing with you.

Wolf hangs back, wary of a rescue attempt by Doc...

... who is darting through the ruins, just out of sight!

Doc takes a flat metal case from his vest. Inside are a dozen objects that look like steel pigeon eggs.

Doc takes one, shifts a tiny lever on it, and hides it behind a huge stone statue. As he slips away, the steel egg starts TICKING...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DAWN

A SOLDIER is passing by when he suddenly hears a MUFFLED VOICE. The soldier raises his rifle and looks behind a tall stack of crates. His eyes widen at what he sees --

It's Lady Lin! She's been hog-tied, gagged with an oily rag, and stripped to her frilly underwear!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - PALACE - DAWN

Pete and Jack are boldly walking through camp -- dressed up as Lady Lin and her bodyguard!

Pete has the wide brim of her sun hat pulled down to hide her face. Jack is surprised to find that she fills out the curves of Lady Lin's slinky dress quite nicely.

PETE

Walk behind me.

At the gate, Pete addresses GUARD #1 in Japanese. The guard escorts them inside...

INT. PALACE - DUNGEON - DAWN

... and leads them downstairs. GUARD #2 is here.

Jack quickly WHACKS their escort on the head with the butt of his gun! The man crumples!

Pete jams Lady Lin's silver derringer against Guard #2's neck! She gives him a sharp order in Japanese and he unlocks Szilard's cell.

Jack drags Szilard to his feet, shoves Guard #2 into the cell, and slams the door!

JACK
(to Szilard)
Come on!

INT. TEMPLE - DAWN

Meanwhile, the Japanese are busy clearing out the Khmer treasure. A GROUP OF SOLDIERS is posing in front of the limp body of the giant serpent, rifles raised like big game hunters. A PHOTOGRAPHER is taking pictures of them.

The FLASH POPS with a splash of white LIGHT. And one of the snake's enormous slit pupils reflexively contracts...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - PLAZA - DAWN

Monk and Ham are being tied to statues with their hands behind them.

HAM
If this doesn't work out, I just want to say that... I've found our association to be bearable.

MONK
Yeah, I reckon working with you hasn't made me want to kill myself, either.

MAHLER

stands smirking as he awaits the execution. We see Doc b.g., darting amongst the columns as he sets his steel eggs.

Mahler senses movement, turns to look just as Doc vanishes from view. Mahler frowns, suspicious. Did he see something up there, or is it just his imagination playing tricks? He slips away to investigate...

INT. TEMPLE - DAWN

The soldiers who are having their picture taken with the snake suddenly become aware of a low RUMBLING sound.

The body of the giant snake is beginning to SNORT and twitch...

It's still alive! It shakes off its stupor and drunkenly raises its head, looming over the terrified soldiers!

The men panic and flee, except for the photographer, who stands frozen with fear! Before he even has time to crap his pants, the serpent lashes out and swallows him whole!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - PLAZA - DAWN

Monk and Ham are blindfolded. The FIRING SQUAD stands ready. Doc darts into frame in the deep f.g., poised behind a stone column. He pulls a grenade from his vest while --

MAHLER

prowls the shadows among the columns. He spots Doc's bootprints in the dust and smiles. He pulls his Luger and proceeds, smooth and quiet...

... but pauses as he kicks something. He glances down, sees one of Doc's steel eggs on the ground. Puzzled, he picks it up and peers closely at it. It starts to dawn on him that he's hearing a soft TICK-TICK-TICK-TICK...

THE OFFICER

in charge of the firing squad raises his sword, barking commands in Japanese. Ready... Aim...

DOC

pulls the pin on his grenade and lobs it into the courtyard at Monk and Ham's feet! A BURST OF SEARING WHITE LIGHT! Flash grenade! The blinded soldiers stagger back, clutching at their eyes!

MAHLER

reacts to the BLINDING GLARE down in the plaza. He turns back to the steel egg he's holding. THE TICKING STOPS. A heartbeat of realization. His eyes go wide and --

KA-BOOM! THE STEEL EGG EXPLODES, BLOWING MAHLER TO BITS!

SUDDENLY ANOTHER EXPLOSION! And ANOTHER! Doc's steel eggs are time bombs! They're GOING OFF ALL OVER THE PLACE, knocking over massive statues and columns!

Doc moves into action! He dashes for Monk and Ham and cuts their ropes with his Swiss Army knife. Wolf rubs at his eyes and raises his Mauser. BLAM!BLAM!BLAM!

WOLF

KILL THEM!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DAWN

The EXPLOSIONS are heard all over the city. Ito is barking orders and scrambling his troops! WHIP PAN TO Jack, Pete, and Szilard. They run toward the train in the confusion...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - PLAZA - DAWN

The falling statues come CRASHING DOWN, providing cover for Doc and his men. BULLETS ZING off the stone!

Monk grabs a rifle from a blinded soldier to return fire, but when he looks out, all of the soldiers are running away!

MONK

Ha! Look at 'em runnin'!

A dark shadow falls over him and he turns around to see --

MONK

Holy cat!

It's the giant snake! Doc and his men jump out from behind the fallen statues and run after the fleeing soldiers!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DAWN

Word of the serpent's escape spreads through camp! Men are running around in a panic! Wolf finds Ito and grabs him:

WOLF

Get us out of here! Now!

As they race toward the train, ANGLE SHIFTS to REVEAL --

-- Jack, Pete, and Szilard sneaking up onto the flatcars that are carrying the U-boat!

INT. TRAIN - COMMAND CAR (FORWARD HALF OF TRAIN) - DAWN

Wolf and Ito jump aboard. Ito grabs up a phone, yelling for the train to pull out.

EXT. TRAIN YARD - DAWN

Lady Lin -- haughty, pissed-off, dignified -- makes her way through the confusion, a Japanese officer's long coat draped over her frilly lingerie. Her bodyguard trails meekly behind.

With a jolt, the train starts to move! Her eyes go wide. Shit! She drops the coat and goes stomping through the mud in her spike heels, all dignity now gone, running to catch up...

ON THE TRAIN

Jack, Pete, and Szilard are racing along the deck of the sub as the train pulls out. They're suddenly spotted by a SOLDIER who SHOOTs the professor in the back!

Szilard falls and Jack drops down beside him.

JACK

Can you hold on to me?

Szilard nods, wraps his arms around Jack's neck. Jack carries him up to the conning tower on his back while Pete provides COVERING FIRE with Jack's gun.

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - DAWN

The camp is flung into abject chaos! Panicking elephants run in all directions! The giant serpent is on a murderous rampage! A soldier FIRES A BAZOOKA at it, but misses and blows up one of the giant cranes!

TWO MEN in a raised machine gun nest OPEN FIRE! The serpent recoils in agony, then quickly turns and sinks its enormous fangs into a frightened elephant!

The giant snake picks the elephant up in its mouth and hurls it at the machine gun! The elephant SMASHES into the nest, crushing the men!

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAWN

Jack climbs down the ladder with Szilard on his back. Pete locks the hatch, plunging them into total darkness. She lights a match, revealing a grisly scene --

Skeletons in Nazi uniforms gape at them! They are horribly deformed and fused to the bulkheads and control panels!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DAWN

Doc and his men race through the carnage, only to find that the train with the U-boat on it has already left! They're just in time to watch it disappear into the jungle.

MONK

This just ain't working out!

Suddenly, the ground lurches and the TOP OF MT. KANNAKI BLOWS OFF! The volcano is ERUPTING! Lava bombs EXPLODE from its maw and SCREAM into the city like artillery shells!

MONK

Like I said!

Doc spots a Japanese "Sumida" armored car. Its tires have been removed so that it can travel on the railroad tracks. Doc and his men race toward it, but they are spotted by a GROUP OF SOLDIERS. Doc grabs Monk's rifle.

DOC

I'll cover you!

Monk and Ham make a run for it. When the soldiers OPEN FIRE, Doc starts SHOOTING their guns from their hands!

Monk and Ham jump into the armored car, but MORE SOLDIERS have arrived on the scene. Doc is pinned down!

DOC

Go!

Ham reluctantly hits the accelerator and takes off amidst a HAIL OF BULLETS! Doc pulls the clip from his rifle and checks his ammo -- only two rounds left!

Doc eyes an empty cargo net, hanging from a metal swing arm near the soldiers. Doc SHOOTs and the bullet sparks off the top of the swing arm, pushing it into position. His SECOND SHOT snaps the rope and drops the net on the soldiers!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - DAWN

LAVA SPURTS from the carved mouth of an angry stone god! All over the city, the giant faces start spewing streams of liquid rock from their mouths like enormous lava fountains!

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - TRAIN YARD - DAWN

VROOM! Doc has found a military motorcycle with a sidecar! He kick-starts the bike and pulls on a pair of goggles. Then he pops a wheelie and BURNS RUBBER toward a cargo loading ramp...

The soldiers have just freed themselves from the net when Doc hits the ramp and flies over their heads like a stunt cyclist! He lands next to the train tracks and takes off after Monk and Ham.

As Doc and his men vanish after the Pegasus, dozens of SOLDIERS swarm aboard the second armored train! The locomotive lets loose a BLAST OF STEAM and Train #2 pulls out in pursuit of Doc and his friends...

EXT. ANGKOR NAGA - DAWN

Molten rock splashes through the city, consuming the giant snake! Then, the obsidian temple EXPLODES from within, spouting a geyser of lava over a thousand feet in the air!

Moments later, the lost city of Angkor Naga and everything in it is simply swept away, as if by the hand of God...

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

The armored train carrying the Pegasus ROARS from a tunnel and races through the jungle. It is a rolling fortress, bristling with machine guns, cannons, and tank turrets.

The U-boat is in the middle of the train on flatcars, with about half a dozen train cars on either side of it.

ON THE TRACKS BEHIND

Monk and Ham are closing in on the caboose in their armored car, while Doc races alongside them on his motorcycle.

SOLDIERS on the caboose OPEN FIRE, but Monk turns them away with a volley from the armored car's MACHINE GUN TURRET!

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Pete lights another match. They're all horrified at the sight of the twisted remains of the Nazi U-boat crew.

JACK

What happened...?

SZILARD

I must have misconfigured the fields. The crew was fused with the ship when they re-materialized...

PETE

You can fix that, right?

SZILARD

I hope so...

The match goes out, plunging them into darkness...

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

Doc and his men have caught up to the train. Monk climbs out of the armored car and carefully edges out onto the hood. When he is close enough, he jumps onto the caboose!

Ham jams the gas pedal with a rifle butt and follows Monk. As they climb up, BULLETS start RICOCHETING all around them!

Doc looks back and sees the second armored train behind them and gaining fast! Soldiers on the locomotive are SHOOTING at them. Doc pulls up alongside the first train, evading the gunfire from the second train...

Suddenly, a great EXPLOSION nearly knocks him off the bike! The soldiers on top of Train #1 are FIRING one of the field guns at him from a sand-bagged emplacement! Doc weaves into the jungle and almost loses control!

Doc whips through the foliage, dodging trees! Leaves slap at his face! SHELLS EXPLODE all around him! One BLAST knocks a tree over! Doc veers out of its path and emerges from the jungle, landing squarely in the cannon's sights!

Suddenly, Monk and Ham jump on top of the gun car and CLOBBER the soldiers manning the cannon!

EXT. PEGASUS - CONNING TOWER - DAY

A Japanese SOLDIER climbs up with a tool box. He tries to force the hatch open...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

... while below, the lights start coming on. Pete is tending to Szilard's wound. Jack enters from another part of the ship...

JACK

Got the batteries up. Now what?

Szilard points to an elaborate instrument panel.

SZILARD

That row of switches will start the generators and the RF transmitters...

Jack flips the switches and a low, throbbing HUM builds up.

EXT. PEGASUS - FOREDECK - DAY

TWO MASSIVE ELECTRIC GENERATORS on the deck begin BUZZING with barely restrained power...

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

The armored train races through the jungle with Train #2 in hot pursuit! There's a SWITCHING SHACK up ahead, where the line splits into two parallel tracks.

INT. TRAIN #2 - LOCOMOTIVE - DAY

A Japanese SOLDIER sees the split coming. He picks up a radio transmitter and starts barking orders in Japanese...

EXT. SWITCHING SHACK - DAY

A GUARD runs from the shack and pulls the switcher. The first train swerves onto another track! When it has passed, the guard pushes the switcher back. The two trains are now running next to each other on parallel tracks!

DOC

jumps the motorcycle over the split. Now racing between the two tracks, he tries to get close enough to the first train to jump aboard... but he's SHOT at by soldiers on the second train, which is quickly gaining!

Monk and Ham RETURN FIRE. Doc pours on the speed and tries to outrun the second train!

INT. TRAIN #1 - COMMAND CAR - DAY

Wolf and Ito turn as a harried SOLDIER enters. He reports in frantic Japanese to Ito, who blanches at what he hears.

ITO

Savage!

Wolf snarls and furiously pounds his fist on a desk.

WOLF

What are they waiting for? Kill him!

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Jack and Pete prop Szilard up by the instrument panel.

He points a trembling finger at a mind-boggling array of retrofitted instruments!

SZILARD

This is where you enter the coordinates. There are three sets of coordinates you must enter. Once you have them...

He points to a prominent red button with a safety lock.

SZILARD

Press it and -- fsstt!

He gestures like a magician making something disappear.

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

Doc pulls up alongside the first locomotive, trying to climb aboard. But behind him and closing fast, SOLDIERS on the second locomotive pop up unexpectedly and start SHOOTING!

Doc hits the brakes and quickly drops back! BULLETS WHIZ over his head and PING off the locomotive! A couple of holes are shot in the first train's brake cylinders!

INT. TRAIN #1 - LOCOMOTIVE - DAY

The ENGINEER ducks as BULLETS RICOCHET off the side of the locomotive! He doesn't notice when the needle on one of his gauges starts to fall...

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

Monk and Ham are still TRADING FIRE with the soldiers on the second train! Monk glances at the big field gun, grabs a heavy cannon shell and lugs it over.

MONK

Gimme a hand with this thing!

Ham helps Monk load the cannon and aim it at the other train. A well-placed bullet ZIPS by Monk's ear!

MONK

Oh, yeah? Try this on!

Monk FIRES THE CANNON at point blank range! The other train is ROCKED BY THE BLAST, debris cascading into the air! Monk chuckles and reloads the gun...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Szilard is hastily scribbling some calculations...

SZILARD

Turn the first dial to twelve-point-five. Turn the second and the third to seventy-six and the fourth to eighty-nine-point-nine.

PETE

And that's gonna keep us from winding up like... them?

Pete glances at a gaping skull that has fused with the hull.

SZILARD

If I have figured this correctly, yes.

Jack turns the dials according to Szilard's instructions.

JACK

Okay, what's next?

SZILARD

Now we enter the coordinates. Where are we going?

JACK

I don't know! Anywhere but here!

SZILARD

That's not good enough! I need accurate latitude, longitude, and elevation data!

JACK

Well, where am I supposed to get that?

PETE

This is a submarine! There must be maps or charts or something!

SZILARD

(smiles)

Smart girl.

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

Monk FIRES the field gun again -- BOOM! The soldiers on Train #2 load their own cannon. The trains start BLASTING AWAY at each other like galleons battling on the high seas!

EXT. TRAIN #2 - DAY

A JAPANESE OFFICER motions his men to attack! With a whooping battle cry, A DOZEN MEN jump from the second train to the first! They sail over Doc racing his motorcycle below. One of them slips and falls, SCREAMING as he is mercilessly sucked under the train's wheels!

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

The raiders attack with pistols and swords like a buccaneer boarding party, swarming the sandbagged emplacement! Ham grabs a fallen sword and wades in with flashing steel! Monk is bashing heads and breaking arms!

Fighting three at once, Ham sees a SOLDIER rushing Monk with rifle and bayonet! Without breaking stride, Ham kicks the field gun, sends the muzzle swinging around --

-- catching the soldier mid-stride and KNOCKING HIM OFF THE TRAIN! The man falls SCREAMING through the air...

DOC ON THE MOTORCYCLE

... and lands right in Doc's sidecar! Doc and the soldier trade a stunned look -- wow, can you believe it? Doc smiles and shrugs -- then pulls the linkage pin on the sidecar, freeing it! The soldier veers off, SCREAMING! The sidecar flips and rolls, vanishing behind Doc in a cloud of dust!

Doc turns and sees --

ANOTHER SWITCHING JUNCTION ahead. He pours on a BURST OF SPEED, pulling ahead of the two trains...

The switcher is coming up... Doc reaches out and slaps the lever as he speeds by!

INT. TRAIN #2 - LOCOMOTIVE - DAY

The ENGINEER running the second train sees the two tracks suddenly merge into one! He frantically pulls on the brake to avoid ramming the other train!

EXT. TRAIN #2 - DAY

The brakes SCREECH! SPARKS shoot from the wheels!

The first train pulls ahead. Just as the caboose clears the junction, the second train merges onto the line behind it, barely avoiding a collision...

... but SMASHING into the abandoned "Sumida," which was still running behind the first train! The armored car is BLASTED off the tracks and catapulted into the jungle!

EXT. PEGASUS - CONNING TOWER - DAY

Ito climbs up and finds the soldier still trying to force the hatch.

JAPANESE SOLDIER
(subtitled; Japanese)
They've sealed all the hatches!

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Jack and Pete are ransacking the chart case, pulling out dozens of maps and spreading them out.

PETE
What are we looking for?

JACK
Any place people aren't trying to kill us.

Then Pete sees something that causes her to stop short --

PETE
Hey, what about this?

She points to one of the maps. It's the eastern seaboard of the United States!

JACK
(to Szilard)
Can you teleport us back to New York?

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

The track ahead is blocked by WOODEN BARRICADES and WARNING SIGNS! The locomotive SMASHES them to pieces...

INT. TRAIN #1 - LOCOMOTIVE - DAY

The engineer sees the barricades and pulls on the brake, but nothing happens! The gauge we saw before is pinned to zero! The engineer hollers to a soldier in the locomotive:

ENGINEER
(subtitled; Japanese)
The brakes are out!

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

The BRAKE CYLINDERS SCREAM as air is pumped out through the bullet holes. This train is not stopping!

Doc pulls his motorcycle alongside the car where Monk and Ham are fighting the soldiers. He jumps onto the train, climbs up the side of the car, and starts TEARING through the soldiers like a two-fisted bronze cyclone!

Suddenly, Monk whirls on Ham and draws back a fist as though to hit him! Ham ducks, revealing one last Japanese soldier climbing onto the car, about to stick a knife in Ham's back! Monk punches the soldier and knocks him off the train.

HAM

Thank you...

MONK

Hey, if anybody gets to kill you, it's gonna be me!

Doc turns and sees a GROUP OF SOLDIERS emerge from the front half of the train, running toward them with guns raised!

DOC

Time to go.

Doc opens the hatch of the gun car and they all jump down inside.

THE JAPANESE SOLDIERS

split up. Half of them start a car-to-car search for Doc, working toward the rear, while the rest climb up on top of the train to keep him from sneaking by...

INT. TRAIN #1 - LADY LIN'S CAR - DAY

The soldiers burst in on Lady Lin. One of them bows apologetically and she impatiently waves him off. They run through the car and when they've passed out of sight...

LADY LIN

They're gone.

Suddenly, two sleeping berths roll open with Doc in one and Monk and Ham in the other! Ham is holding a handkerchief over his nose and making a disgusted face.

HAM

You did that on purpose.

Monk smiles impishly and shrugs. Doc turns to Lady Lin.

DOC

Thank you.

Lady Lin seductively puts her hands on his broad shoulders.

LADY LIN

Do you forgive me?

Doc startles her by taking her into his arms and giving her a hard, passionate kiss! When their lips part, Lady Lin looks up at him with a breathless smile. A beat.

DOC

No.

Doc pushes her away and steps out of the car...

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

Doc and his men jump forward onto the flatcar that is carrying the Pegasus. Lady Lin looks out and sees that Doc is working the coupling between her car and the U-boat.

LADY LIN

What are you doing?

DOC

Saying goodbye.

She suddenly realizes what is happening -- Doc is about to detach the rear half of the train!

LADY LIN

Wait! We can split the gold! You'll be rich!

DOC

I already am.

LADY LIN

But what am I supposed to do? We're in the middle of nowhere!

DOC

Don't worry. You'll find some way out of it. You always do.

Doc unhooks the coupling and the rear half of the train starts to drift away, leaving Lady Lin behind!

EXT. TRAIN #2 - DAY

The engineer sees the detached cars ahead and SLAMS ON THE BRAKE, but it's too late!

The locomotive smashes into the abandoned cars! Metal SHRIEKS on metal and the second train GRINDS TO A HALT!

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Szilard is scribbling calculations on the map of the New York coast, face pale and hand trembling.

SZILARD

The latitude coordinate is going to be... zero-four-zero-seven-seven-one...

Jack enters the numbers on the control panel.

JACK

Okay, I got it. What's next?
(no answer)
I said --

Jack turns to the professor and his words catch in his throat. Szilard is staring off into space, his eyes wide and glassy. Pete takes his hand and gasps --

PETE

... He's dead!

JACK

So are we.

EXT. PEGASUS - DAY

Doc, Monk, and Ham come running up the deck of the U-boat from the rear. Just as they reach the conning tower ladder, Doc suddenly veers off.

HAM

Going somewhere?

DOC

I'm unhooking the rest of this train.
I don't want any more surprises.

MONK

Good. Me neither.

Monk hustles up the ladder, peers over the edge --

CONNING TOWER/BRIDGE

-- and gets a big damn surprise! Ito and the soldier still trying to force the hatch! The soldier spins to attack!

MONK

Aw, nuts!

Fast, Monk just grabs the soldier by the shirt and hauls him off the conning tower, throwing him over the side...

THE SOLDIER

falls right at us, plunging right past CAMERA to REVEAL:

COLONEL WOLF ON THE FLATCAR!

He skids to a stunned halt as the soldier FALLS past him and plummets from the train! Wolf was coming from the front of the train to board the U-boat, but now hears:

A LOUD THUMP from the other side of the U-boat! Somebody landing on the flatcar! FEET RUNNING!

Wolf ducks down to look under the U-boat, which is suspended a foot above the flatcar in its steel cradle...

He sees Doc's feet racing up the flatcar toward the front of the train! Wolf brandishes his Schmeisser machine gun and doubles back to ambush him...

CONNING TOWER/BRIDGE

... while Monk, still clinging to the ladder, is getting repeatedly and brutally boot-heeled in the face by Ito from above! Just another day in the life of Monk.

He finally tires of the punishment, grabs Ito's ankle and yanks, SLAMMING him to the floor! Monk hauls himself the rest of the way up the ladder onto the bridge...

... but Ito has scrambled to his feet lightning-fast, drawing his samurai sword and skewering Monk through the belly! Monk GASPS, stunned, falling backward off the tower and almost knocking Ham off the ladder on his way down!

Monk lands in a heap on the deck below, clutching his wound! Ham frantically jumps down, crouches by his side.

HAM

Monk!

MONK

I've had worse... Go give this bastard something to remember me by...

Ham sees Ito peering down at them. Ham rises, strikes an Eton fencing pose, flourishes his stolen sword in challenge.

Ito jumps from the conning tower, lands like a cat before him, sword poised in a fierce samurai stance...

Beat. The men charge each other with a WILD CRY, swords flashing! Meanwhile...

AT THE FRONT OF THE FLATCAR

Doc leans out over the coupling to release the train. Suddenly, from behind, MACHINE GUN BULLETS RICOCHET all around him, SPARKING off metal!

Doc throws himself forward over the edge to avoid the bullets, lands hard on the coupling! The FIRING STOPS. Doc pops back up and sees Wolf at the nose of the submarine, slapping a fresh clip of bullets into his Schmeisser!

Doc bounds off the coupling into the next car forward as Wolf runs after him, OPENING FIRE AGAIN!

INT. COMMAND CAR - DAY

Doc dashes inside as BULLETS CHEW UP the doorjamb! He races down the length of the car as Wolf leaps the gap and BURSTS through the door behind him!

BRAAAAAAP! The MACHINE GUN BLAZES! BULLETS RIP the walls! Doc dashes through the far door into the next train car, barely escaping a HAIL OF LEAD...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Szilard's body has been covered with a blanket. Jack and Pete are frantically going over the late professor's notes:

PETE

Okay, we need three coordinates -- latitude, longitude, and elevation. The professor already gave us the latitude.

JACK

So how do we come up with the other two coordinates?

PETE

Look, all we have to do is use this same equation for longitude and elevation. That'll put us here. Smack in the middle of the Hudson River.

(off his look)

Relax, Einstein. It's just math.

EXT. PEGASUS - DAY

Ham and Ito are dueling like madmen on the deck of the sub! They are both masters and their blades FLASH like lightning! Ito forces Ham out onto the foredeck...

INT. TREASURE CAR - DAY

Doc dashes into a boxcar, locks the door behind him, keeps running. Wolf SHOTS the lock to pieces and KICKS the door open!

Two huge bins fill the car, with only a narrow passage between them. The bins are filled to the ceiling with Khmer gold and jewels. Doc gets to the other end of the boxcar, but there's no door there -- he's trapped!

WOLF

End of the line, old friend.

Doc's eyes quickly flick around, instantly taking in three things: a closed hatch in the ceiling, a metal pipe above his head, and a pair of latches that hold the cargo bins closed. As Wolf's finger tightens on the trigger --

-- Doc leaps into the air, grabs hold of the pipe, and swings upward, kicking open the two cargo door latches as he launches himself feet-first through the ceiling hatch!

Wolf jerks his Schmeisser upward and OPENS FIRE as the unlatched cargo doors drop open, dumping tons of gold and jewels into the narrow passageway!

ON TOP OF THE TRAIN

Doc vaults feet-first through the hatch like an acrobat and lands squarely on his feet! BULLETS RIP through the roof from below, PUNCHING RAGGED HOLES inches from his toes!

IN THE TREASURE CAR

A glistening wave of falling loot washes over Wolf, knocking him off his feet! Wolf flails wildly as he is smothered in the stolen Khmer treasure!

ON TOP OF THE TRAIN

Doc pauses over the hatch, catching his breath. Suddenly, he hears a strange, RUSHING SOUND...

An object appears in the sky behind him, dropping like a meteor, catching up with the train -- it's Vier! THUD!

The robot lands heavily behind him atop the train car with a BLAST of rocket-feet exhaust! Doc slowly turns...

... and finds Vier blocking his path to the U-boat. BUZZ SAW unfolding from its huge metal hand...

DOC

Oh, boy...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Pete hastily finishes her calculations:

PETE

All right, try this. Zero-eight-two-seven-nine-seven.

JACK

(entering coordinates)

I hope you know what you're doing...

PETE

I was flying a plane before I was wearing a bra. I know how to read a map.

EXT. PEGASUS - FOREDECK - DAY

Ham and Ito are fighting amongst the magnetic coils on the deck of the Pegasus! Ito is slashing at Ham relentlessly! Finally, Ham is backed against one of the massive electric generators. Ito lunges at him, but Ham ducks aside --

-- and Ito's sword skewers the generator! SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND VOLTS OF ELECTRICITY surge through Ito's smoking body! SPARKING FIRE erupts from the CRACKLING generator...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

... causing one of the control panels to burst in a SHOWER OF ELECTRICAL SPARKS! Jack and Pete both give the SIZZLING mess a nervous look.

JACK

I really hope we didn't need that...

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

Doc and Vier go at it, mano a mano, but the Man of Bronze is clearly outmatched. Vier slashes at him again and again with its ROARING SAW BLADE! Doc is forced to retreat until he's standing out on the nose of the locomotive!

The train SMASHES THROUGH MORE WARNING SIGNS and rounds a bend, revealing a deep gorge! The Japanese are building an ENORMOUS BRIDGE that will span the chasm, but it's incomplete -- the track ends halfway across the gorge!

Doc gapes at the missing bridge and almost doesn't see Vier's buzz saw swinging down at his head! Doc tumbles back and Vier misses, burying the saw in the steel hull of the locomotive, right between Doc's splayed legs!

For a moment, the saw is stuck! Doc springs to his feet, bounds over Vier's back, and starts running toward the sub!

But Vier whirls around and shoots a metal piton into Doc's leg! Doc falls, clutching at his wound! The piton is trailing a length of cable. A winch in Vier's shoulder starts to turn, dragging Doc slowly back...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Jack and Pete hear a CLANKING sound from overhead.

HAM (O.S.)

Hey! Open up! It's us!

Jack climbs up and unlocks the hatch. He sees the bloody wound in Monk's gut and helps Ham carry him down.

JACK

Is he gonna be okay?

HAM

I don't know. Where's Doc?

JACK

I thought he was with you! He was --

MONK

(interrupting)

Hey! Look!

Monk weakly gestures to Pete. He's frankly admiring her shapely body and the revealing dress she's wearing.

MONK

Pete's a girl!

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

The train is closing in on the unfinished bridge! The CONSTRUCTION WORKERS run for cover! The train's engineer gives up on the brake and frantically leaps from the cab!

ATOP THE LOCOMOTIVE

Vier is reeling Doc in like a trout on a hook! Doc is tugging on the cable, trying to get enough slack so that he can pull the piton out of his leg.

Vier readies its buzz saw as Doc is drawn inexorably nearer... and nearer...

At the last moment, Doc yanks the piton free and rolls away from the swinging buzz saw! Fast, Doc loops the cable around a nearby grabiron and pulls it tight!

Vier grabs Doc and raises him into the air, buzz saw poised! Doc unzips a pocket on his gadget vest, revealing a ripcord!

VIER

(subtitled; in German)
You die.

DOC

Sorry, this is my stop.

Doc pulls the ripcord and a PARACHUTE ERUPTS from the back of his vest! The wind catches the silk and YANKS Doc out of Vier's grasp, ripping his shirtsleeve off!

As the locomotive races toward the bridge, Doc is whisked along the length of the train by the inflated parachute! The boxcars zip by beneath him, then the command car --

EXT. PEGASUS - DAY

-- and a split second later, he is FLYING over the deck of the Pegasus! Then the conning tower! He SLAMS into the periscope and manages to grab hold of it, but now the billowing parachute is threatening to pull him off!

With one hand clutching the periscope in a white-knuckled grip, Doc unbuckles his vest and shrugs it off! The wind SUCKS it away in a tangle of white silk!

EXT. TRAIN #1 - DAY

Vier tries to fly after Doc on its rocket feet, not realizing that it has been tethered to the grabiron! It launches into the air, but the cable snaps taut, yanking Vier back like a dog on a short leash, SLAMMING the robot down on the locomotive!

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Pete is frantically working on the last equation:

JACK
I need a number!

PETE
I'm stuck!

JACK
Give me an educated guess!

EXT. PEGASUS - CONNING TOWER - DAY

Doc opens the bridge hatch just as a dark figure climbs up onto the deck b.g. -- it's Wolf, battered and bloodied, but still alive! He sees Doc jump into the U-boat...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - DAY

Pete finishes the equation, then quickly crosses herself.

PETE
Forty-two.

JACK
Forty-two?

Pete just shrugs. Jack sets the last coordinate and laughs.

JACK
Oh, we're all gonna die...

Doc slides down the ladder and runs to Jack.

DOC
Are we ready?!

JACK
Look, I'm not sure this is such a good idea...

DOC
The bridge is out!

JACK
Okay, here we go!

Jack flips a line of switches in rapid succession. A low HUM builds until the deck is SHUDDERING under their feet!

DOC
HOLD ON!

Doc unlocks the ignition button and presses it! The lights all turn red and an alarm sounds -- AH-OOGA! AH-OOGA! Pete holds Jack's hand. They both cross their fingers.

EXT. GORGE - DAY

The train SMASHES through the last warning sign, CAREENS off the edge of the track, and SAILS INTO THIN AIR! Vier rides the locomotive down, struggling against its tether, hopelessly snared!

WHITE LIGHTNING suddenly ERUPTS from the Pegasus with a strange, metal-rupturing HOWL --

-- the HULL BENDS INWARD as if it were foil and the sub seems to STRETCH LIKE A RUBBER BAND about to be snapped --

The locomotive CRASHES INTO THE RIVER AND EXPLODES! The Pegasus is about to meet the same fate when --

-- SUDDENLY, THE U-BOAT AND ITS FLATCARS ERUPT IN A BALL OF CHAIN LIGHTNING AND VANISH WITHOUT A TRACE! The rest of the train CRASHES INTO THE GORGE IN A CATACLYSM OF WRECKAGE!

EXT. NETHER-SPACE

-- the Pegasus HURTLES through a cacophony of STREAKING LIGHT AND SOUND --

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

-- a brilliant FLASH OF CRACKLING WHITE LIGHT... it shoots through like a thunderbolt... there is only a cold, eerie, absolute SILENCE --

Suddenly, the light dies and sound returns with a BOOM! Doc and his friends are brutally hurled to the deck! And with that, their wild ride comes to an abrupt end.

Jack and Pete breathe a collective sigh of relief. Jack turns to Doc with a smile, but then instantly sobers...

Doc has found Szilard's body. He looks down sadly at the old man's drawn face, then closes the professor's eyes.

Monk is groaning and only half conscious. Ham gives Doc a concerned look. Doc examines Monk's bloody wound:

DOC

He's strong, but we have to --

Then Doc hears a strange COOING sound. A pigeon is strutting across the floor by his feet! Jack and Pete exchange a dubious look.

PETE

Where the hell are we...?

As Pete starts to climb the ladder into the conning tower, Doc looks out through the periscope.

DOC

Well... I've got some good news and I've got some bad news.

HAM

What's the good news?

DOC

The good news is that we're back in New York.

HAM

Thank God...

JACK

And the bad news?

EXT. PEGASUS - NIGHT

Pete throws open the hatch, startling A FLOCK OF PIGEONS from their perch on the conning tower. She turns and gasps at the sight of midtown Manhattan --

PETE

Oh, my God!

-- from 800 FEET UP! The Pegasus and the flatcars that carried it are jutting halfway out of the sixty-fourth floor of the Chrysler Building!

The bow of the U-boat is imbedded in the skyscraper, but everything from the conning tower to the aft hangs out over the city!

Pete stares in amazement, unaware of the dangerous shadow that is creeping up behind her...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

Doc and the others hear a SCREAM from above! Doc snaps into action and sees the dark silhouette of Col. Wolf standing on the bridge! Wolf SHOTS down at Doc through the hatch!

Doc grabs a pistol, then fades back and listens. Silence. Wolf has retreated. Doc turns to the others:

DOC

Go on, get out of here!

JACK

He's got Pete!

DOC
 Monk needs your help.
 (off Jack's look)
 I won't let anything happen to her.

Jack helps Ham carry Monk out of the control room...

When they are gone, Doc turns to the control panel of the teleportation device. He scans over the notes that Pete and Szilard left, then starts rapidly flipping switches.

He turns the dial of a timer and sets it to a five minute countdown. TICK-TICK-TICK-TICK...

INT. CHRYSLER BUILDING - OFFICE - NIGHT

The smoking bow of the Pegasus protrudes into a large office space! Splintered desks and crumbled walls have been knocked aside by the massive U-boat's appearance. A very surprised JANITOR is the only witness.

Suddenly, one of the forward torpedo tube hatches swings open! And as the janitor watches in stunned silence, a man wriggles out from one of the torpedo tubes! It's Jack!

Jack reaches back into the tube, grabs hold of Monk's legs, and pulls him out. Ham jumps out after him and looks around at the damage. He hands the janitor a business card.

HAM
 Don't worry. We're insured.

EXT. PEGASUS - NIGHT

Doc climbs down from the conning tower and finds Wolf standing on the aft deck, pointing a gun at Pete's head.

Doc aims his pistol at Wolf. Wolf edges further out on the aft of the U-boat, dragging Pete with him. The frigid wind HOWLS and whips.

DOC
 It's over! Let her go!

WOLF
 You're too late, Savage! There's no way out of this for you!

As Doc nears, he sees that something has happened to Wolf. His uniform is smoldering. His skin is blistering and his face is weirdly malformed.

WOLF

(continuing)

You can't let me hurt her, but you won't kill me! Your conscience won't allow it!

DOC

Wolf, something's happened to you. Your face... You need help --

WOLF

(interrupting)

Shut up!

Suddenly, the deck TREMBLES and lets out an OMINOUS GROAN, lurching under their feet. Their weight is causing the precariously balanced U-boat to tip toward the street!

INT. CHRYSLER BUILDING - OFFICE - NIGHT

WALLS ARE CRUMBLING as the bow of the submarine rises up, nose pushing through the ceiling to the offices above!

EXT. PEGASUS - NIGHT

The chains holding the flatcars to the Pegasus start to SNAP! One of the cars slips loose and falls...

EXT. LEXINGTON AVENUE - NIGHT

TWO MEN are embroiled in a heated argument over a fender bender, a point which is quickly rendered moot when a railroad flatcar suddenly FALLS from the sixty-fourth floor of the Chrysler Building and PULVERIZES both automobiles!

EXT. PEGASUS - NIGHT

Wolf has backed all the way out onto the aft of the U-boat. Only a few feet now separate him and Pete from the same dizzying drop that the flatcar just took.

DOC

It doesn't have to be like this!

WOLF

But of course it does! One of us will live and one of us will die! As it should have been twenty years ago!

Doc edges toward them, but the U-boat shifts and GROANS.

WOLF

If you come any closer, you'll kill us all!

Wolf presses his Mauser against Pete's temple. Finally, Doc lowers his pistol tosses it aside. The evil glint returns to Wolf's wild eyes.

WOLF

Your death shall be as your life,
Savage -- a tragic waste.

He takes his gun away from Pete's head and points it at Doc.

PETE

You sonuva --!

Pete grabs Wolf's wrist and spoils his aim! Doc lunges at him! Wolf knocks Pete down, sending her right to the edge of the precipice!

Suddenly, the deck PITCHES dangerously toward the street! Doc and Wolf are knocked off their feet! Wolf drops his gun and it goes skittering over the edge! Pete tries to grab it, but loses her balance and TUMBLES off into thin air!

DOC

NO!

Pete's flailing hands manage to grab hold of the U-boat's propeller! She dangles from it helplessly, the sheer drop to the street gaping beneath her...

Up on the deck, Wolf scrambles to his feet and attacks! Doc fights him off! The Pegasus slips again and they roll right to the edge of the deck!

Pete screams below them, clinging desperately to the propeller blade...

INT. CHRYSLER BUILDING - OFFICE - NIGHT

... as the nose of the sub rises further, heeling over and pivoting to one side...

EXT. CHRYSLER BUILDING - BALCONY BELOW THE SUB - NIGHT

... swinging the rear of the sub toward us. We're on the famous sixty-first floor balcony with the stainless steel eagle gargoyles.

The tail of the U-boat dips lower and lower past the parapet with Pete dangling from the propeller...

Suddenly, Jack and Ham rush out onto the balcony!

JACK

Pete!

Jack crawls out onto one of the eagle gargoyles while Ham holds onto his legs. Jack puts out his hand. Pete is still out of reach!

JACK

Give me your hand!

Pete looks at his outstretched hand, then down at the paralyzing drop that separates them. Finally, she reaches out and grabs hold of Jack's hand...

Suddenly, the U-boat shifts again, PIVOTING AWAY from the balcony! Pete's other hand slips off the propeller...

... and she winds up DANGLING in Jack's grasp! He manages to hold onto her, but her weight starts to drag him over the edge! Ham clutches Jack's ankles and slowly starts hauling them both up...

EXT. LEXINGTON AVENUE - NIGHT

On the street below, traffic is jammed as people stop to gawk up at the strange sight atop the Chrysler Building. GIANT SEARCHLIGHTS are turned on, stabbing at the sky with lances of white light, pinning the U-boat in their glare...

EXT. PEGASUS - NIGHT

Doc and Wolf are fighting atop the sub, searchlight beams playing all around them! The deck has tilted to the point that they can barely stay on their feet!

The deck heaves again and the Pegasus slips further from its dangerous perch! Doc and Wolf are THROWN OFF the deck --

-- and onto the U-boat's propeller! Wolf draws his dagger and lashes out furiously! Doc and Wolf do battle on the propeller, ducking and weaving sixty-one stories over Manhattan...

EXT. CHRYSLER BUILDING - BALCONY - NIGHT

... while Jack and the others watch helplessly. The U-boat could fall at any moment, but they're too far away to reach Doc!

JACK

We need something he can grab onto!

Jutting from a corner of the balcony is a tall METAL FLAGPOLE with an American flag fluttering at the end of it.

Jack runs over and tries to pull the flagpole loose! Ham and Pete rush to his aid. The flagpole bends, but still doesn't break free...

Suddenly, two more hands grab hold -- it's Monk! Shaking and bloody, he utters a bestial HOWL and wrenches at the flagpole with his last ounce of sheer brute strength!

Under their combined effort, the flagpole is pried from its base! They all step back as the metal pole FALLS over and SLAMS down on the balcony! Jack and the others pivot it out over the eagle gargoyle...

ON THE PEGASUS

Doc sees them extending the flagpole. They wedge it against the gargoyle, using the parapet as a fulcrum. The American flag now wavers only a few yards away from Doc's reach...

JACK

Doc! Come on!

Wolf's dagger lashes out! Doc turns back just in time to dodge the blow, then grabs hold of Wolf's wrist and squeezes it until it BREAKS! Wolf cries out and drops the knife!

Doc punches him in the face and Wolf falls back, SLAMMING into the propeller blade, which CREAKS and turns under his weight! Doc loses his footing, slides down the smooth metal blade, and just as he is about to topple over the edge --

-- he leaps into the air and grabs the flagpole! Jack and the others struggle mightily to keep Doc from falling...

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

Just then, the timer that Doc set on the teleportation device counts down to zero! The lights on the control panel GLOW and the machine begins to HUM...

EXT. PEGASUS - NIGHT

Suddenly, a BLAST OF WHITE LIGHTNING explodes from the conning tower, arcing and crackling wildly -- the teleportation device is building up to ignition!

Wolf is frantically trying to climb back up, but the propeller turns and he nearly falls. Doc gives Jack a pointed look, then offers a hand to Wolf!

DOC

Take my hand.

Wolf can't believe his eyes! Doc and his friends form a human chain, reaching to save their enemy. Wolf hesitantly puts out a hand. But just as his fingers brush Doc's --

-- the U-boat SLIDES out of the Chrysler Building! The Pegasus PLUMMETS toward the earth with Wolf clutching the propeller, SCREAMING all the way down!

-- suddenly, THE HULL BENDS INWARD as if it were foil and STRETCHES like a rubber band about to be snapped ---

EXT. LEXINGTON AVENUE - NIGHT

The police have arrived on the scene, cordoning off the area around the skyscraper. An IRISH COP is waving his nightstick and trying to keep the crowd back...

IRISH COP

All right, folks! Show's over!
Nothing to see here --!

Suddenly, a WOMAN screams hysterically and points up! The Irish cop turns and sees the FALLING U-BOAT -- it's going to LAND RIGHT ON THEM! But just before it hits the ground --

-- the Pegasus BURSTS into a BALL OF CHAIN LIGHTNING and is gone! All that's left is a lingering trail of SHIMMERING SPARKS that rain gently down on the crowd below...

EXT. CHRYSLER BUILDING - BALCONY - NIGHT

Jack and the others haul Doc up onto the balcony. Jack pulls Pete close and puts his arms around her. Monk collapses and Ham kneels down by his side.

They all look up and see Doc standing on the famous eagle gargoyle, gazing down upon the city. The wind whips at his tattered shirt.

Doc turns and sees the base where the flagpole was pulled loose. He reaches down and hoists the flagpole up on his broad shoulder, heaving it back up into place, like a one-man Iwo Jima!

Behind him, LIGHTNING strikes, arcing dramatically across the sky. As the flagpole SNAPS into place, we...

CUT TO:

THE AMERICAN FLAG

flapping smartly in the wind, flying proudly. Sunlight shines behind it. CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL...

EXT. ARMY RECRUITING CENTER - DAY

An ARMY BUS is parked at the curb. DOZENS OF YOUNG MEN IN UNIFORM are saying goodbye to their FAMILIES before they ship out.

CAMERA BOOMS DOWN to Doc and his friends, all bearing cuts and bruises from their recent adventure. Jack is wearing a fresh Army uniform. He shakes hands with Monk and Ham. Pete is here too, but you might not even recognize her now that she's wearing a dress and has her hair done.

Jack slings his duffel and turns to Doc.

DOC

That scholarship is still waiting for you if you change your mind.

JACK

I appreciate everything you've done for my mother... and for me... but I've made up my mind. This is my decision.

DOC

You're as stubborn as your father.

Doc reaches into his suit and pulls a tarnished silver picture frame out of his pocket. He hands it to Jack.

Jack opens it, revealing the photo of his parents and their infant son that Sparks gave to Doc 20 years ago. It still bears traces of his father's bloodstains in its filigree.

DOC

He would have been proud. I know I am.

Doc puts out a hand, but Jack surprises him by giving him a heartfelt embrace. Doc awkwardly returns it.

Jack turns toward the bus, walking hand-in-hand with Pete. The last stragglers are being hurried aboard.

PETE

Well, so long, fly-boy. Maybe I'll see you up there sometime.

JACK

Not if I see you first.

Jack kisses Pete goodbye and then gets on the bus. Doc watches in silence. Monk and Ham stand next to him.

HAM

You think he'll be all right?

DOC

He can take care of himself.

The bus RUMBLES away with Jack waving goodbye from the window.

Doc raises his hand... but instead of waving, gives Jack a salute.

Surprised, Jack smiles and returns the salute as the bus disappears...

When he is gone, they all turn to Doc's Phantom Corsair, which is parked nearby.

PETE

Hey, suppose you clear up a mystery for me. What'd you do with the submarine?

Monk and Ham give Doc an apprehensive look. He just shrugs his shoulders.

DOC

What submarine?

PETE

Don't get wise with me. You teleported it someplace.

Doc considers this for a moment, then decides to tell her.

DOC

The professor wanted his invention to be sent someplace where it would never be found. So that's what I did.

PETE

And where is that exactly?

Doc whispers something in her ear. Pete's jaw drops when she hears it. Monk and Ham get in the car.

PETE

That's impossible!

DOC

Not impossible. Just very difficult.

Monk starts the car and DOC 1 pulls away with the Man of Bronze riding on the running board. As Pete watches them drive off, CAMERA PULLS UP to the rooftops, REVEALING the Empire State Building shining in the distance like a silver citadel...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. PEGASUS - CONTROL ROOM

The U-boat's winged horse logo FILLS THE SCREEN. CAMERA SLOWLY MOVES around the ship, DISSOLVING through a SERIES OF SHOTS. Ice crystals glaze the bulkheads. The Pegasus is as dark and quiet as a ghost ship...

EXT. SPACE

The blue-green crescent of the Earth shines in the eternal night. The Pegasus FLOATS into view, TUMBLING end over end through space! Wolf's frozen corpse is weightlessly somersaulting along with it! As the U-boat passes by...

... CAMERA PANS with it, REVEALING that it is hurtling toward the sun! The Pegasus floats away and finally vanishes in the blinding solar glare...

FADE OUT.

THE END