



TURNING TIDE

A film by

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Cast

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les films du cap



Pre-credits

1. **EXT. ON THE SEA - DAY**

Music by *Radiohead* playing.

The vast ocean...

We fly over the sea. Straight ahead on the horizon is a miniscule sail. As we approach we discover a 60-foot monohull, the GLOBAL SYSTEM (GSA), sailing under spinnaker over the waves.

No one is on deck.

Opening credits: Going Solo

2. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT THE SEA - DAY**

In the Global System (GSA) cabin, YANN (50) receives weather reports over the Internet: the wind shifts.

The music stops.

Yann steps out of the cockpit and observes the dark horizon. The wind and the sea are starting to strengthen.

3. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

On the deck, Yann lowers his spinnaker and raises his gennaker. He changes route and corrects his automatic pilot.

The satellite phone rings. Yann doesn't answer.

4. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

He enters his cabin, sits at the map table and checks the computer. The rank and positions of the competitors in the VENDEE GLOBE appear: (2nd day of race, North Atlantic, off the coast of Spain). After two days of racing and the abandonment of several crews, Global System is in second place.

YANN

Second, not bad! Just hope it lasts.

His portable Iridium satellite phone rings. He answers... We hear a woman's voice accompany Louis Armstrong to the slow, swaying tune of "On a Coconut Island":

WOMAN'S VOICE AND LOUIS ARMSTRONG

*On a coconut island,
I'd like to be a castaway with you
On a coconut island,
there wouldn't be so very much to do...*

Yann laughs... His voice covers the music.

YANN

Hello Mag.

MAG'S VOICE

(delicious English accent)
Hello Darling, you're off to a banging
start. Are you trying to embarrass us?

YANN

(teasing)
Why, did you think I was a wimp?

MAG'S VOICE

That's it, be a wise ass! At this speed,
you might make a quick return to les
Sables!

YANN

That's right, Darling! But only after
sailing around the world!

5. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - VHF RADIO ROOM //**
YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

The command center of the Vendée Globe at les Sables
d'Olonne.

In a sort of hi-tech control tower, a giant tactile screen,
(like a huge digital tablet) and numerous walls of images
show the maps of the race positions *(4th day of the race,
North Atlantic, south of Portugal, GSA in 2nd)*, images of
the boats at sea and the radio transmissions of the
competitors. The audience, facing the journalists, tries to
catch a few words from these distant voices...

FRANK DREVIL (40), the star skipper of the Global System
group, the smiling handsome winner of the last Vendée Globe
has his leg in a cast. He is standing beside his sponsor,
GEOFFROY MAC KENZIE (50), the athletic boss of GSA (Global
System Insurance). Also with them is ANNA BRUCKNER, the
company's communication director. Everyone is looking at
the giant screen. We also notice the presence of other
teams, GSA's competitors.

A journalist faces the screen, where we see Yann's face at
sea, and speaks to him:

JOURNALIST

Yann Madec, 4 days at sea, second place, you've suddenly become Frank Drevil's replacement. I bet it feels like a dream.

YANN

(*amused*)

Yeah... That depends for who! Ask Frank!

A moment of hesitation at Yann's answer. The journalist turns to Frank:

JOURNALIST

Frank, obviously disappointed after your motorcycle accident not to participate in this Vendée Globe. You won the last race on this same boat, now being skippered by your former first mate.

FRANK

Disappointed, obviously very disappointed, but what satisfaction to see Yann get off to such an amazing start... He's doing a great job.

YANN

Thanks, Frank. How're you doing?

FRANK

Fine, I guess! But it feels pretty strange to be here...

YANN

I know what you mean! It feels funny for me to be out here!

JOURNALIST

(*to Mac Kenzie*)

Mr. Mac Kenzie, for Global System Insurance, the group you run, do you consider this a risk to entrust Frank's boat to Yann Madec?

MAC KENZIE

Our job is to find solutions no matter what the problem. In this case, Yann Madec was the solution. I would also like to thank the race officials and Frank for backing us.

(*to Yann*)

The Global System group is behind you, Yann. It's a real challenge. Good luck.

Yann is silent.

6. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

In the cockpit, Yann has put his harness on over his raincoat. Almost 20 knots. Water dumping on the deck. The 60-footer is on automatic pilot. The waves slam into the boat. Yann's face is soaked. He struggles with the boat, deep in concentration... But he obviously likes it.

7. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - EVENING**

Yann, in the cabin, rests on a bean bag chair. He listens to the boat in a half-sleep, closes an eye, opens it... He is in his element.

8. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP // INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - MORNING**

The Global System team's technical workshop at Sables d'Olonne. It's a spacious hangar on the dock. One of Frank's old boats is on dry dock in the back of the room. Global System posters line the walls. Various material is everywhere (tools, sails, rudders, masts, keel and a large center-board).

On a mezzanine: a large room with drawing table, boat designs, numerous trophies (including the Vendée Globe) and two large offices facing each other, Frank's office and the team manager's office. We discover the manager, MARIE (40), a very attractive woman who works intently at her file-covered desk. Family pictures (Yann, Marie and their daughter Lea) are in front of her. Just opposite her, Frank is on the phone in his office, his cast resting on a chair.

Under the mezzanine, FRANCOIS, the Global System logistical manager, works at a large table with weather maps and all means of communication possible: computers, radios, etc.

Three other team members are busy in the workshop.

Out at sea, Global System is sailing quickly. Yann is on the deck. He turns on the automatic pilot, walks down into the cabin, sits at the map table, opens his computer and turns on Skype.

A Skype request flashes on Marie's computer. She accepts and Yann's face appears on the screen.

Frank eavesdrops...

YANN

(cheerful)

It's great... The boat is working like a charm. It's unbelievable. I'm taking the lead tonight. They're gonna all be jealous...

Frank interrupts his conversation while glancing inquisitively at Marie.

MARIE

(embarrassed)

Great... You know, no one here is jealous. That's what we've working for!

YANN

Yeah, I know... I'll never be able to thank you enough.

With his crutches, Frank walks up behind Marie, gets in front of the computer and speaks to Yann.

FRANK

(mocking)

You can thank the boat too, huh! Take good care of her...

YANN

(annoyed)

Yeah, that's all I'm doing! Bye, Marie... I'll speak to you later.

Yann closes Skype. His face vanishes from the screen.

We stay on Marie, who speaks to Frank.

MARIE

Be nice to him. He's doing great out there!

FRANK

That's what you wanted, isn't it?

MARIE

We've talked about it enough already! Would you rather see the boat and the team docked? So... It's good for all of us!

9. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann is at the helm. The weather is mild again and the sun comes out. The boat is sailing at 21 knots under spinnaker.

10. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA // LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY**

A seaside house at Les Sables. From her home office, Marie opens her computer and turns on Skype.

In the Global System cabin, Yann concentrates as he repairs a torn spinnaker with needle and thread. A Skype request flashes on his computer. Yann stops sewing and accepts.

YANN

Jesus, your fucking brother is always on my back!

MARIE

Put yourself in his shoes. It's hardest of all for him!

YANN

Yeah... I am in his shoes...

Marie is silent.

YANN

How's Lea?

MARIE

Lea... All these changes haven't been easy for her.

YANN

Come on, it's not that bad!

MARIE

One week at sea and you've already forgotten? Saint Malo, the move, school... You left us with a lot of things to handle!

YANN

One week... I didn't even notice. Put everything on stand-by!

MARIE

You crack me up! On stand-by!

YANN

You know how to handle things! You'll take care of it. You always do!

MARIE

And you... Did you handle things with Juhel?

YANN

Forget about Juhel for now! I'm still with Global System, right?

Silence.

YANN

Why didn't Lea say anything to me?

MARIE

You know her, she's like her father... She's not so talkative.

YANN

What?! I'm not talkative? What am I doing right now? Come here... Closer!

They kiss, screen to screen.

In the cabin, the boat's satellite phone rings. The race command center is trying to reach Global System. Yann is still on Skype with Marie. He ignores the phone call...

MARIE

I love you.

YANN

I love you too. Kiss Lea for me.

11. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - VHF RADIO ROOM - DAY**

At the command center, in front of the race position map (*7th day of race, North Atlantic, off the Canary Islands, GSA in 1st place*), it's a live news report of the mid-day rankings.

JOURNALIST

Seventh day of the race, Yann Madec's Global System is leading the *Qatar Sails* skippered by the Corsican, Ange Paoli. They have just passed the Canary Islands...

The audience crowds around the giant screen where a video of Yann's boat appears. They applaud.

JOURNALIST

We happen to have Yann Madec on the phone right now... Hello? Hello? Yann? Yann Madec? Hello?

12. **INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY**

LEA (9) is at home at Les Sables. She is happy to be with a boy and a girl from her class. They are in the living room with an open bottle of milk, Coca-Cola, cookies, chocolate...

Lea is sitting on an armchair, drawing on a digital tablet.

The two others are fighting over the laptop computer on the table to play "Virtual Regatta" (an on-line virtual regatta game which drew 330,000 players during the last Vendée Globe). We see that the television is on behind them with the rest of report from the race command center.

The girl turns to the television:

GIRL

Look, Lea! Your dad's on TV!

Lea feigns indifference, stands, goes to the kitchen and returns with a jar of Nutella.

The boy turns up the volume. We see a photo of Yann.

JOURNALIST'S VOICE

Still impossible to establish contact with Yann Madec who, I remind you, has taken the lead and is sailing at an average of 21 knots!

The boy and the girl cheer. Lea walks over to them...

The two other kids are staring at the TV screen.

LEA

(to the television)

Forget it! He'll never answer!

BOY

But he's winning! You should be proud of him. Look at us, our SpongeBob isn't getting anywhere.

On the computer screen, a virtual boat "SpongeBob" appears on Virtual Regatta. It isn't moving.

BOY

We're not moving!

LEA

(feigned disillusion)

Yeah... 21 knots! You think 38 kilometers an hour is fast?

Marie appears and discovers the scene: the screens, the lazy kids, junk food all over the place...

MARIE

What is this mess?!

13. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - END OF DAY**

The sea shines under a magnificent sunset. Yann is at the helm, speaking to the boat.

YANN

Whoa! Easy it does it!

The boat sails at more than 20 knots in the trade wind. The wind gauge reads 28 knots. The heavy spinnaker is full.

14. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP // YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Global System technical workshop in les Sables d'Olonne. The workshop is empty and dark. Only the mezzanine office light is on.

In his office, Frank is talking alone with Yann on Skype.

FRANK

Don't let the beginning of the race go to your head. It's good to go fast, but you have to remain clear-headed and make good choices. Go easy on the boat!

YANN

Yeah, don't worry... I'm clear-headed. Otherwise I wouldn't be here! No!

FRANK

Yeah, yeah, sure. Just be careful.
(he shows his cast)
Look what happens when you show off.

YANN

(laughs)
I'll remind you that it's against the rules to give advice...

15. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

At the chart table, Yann takes a CD marked "Frank Drevil". He slips the CD into the player: the first few bars of *Moby*. He pouts.

He steps out of the cabin in his raincoat. The deck is overwhelmed with waves. It's very impressive. Yann is in his element.

First call on the Iridium from DENIS JUHEL, a native of St. Malo and skipper of the *Cheminées Bretonnes*. Juhel is Yann's friend and "ex-future boss" but currently his competitor.

JUHEL'S VOICE

(rasping voice)
Hey, it's Juhel! What's your sign again?

YANN

What?

JUHEL'S VOICE

You're a Taurus? A Leo?

YANN

I'm a Pisces!

JUHEL'S VOICE

(reading)

Okay! Well listen to this, you eel.
Pisces: Don't give in to the lure of
ease. Set your own challenges, follow
your own path. Be responsible...

Juhel suddenly gets angry.

JUHEL'S VOICE

Jesus Christ! Did Frank write this
horoscope or what?! Hey, you don't plan
on escaping me, do you? Don't forget to
respect the hierarchy! We're both from
St. Malo!

16. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - VIP SPACE - DAY**

Mac Kenzie, the Global System sponsor, has reserved the VIP
space at race command for a public relations operation.
Petits-fours, images of Global System everywhere. Mutual
congratulations. Glasses clinking between clients and
sponsors. Frank, with his cast and crutches, does the after-
sales service. Marie accompanies him.

Mac Kenzie is on his mobile phone. He walks off annoyed
after hanging up, joined by Anna Bruckner, his
communication director.

MAC KENZIE

(aside to Anna)

Anna, Madec's fucking up. He won't
answer. He won't speak to the press!

ANNA

Ah, I told you so! He's not Frank, that's
for sure! But public relations is my job.
So let me handle it. We just have to be a
little patient and...

Just then, we hear the voice of the journalist who is
running the public relations operation over the loud
speakers:

JOURNALIST'S VOICE

Yann Madec has just beaten Frank Drevil's
record for the most solitary nautical
miles in 24 hours: 472 miles!

Marie leads the applause throughout the entire center.
Frank raises his glass, as does Anna.

Mac Kenzie smiles contritely as he raises his glass too.

17. INT. LES SABLES - BUTCHER SHOP // YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Marie is waiting in line at the butcher shop. Her mobile phone rings. She answers, surprised.

MARIE

Hello! Hello?

YANN

Are you alone?

MARIE

Yeah.

YANN

I'm sick of all of them!

MARIE

(surprised)

Sick of who? You're winning! It's fabulous!

Yann is on the deck speaking to Marie with his Iridium mobile, his face soaked by the waves drips slowly...

YANN

(angry)

Yeah... I'm working my ass off, I don't sleep, I'm on target and Mac Kenzie bitches at me?! Not to mention your brother's advice!

A pause.

MARIE

(also angry)

Cut it out, Yann! You're the skipper now. You did it. They're giving you your chance. There are compromises. It's the way it is. You know it as well as I do!

The butcher's customers look at Marie.

YANN'S VOICE

Yeah, yeah, I know! Smile, stay calm.

(a beat)

Where are you?

MARIE

(with humor)

Me? I'm in line at the butcher shop...

18. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

Yann, in the cabin, sleeps on the bean bag chair. The noise of the waves and the boat is impressive.

19. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - EARLY MORNING**

A sharp, violent sound suddenly wakes Yann. He opens his eyes, remains listening to the boat for a few moments. It clearly isn't making the same noise now. Yann feels a loss of speed.

YANN

(speaking to the boat)

What the hell are you doing?

He rushes outside and sees that the Global System is drifting. He checks the rudder blades; they are fine. He activates the levers that move the keel; it responds normally. He leans over and tries to see the center-board underwater.

YANN

(to himself)

Jesus Christ, the center board! Fuck!

20. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - EARLY MORNING**

The boat loses speed. Yann goes into the cabin, furious to see his lead dwindling.

On the computer, he sees that three opponents have passed him *(9th day of race, North Atlantic, off of Mauritania, GSA in 4th place)*.

He calls François, the Global System logistics chief.

YANN

François, it's Yann. Are you awake? I must have hit a container or a whale. It's fucked!

FRANÇOIS

Any damage?

YANN

Yeah. The center-board at least!

21. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - MORNING**

He decides to change course. He jibes, brakes the 60-footer and reefs twice. He unfurls the fore staysail.

22. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA // LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - DAY**

The entire technical team is busy in the Sables workshop. François is on the phone with Yann. Frank, who has just arrived (with his cast and crutches), listens to the conversation with Marie at his side.

FRANÇOIS

You can anchor, but not land. You know, those are the rules. I just spoke with the architect; you can try to fix it. But he says it won't be easy...

YANN'S VOICE

I know! I'm going to try. I already set a course for 130. I'm going to get my hands wet in a Cape Verde inlet.

FRANK

(to François)

Let me talk to him.

Frank takes the phone, annoyed.

FRANK

You fucked up the center-board! Are you navigating like an ass or what?!

YANN'S VOICE

You want me to remind you of the center-board problem?

FRANK

(angry)

I'll shove that fucking center-board up your ass! 5 meters long, 1.5 meters wide! And damn it, you ditched me for Juhel at St. Malo!

YANN'S VOICE

(now angry too)

Am I ditching you now? Now cut it out! Leave Juhel out of it! Because of your stupid choices, it's up to me now!

FRANK

Well, good luck with that, man, because it's at least two days lost, and with a handicap like that, your race is quickly finished.

YANN'S VOICE

Other boats could have problems too.

FRANK

I don't care about other boats! That's my boat! In this fucking race, only victory counts. And I know what I'm talking about!

Yann hangs up.

MARIE

(to Frank, furious)

Stop talking to him like that!

23. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

In order to reach Cape Verde, Yann moves his gear inside the cabin from one side to the other and fills and empties his ballast to make sure the boat is stable. Sailing now is a nightmare. He is exhausted because he can't sleep at all.

24. **EXT. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS - YANN'S BOAT - DAY**

An inlet. Yann goes leeward, hauls down his sails, anchors the boat. He raises the French flag.

Wearing a mask and air tank, he dives under the boat.

Underwater images. Yann dives under the boat and discovers the end of the damaged center-board. The starboard rudder is also damaged.

Back on the deck again, he struggles to remove the rudder blade, then the center-board.

He places the center-board on the deck. It's very heavy. Ingeniously, he uses the halyard from the great sail and a winch to lift it back...

25. **INT. PARIS - LA DEFENSE - GSA - DAY**

In Paris, from the Global System head office in La Defense, Anna Bruckner calls Yann on his Iridium.

ANNA

Yann, it's Anna. Anna Bruckner. I know I'm calling at a bad time.

YANN

Yes!

ANNA

Listen, Yann. You're the skipper now. You need to communicate. And I absolutely need some pictures right now. It's for Paris Match. Like Robinson Crusoe of the seas!

YANN

Right now? That won't be possible! Sorry!

Yann hangs up.

ANNA

(to herself)

It's not gonna be easy...

26. **EXT. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS - YANN'S BOAT - DAY**

Yann has turned the deck into a composite workshop. He has set up a tent with a sail to stay out of the sun and humidity. His engine gives him 12 volts. He uses a grindstone to grind the carbon. It burns his eyes and his skin. He is black with carbon dust. It's unbearable.

27. **EXT. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS - YANN'S BOAT - DAY**

The Global System and Yann's tent as seen from the inlet.

The noise of Yann's engine disturbs the quiet of this tropical setting. A handful of boats are anchored there.

28. **INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE // YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - EVENING**

From her home office, Marie is talking to Yann on Skype.

YANN

Goddamn it! All this lost time! I'm not even sure it's gonna hold! And your brother's still fucking with me!

MARIE

(comforting)

Forget about Frank! This is about you! Don't give up. Don't question everything! Not now!

Lea enters the room.

MARIE

(embarrassed)

Hold on... Here's Lea.

LEA

Hi Dad! At school they're all crazy about your race. Hurry up, get going fast! Go Daddy!

YANN

You two crack me up!

29. **EXT. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS - YANN'S BOAT - NIGHT**

On the deck, under the tent, Yann continues to make repairs by the light of two neon bulbs. His face is protected by a cellulose mask. Dripping with sweat, he spreads layers of paint. But the job is difficult because of the heat and humidity in the air.

YANN

Goddamn fucking glue! Are you gonna stick or what?!

He coughs, tears off his mask, takes a drink. He is allergic to the glue.

30. **INT. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS - YANN'S BOAT - EARLY MORNING**

In the middle of his work area, Yann has fallen asleep on his big bean bag chair, exhausted.

The sound of a new e-mail wakes Yann. Covered with black dust, he checks his mail. He opens the one he has just received. It is from an opponent, Ange Paoli: "Sincerely sorry for you! Your race from the start was stellar! Hang in there, Medec!"

YANN

Fucking Corsican!

31. **INT/EXT. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS - YANN'S BOAT - DAY**

Yann steps onto the deck, puts on his mask and gets back to work with determination. The Iridium rings. He answers.

Once again the swaying island music with Mag's voice accompanying Louis Armstrong on "On a Coconut Island".

Yann smiles.

YANN

Oh Mag! It's good to hear from you!

MAG'S VOICE

Well, darling! So you finally listened to me! My *darling's* not so *daring* now!

YANN

Ha-ha, very funny! I'm opening a disco in Cape Verde. It's quiet, but it's nice. Come on down...

MAG'S VOICE

Okay! I'll be your DJ if you want...

Mag puts on the Beatles "Yellow Submarine", which echoes from the mobile phone in the cabin.

Yann laughs and gets back to work.

He sands the glued area with sandpaper. The added area seems to hold. He tests it; it holds.

Yann is happy.

32. **EXT. LES SABLES - STREET OF LEA'S SCHOOL - DAY**

Marie is waiting for Lea at the door of her school. Other mothers and nannies are waiting beside her.

A mother approaches Marie.

MARIE

Hello...

THE MOTHER

So, is your husband going to be able to start sailing again?

Marie doesn't answer, annoyed.

Lea appears from the school and runs over to Marie.

LEA

Why'd you come get me, Mom? I can go home by myself, you know!

MARIE

(annoyed)

I'm getting sick of all of you! You're not going to start too, are you?!

33. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The 60-footer sails away from Cape Verde. The boat picks up the trade winds. Yann is at the helm, chasing after the wind, like in a regatta. He is back in the race.

The Iridium rings. It's Frank.

FRANK'S VOICE

Is it fixed?

YANN

Yeah... I set sail but I'm whipped!

FRANK'S VOICE

You might be whipped... But if you don't communicate, you won't have a sponsor. And without a sponsor, you don't have a boat. So listen, Anna is just doing her job! Make an effort!

YANN

Yeah, I promise. I'll make an effort.

FRANK'S VOICE

Does it seem okay now?

YANN

Yeah. I hope so!

FRANK'S VOICE

Have you seen where they are?

YANN

Yeah! They all got stuck in the anticyclone, but they have a two day lead.

FRANK'S VOICE

You have nothing to lose. Gamble on the weather! Take a risk!

YANN

You're telling me that?!

FRANK

(amused)

Yes... Go for it!

34. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann is cooking in the cabin. He opens a freeze dried package marked "Lobster in Oyster Sauce". He re-hydrates it with water from his desalinator.

YANN

(amused)

Mr. Weather believes in Santa Claus!

Eating his food from a Tupperware bowl, Yann checks his position as well as his competitors on the computer: *(14th day of race, Atlantic, off the coast of Senegal, GSA 22nd)*. He is behind the second group behind the leaders. Yann dives into the weather charts.

YANN

(to himself)

Yeah... Due west... It's a gamble, but why not?

35. **EXT/INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Yann changes course and struggles to catch up with the pack. He works non-stop. He jibes and changes sails many times.

A dull sound breaks his concentration. Worried, he listens to the boat, checks the center-board, but all seems normal.

36. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Yann is in the cabin. He picks up the Iridium, collapses on his bean bag chair and briefly remains motionless while squeezing the phone.

Then he dials Marie's number.

YANN

Where are you?

MARIE'S VOICE

At home. Where are you?

YANN

(disillusioned)

At sea...

MARIE'S VOICE

Oh no, does my Yannie have the blues? Did someone bother him again? Mac Kenzie? Frank? Juhel?

YANN

Don't tease me.

(he sighs)

Did you see the rankings? It sucks!

MARIE'S VOICE

(tough)

Good for you.

YANN

What do you mean, 'good for me'?

MARIE'S VOICE

You go off to have fun on a boat! You leave us with all kinds of problems! If it's too hard, if you're sick of it, then turn around. You'll be home for Christmas. Lea would be happy.

YANN

Whoa... That's not what I mean!

MARIE'S VOICE

Then quit whining. Go catch them and come straight home!

YANN

You don't miss a trick, do you?

MARIE'S VOICE

(teasing)

You said it.

Yann smiles.

37. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - END OF DAY

A magnificent sunset over the Atlantic to Ella Fitzgerald's singing. Yann takes a picture.

In the cabin, he sends a the picture to Marie and Lea over the Internet. He adds the message, "To you, my loves."

38. **INT. LES SABLES - SCHOOL - LEA'S CLASS - DAY**

In Lea's class, in front of an overhead projector connected to "Virtual Regatta", MRS. TRIGOULET, Lea's 3rd grade teacher, shows the class the location of their virtual boat "SpongeBob" as a teaching tool. Mrs. Trigoulet speaks to Lea:

MADAME TRIGOULET

Lea look: your father is now in 19th place. And our SpongeBob is in 124,547th place! But we are heading west like he is. Could you call him for some advice for us?

LEA

(mocking)

No, I can't call my father right now!

UN COPAIN

Can we send him a question on his blog?

LEA

You think my dad has a blog?!

39. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

The speedometer reads 18 knots. Yann optimizes the favorable weather patterns. He is feeling more positive.

The Iridium rings. It's Juhel:

JUHEL'S VOICE

Hey! The eel is heading west!

YANN

No, he's not! He's heading south-west!

JUHEL'S VOICE

Are you following your horoscope?

YANN

Yeah... It's a lot better than following the flock!

JUHEL'S VOICE

(laughs)

Don't wander too far! And watch out for the wolf!

40. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

The Doldrums. Torrential rain, heat, dark clouds. It's pitch black. At the helm, Yann listens to David Bowie blasting.

Global System is calm. The rain splatters and streams on the deck. 40° inside the boat.

YANN

(to the boat)

Jesus is this slow.

Yann looks at the sails jolted by a gust of wind, then hang motionless and slack. He takes the chance to take a shower on the deck.

From the helm, Yann pushes the mainsail with a board to create the illusion of a breeze. The hot rain wets his eyes.

And then he slowly sees the access hatch to the sail hold in front of the mast open!

Yann stares at the hatch in terror. An open hand appears like a mime, a mime searching for a few raindrops. The same action happens several times!

Yann is stunned!

He turns on the automatic pilot. He walks to the bow and throws open the hatch. Little by little we see the face, then body, of a black teenager appear. He is thin and muscular with big eyes. Their eyes meet. Yann can't believe it. He is absolutely shocked.

Facing Yann, in the hatch, the teen is terrified. Time stands still. Suddenly, the teen runs and dives inside the boat. He falls, then gets back up and hides at the back of the cabin. Yann walks over to him.

The two men observe each other...

Yann steps forward, violently grabs him and pins him to the floor. The teen is terrified. Yann blocks him and binds his hands with a piece of rope..

The music stops.

The teen gestures for food and water. He looks very ill.

Yann brings him water and a ration of food. Yann helps him drink and eat. The teen remains bound.

YANN

(to himself)

I can't believe it...

The teen speaks in snatches in his dialect.

Yann looks at him, powerless, completely upset.

YANN

What the fuck?

41. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann brings the teen on the deck so he can get some fresh air. The teen, his hands still tied, starts to vomit on the night watch post. He starts to spasm violently.

Yann goes to get the bucket and fills it with seawater. He puts the bucket at the teen's feet.

Yann realizes his hands are still bound. He unties them, takes the bucket and throws the water on the vomit.

YANN

Go in the cabin. Don't move! Don't come out! Don't touch anything! Don't puke, hold it in! And do exactly what I say!

(shows him the cameras)

If someone sees you on the boat, I'm fucked! Cameras, you understand?

The teen looks at him in silence, afraid.

YANN

(disillusioned)

Damn it, he doesn't understand a thing.

Global System keeps sailing. The teen is intrigued by Yann's constant, surprising activity. He checks the sails, the automatic pilot, back and forth to the computer, radio transmissions, etc. He doesn't understand what's happening and he is evidently afraid. Yann takes him into the cabin.

42. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

At the map table, Yann broods, devastated by the situation. His eyes set on the teen, huddled in the front in the sail hold.

Skype flashes and beeps on his computer.

Yann accepts and Marie's image appears. She is happy, wearing a sexy dress.

MARIE

(determined)

Look what I bought for holidays. What do you think? Can you see? Hold on, that's not all...

She takes off the dress and stands in her bra and panties. She blows him a kiss and vanishes from the screen.

Yann glances at the sail hold. His gaze meets the surprised teen's gaze. Yann hides the screen from his view!

Marie is back in the screen. She finishes adjusting a new dress on her chest...

MARIE

(teasing him)

And how about this?

YANN

(uncomfortable)

Um...

MARIE

Sexy, isn't it?

YANN

Yeah...

MARIE

You're not helping me much. So which one will it be?

YANN

(embarrassed)

Um, the first one. Sorry babe, it's really hot... I gotta go.

Yann hangs up.

Marie is disappointed.

43. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Yann is on the deck. He turns on the automatic pilot and climbs down into the cabin.

In the cabin, Yann cooks, opens a package of freeze-dried food and makes a Tupperware for the teen.

The teen finds it disgusting and spits it out.

YANN

(cynical)

You can't stand Frank's food! Good, because there's not enough for two anyway.

Yann sits at the map table in front of the computer screen. Looking for an island. He discovers Ascension Island and clicks on it. A picture of a volcanic, mountainous island appears. A vocal commentary, a woman's warm voice, starts:

COMMENTARY

Ascension Island, a South Atlantic volcanic island situated below the equator. Refuge for terns and crabs. Rainy, equatorial climate...

YANN

Nice...

He forgets Ascension Island. He thinks, draws a western course with his finger. He checks his weather files and then clicks on the Fernando de Noronha Archipelago, 300 nautical miles from Recife. Same thing: an image of a tropical paradise appears.

COMMENTARY

Fernando de Noronha, a Brazilian archipelago in the Atlantic Ocean. Named a UNESCO World Heritage site. Population 2,801. Tropical climate, average temperature 25°...

YANN

Yeah! West... Not bad.

He looks at the teen in the sail hold.

YANN

What do you think? Palm trees, tortoises... I'll throw you in the water 500 meters from the beach. You'll love it there!

The teen doesn't seem to understand.

44. **INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING**

Lea is on the sofa playing on the tablet.

Marie enters holding the mail.

MARIE

Would you stop staring at that screen! Turn it off! I have your report card here and it's not pretty...

Lea makes a face.

MARIE

It seems you don't participate in class much...

LEA

I don't participate! The teacher spends all day on "Virtual Regatta"...

MARIE

That's it, wise off...

LEA

What time's dinner, Mom?

She looks at her, furious, then smiles.

45. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA- DAY**

The exhausted teen is sleeping in the sail hold. Yann watches him sleep from outside the sail hold hatch.

46. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - MORNING**

At the GSA workshop in les Sables, in the office beneath the mezzanine, Frank (still with his cast) and François are on their computers, facing the map of the race positions (*19th day of race, Equator, between Africa and Brazil, GSA 19th place*) and the weather maps.

FRANK

Why's he going west like that?

FRANÇOIS

Maybe he had a problem. There must be a reason. It's strange! I don't get it!

They look at each other.

FRANK

I'll call him!

47. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The teen is in the cabin. Intrigued, he looks at the electronic gear and touches it.

Yann enters the cabin from outside.

YANN

(angry)

I already told you, dammit! Don't touch anything!

(he grabs him roughly)

Come here, I want to ask you a question.

On the computer, Yann shows him the Cape Verde Islands. He is annoyed.

THE TEEN

(afraid)

France, France...

YANN

What, France? What're you talking about?

THE TEEN

(strong African accent)

Yes, thank you...

YANN

You don't understand a fucking thing. Do you understand me?

THE TEEN

Yes, thank you.

YANN

Yeah, right.

(points at himself)

Yann! Yann Madec!

THE TEEN

Yes, Yann...

YANN

You see! We're making progress...

(points at him)

And you?

L'ADO

(half smiling)

Moussa! Moussa Mbaye... Wolof...

Moussa flashes a big smile.

YANN

(very annoyed)

Well listen to me Moussa Mbaye! I'm not going to translate. You have no idea what kind of shit you put me in. This is my race. Solo! By myself! If anyone sees you, I'm dead, I'm disqualified! You understand? Disqualified! All of this for nothing. Okay? So now I'm going to drop you off. No one will be any wiser.

Moussa looks blankly at him.

MOUSSA

Yes, thank you.

YANN

Jesus Christ. Do you at least know how to swim?

Yann leaves.

Yann's Iridium rings. It's Frank. Yann answers.

FRANK'S VOICE

Yann, I don't get it. What're you doing?
What kind of route is this? Due West?!

YANN

(tense)

Let me handle my route! I know what I'm
doing!

FRANK'S VOICE

Do you have a problem? Is the center-
board holding up?

YANN

(angry)

Jesus, Frank, drop it! Leave me alone!

Yann hangs up.

48. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

In the cabin, Yann sleeps on his bean bag chair. The teen
is sleeping in the sail hold on the sail bags.

49. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

It's time for a VHF radio transmission with the race
control center. A buzzer rings. Yann grabs Moussa and
presses him to the floor.

On the giant screen at the control center, images of the
boats' positions appear (*21st day of race, South Atlantic,
near Brazil, GSA 16th*). Images of Yann appear on the
control room screens. He is in the cabin facing the camera.

YANN

I'm sailing on a choppy sea, moving at 20
knots towards the 30's bypassing the St.
Helen high to the west. For the moment,
my friends are all trapped inside. I'm
going for it. We'll see...

50. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann is cooking.

He hands a Tupperware to Moussa. Despite the boat's
rolling, Moussa does his best to eat.

YANN

(mocking)

So you like the food after all...

Moussa doesn't understand.

51. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The south-east trade wind is there. The 60-footer sails under its tall mainsail.

Moussa steps on the deck, clumsily. He is afraid and impressed. He doesn't know where to put himself.

Yann is furious and signals to him.

YANN

Go below deck! Down! Right now! I don't want to see you on the deck, it's dangerous. Go away!

The Iridium rings. Yann reads Marie's name on the screen and ignores the call.

52. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA- DAY**

The south-east wind is stronger. Yann struggles on the deck like a madman. For one move, he hurries to return from the bow to the stern and actively works the winch. Moussa steps out of the cabin wearing a life jacket and takes shelter in the cockpit. He tries to clean up the random items lying around.

Yann yanks something from his hands and pushes him into the cabin.

YANN

(furious)

You don't understand anything! Solo! Without any help. I'm not a cheater! Don't touch anything!

53. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

It's like a sauna in the cabin. Moussa is sweating and can't take it anymore. He needs air; he can't breath.

Moussa eventually comes out. He gestures that he is suffocating. Yann tosses a bucket of sea water in his face. It's violent, silently tense, but effective.

54. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - OFFICE - DAY**

Marie tries to call Yann on his Iridium from her office, but in vain. She leaves a message.

MARIE

It's me. We haven't been able to reach you in two days. Answer! What's going on?

Yann calls her back immediately. Marie answers.

YANN'S VOICE

Don't worry, it's okay. The weather is on my side. I'm taking advantage of it. I don't have a second to myself. I haven't slept in two days. I storming back into the race.

MARIE

But Yann, you can't ignore me like that. Take three seconds! Call! We exist! You're not alone!

YANN'S VOICE

You're right! I apologize! I'm sorry!

55. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA- NIGHT**

Yann is at the helm listening to the *Red Hot Chili Peppers* on the speakers.

Beside him, Moussa is wearing his life jacket and enjoying the music. He taps out the beat and does a tiny dance step. Yann sees him. Moussa stops immediately.

56. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Global System sails at nearly 18 knots. Yann at the helm.

YANN

(to himself)

Geez, I wonder if the little Wolof is bringing me luck?

Yann turns the helm and changes course.

Yann savors his move. He knows that, tactically, he is playing out an excellent story.

Moussa learns by necessity how to lean and sit at the bottom of the cockpit.

57. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA // LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - VHF RADIO ROOM - DAY**

On the wall, images of race positions: *(24th day of race, South Atlantic, off Brazilian coast, GSA 12th)*, and images of boats in difficulty (dismasting, broken rudder blades).

Images of Yann appear on the giant screen. He is in the cabin facing the camera.

Moussa is hiding in the sail hold.

YANN

My due west option paid off. I am now in twelfth place. I'm climbing up the standings, it's amazing. I'm heading due South for the Cape of Good Hope.

58. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - DAY**

The team is enthusiastic again. François and the other team members are at their computers.

Marie is in her office with Frank opposite her.

Frank (with cast and crutches) paces back and forth, having a conversation with Mac Kenzie.

MAC KENZIE'S VOICE

We're back in the race, right?! His western course worked, huh?

FRANK

Yes, yes... He made the right choice. Especially with 7 boats out of the race.

MAC KENZIE'S VOICE

Let's hope he keeps it up.

FRANK

With a little luck, he can still move up in the standings.

59. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

At his map table, Yann concentrates on the computer, looks for another island to the south to drop off Moussa.

He spots the island of Sainte-Hélène, too far to the east, then stops on Tristan da Cunha on his southerly route.

Yann looks at Moussa and speaks to him:

YANN

Things are going too well! Forget about Noronha! I'll drop you off later.

60. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHTFALL**

Yann is on the deck looking at his controls. Global System is flying, at 23 knots. It's rough. From the cockpit, Yann activates the automatic pilot.

61. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

It's rough. Yann steps over Moussa, lying on the floor trying in vain to sleep on Yann's bean bag chair.

Yann turns on his computer and checks his course.

Moussa stands to see what Yann is doing.

A violent wave rocks the boat. Moussa tries to hold on and unplugs the automatic pilot.

The boat violently veers windward. It literally tilts on its side, nearly capsizing. Yann and Moussa are knocked down and thrown into the wall. Everything inside goes flying. The cabin suddenly goes black. We hear Moussa scream.

MOUSSA

(panics)

Shit! We're gonna sink! We're gonna
fucking sink! Help! Do something! Damn
it, Yann!

The boat suddenly rights itself. The lights come back on. The cabin is a total disaster.

Yann is already outside to survey the damage. The waves are wild. It's a mess on the deck too. They put things in order and notice that the rudder blade has risen from the wind. He puts it back in place.

Inside, Moussa remains paralyzed with fear. He has taken refuge in the sail hold.

Yann returns into the cabin.

Moussa is trembling. Expressionless, Yann replaces the objects that have landed in the most unexpected places. He glares at Moussa.

62. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

In the cabin. Yann is still seething. The mood is heavy. Yann stares long and hard at Moussa hiding in the sail hold.

Moussa smiles at him to in apology. Yann glares at him:

YANN

Wolof my ass! You speak French! Why did
you lie to me? You think I'm a fool?!

Yann enters the sail hold, violently grabs Moussa by the collar and drags him into the cabin.

YANN

Who the fuck are you?!

MOUSSA

(afraid)

I'm a student.

YANN

(holding him by the collar)

What?

MOUSSA

I study football! At Saint Louis in Senegal.

YANN

What the hell are you talking about?

Yann stares at him:

YANN

(lets him go)

You had better not be bullshitting me!

63. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAWN**

On the deck. Yann points at the horizon in front of the boat.

YANN

You see over there? That's Tristan da Cunha, the most isolated inhabited island in the world. 260 Brits live there. You have nothing against the British, do you? You'll be able to teach them French!

64. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The 60-footer continues sailing for Tristan da Cunha under a good wind.

Yann and Moussa share a meal in the cabin.

MOUSSA

You know. I was going to France. In Cape Verde, the smugglers threw me overboard. I saw your boat, the French flag... I climbed on board.

YANN

Well, wasn't that easy!

MOUSSA

I understand, you know. If they find me you're disqualified, right? You lose the race...

YANN

Yeah. Smart student we have!

(pause)

That's why I have to drop you off. But I had another solution... Throw you overboard...

(with a smile)

Did you think of that?

MOUSSA

Yes...

A pause.

YANN

Okay, that's enough of that.

Yann goes on the deck.

65. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Moussa joins Yann outside in the cockpit. A heavy silence.

The 60-footer continues towards Tristan da Cunha under a good wind.

We spot the island at about 5 nautical miles away.

The satellite telephone rings, breaking the silence.

Yann goes down into the cabin.

66. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann answers.

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

Race command to Yann. Yann, do you read me?

YANN

Yeah, I read you.

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

Yann, I've just received a Cospas-Sarsat alert via Cape Town from Mag Embling's boat. She isn't responding anymore. Her last position at 5h35 was 20° south 50° east... Should I give it to you again or do you got it?

YANN

Give it to me again.

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

20° south 50° east at 5h35. You're the closest boat. I'm asking you to change course immediately. A plane has left for the area. I'll keep you posted.

YANN

Got it.

Yann hangs up.

YANN

Shit! Mag...

Moussa enters the cabin and looks perplexed.

Yann checks his computer and calculates his route.

He calls Mag on his VHF.

YANN

Yann to Mag, Yann to Mag. God damn it
Mag, answer!!

No answer. The stress increases.

Yann leaves the cabin.

67. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

He prepares to change course. He jibes then fully raises his sails.

68. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA // LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - DAY**

Global System races towards the shipwreck site. The sea is tossed, the sky is low, the clouds dark and it is starting to get cold.

Yann is on the VHF in the cockpit while scanning the horizon.

YANN

(stressed)

Yann to Mag, Yann to Mag...

Mag still gives no sign of life.

A call from the race director:

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

Command to Yann, do you read me?

YANN

I read you...

One one of the race command screens, images from the plane show Mag's capsized boat.

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

We have pictures from the plane. The boat has capsized, without keel. We don't know if she's inside. Cape Town is sending out a rescue mission. We have also notified Keriou's *Jet Express*, which has just turned around. Keep me posted, please. Go as fast as you can!

69. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - DAY**

Frank is with Marie at the command center.

FRANK

I hope Yann can get there in time.

MARIE

(worried)

How long can she survive?

FRANK

If she was on the deck without her harness and fell in the water, she's a goner. If she was attached, she could have very well gotten back in the boat. In that case she could live for several days. Anything's possible.

On the control center screens behind Frank and Marie are satellite images sent from Yann's boat showing the bad weather conditions. (26th day of race, South Atlantic, west of the Cape of Good Hope, GSA 10th place) The race control teams follow the events with anxiety. The tension is palpable.

70. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Moussa joins Yann in the cockpit.

MOUSSA

Can I help you?

YANN

(nervously)

No!

Yann concentrates, almost closed up on himself. He glances at Moussa, then:

YANN

Okay, get over here and cut the formalities. It gets on my nerves!

He shows him the automatic pilot button.

YANN

During the rescue, if I fall in the ocean, if the boat leaves with you on it, you push this button. It gives my position. I'm wearing a transmitter. The helm will lock and the boat will immediately start to turn in circles. You understand?

MOUSSA

(horrified)

Okay...

Yann then shows him the chest containing the lifeboat in the rear of the boat.

YANN

That's the lifeboat. You see the handle here, you pull it hard, you push it into the water and the raft comes out and inflates automatically. Just in case.

MOUSSA

Yes...

YANN

You'll stay hidden in the cabin. Another skipper might join us. I'll have to turn on the cameras to send pictures back to the race command.

A call on the Iridium. Yann takes it. It's Cape Town.

MRCC'S VOICE

Do you hear me? MRCC from Cape Town, Yann Madec?

YANN

Yes, I copy...

MRCC'S VOICE

Roger! From now we are your contact on zone, okay?

YANN

Okay.

MRCC'S VOICE

How far are you from Mag Embling?

YANN

Around 2 miles.

MRCC'S VOICE

Call us back when you see the boat. Good luck, Yann!

71. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA // MAG'S BOAT - END OF DAY**

Global System reaches Mag's overturned boat. A terrible image of the upside hull, without a keel, just a sad fluorescent rudder blade in the air.

There is no sign of life on the wreck. The sea is bad.

Yann's boat circles around the wreck. Yann shouts and makes noise to show he is there.

Moussa is hiding in the cabin.

YANN

(yelling)

Mag! It's Yann! Come on! Mag!

Kerious has a VHF connection with Yann:

KERIOUS VOICE

Yann, I'm 20 miles away. Don't wait for me. Try a first manoeuvre...

YANN

Okay.

The tension is at its height. Yann is in contact with the control center.

YANN

Requesting permission to turn on the motor.

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

Permission granted, Yann!

He lowers his sails and turns on the engine.

Finally, the overturned boat's rear hatch opens and the English contestant appears in her survival suit with a distress beacon and a waterproof VHF on her wrist. She is clearly exhausted. She is connected to her boat by a rope.

She manages to get out the lifeboat. It automatically inflates and she gets it. She remains moored to her wreck.

Yann brings Global System closer, turns on the automatic pilot and runs to the bow with a rope that he tosses to Mag. The sea is rough, the boats move a lot and Yann fails.

Yann tries again, runs with his rope to the bow. Moussa, hiding on his stomach near the helm, carefully corrects the boat's trajectory by pushing several times on the automatic pilot command.

Mag catches the rope and attaches it to her lifeboat! Yann hauls her in and helps her on board. She is a young, 32 year old Englishwoman.

72. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - END OF DAY**

Yann supports Mag, who is weak. Her teeth are clattering. He leads her inside the cabin.

YANN

It's okay, Darling! It's over! You're safe.

He hugs her.

MAG

(crying nervously)

Yann! Thank you! Thank you!

Yann takes out a towel and dry clothes. He helps shivering Mag take off her survival suit.

YANN

A little tea, Darling?

He calls the race command center:

YANN

This is Yann, I have recovered the bird, but she's a little wet!

The command center bursts into applause.

From the command center, Frank and Marie congratulate Yann and Mag.

FRANK'S VOICE

Mag, we are extremely happy and relieved to have you on board.

MARIE'S VOICE

Congratulations, you were great!

The VHF crackles.

KERIOU'S VOICE

Good job! Kiss the doll for me! Good luck.

The race director speaks from the command center.

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

Way to go, Yann! Keep the bird for a few more days! A scientific boat will come get her. I'll keep you posted.

Mag gets closer and adds in a trembling voice:

MAG

(trembling, in tears)

Merci! Thank you everybody! I'm okay now!

But Yann looks preoccupied. He goes to the front of the cabin.

He looks into the sail hold. Yann lifts one of the sail bags.

YANN

Get out of there! Come on!

Moussa is stunned:

MOUSSA

(whispers)

But no one...

YANN

(cuts him off)

I said, come on!

73. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Yann returns to the back of the cabin and speaks to Mag.

YANN

You feel better?

MAG

Yes, darling! Much better!

YANN

Well, I have another shock for you...

He pulls Moussa behind him.

YANN

Go ahead Moussa, say hello to the lady.

Mag is stunned:

MAG

Oh my God! Am I dreaming? Where did you come from?

MOUSSA

(polite)

Um, Moussa... Moussa Mbaye from Senegal.

MAG

*(Mag extends her hand,
stunned)*

Mag... Mag Embling from London.

YANN

Yep!

The boat hits a wave and rears up.

YANN

I gotta go.

He leaves.

74. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Yann raises his mainsail and sets Global System in the right direction.

75. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA- NIGHT**

Mag is crying on the telephone and speaks in English with her parents.

MAG

It's okay now, Dad! I was quite scared
but everything's fine now! I love you
both.

Moussa watches, moved, then grabs a raincoat and goes outside.

Yann is busy putting away the sheets on deck. Moussa sits next to the helm and stares at the horizon. Yann speaks to him.

YANN

There are plenty of other islands on the
way. After Mag leaves, I'll drop you off
in New Zealand!

Moussa is inscrutable.

76. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - OFFICE - DAY**

Marie is at her GSA workshop desk. She calls Yann on Skype.

Yann receives a Skype request from Marie.

Marie looks at the picture of Yann on the screen.

Mag is asleep in the cabin on the bean bag chair.

Moussa is in the sail hold listening to Yann's conversation.

MARIE

My love, I watched the images with Lea.
It made us both cry! You know that
everyone here is talking about you.
You're a real hero! How's Mag?

YANN

She's exhausted, but she's okay. She's
asleep behind me. It was very impressive;
we were scared...

MARIE

So were we! You guys better be careful!

YANN

(surprised)
You guys?

MARIE

Yeah, you and Mag!

YANN

Oh yeah. Of course. I love you.

Yann looks at Moussa.

77. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Outside, Yann gets back into piloting his boat and racing.
The temperature has dropped even more. He works like crazy
in the great Southern swell. Wind at 35 knots, under the
fore staysail, the mainsail reefed twice.

YANN

(to the boat)
Okay, baby... Let's see what we can do.

78. **INT. PARIS - LA DEFENSE - GSA OFFICE - NIGHT**

In Paris in the Global System Insurance headquarters in La
Defense, Mac Kenzie and Anna Bruckner are having a meeting.

Images of Yann saving Mag play constantly on the screens...

MAC KENZIE

It's excellent for our image. It's the
heart of our business! Insurance,
repatriation... Good, he's starting to
get it...

ANNA

(to herself)

People are worth more than material.

Mac Kenzie jumps at this:

MAC KENZIE

Not bad, Anna! But we can still improve it, no?

He stands and leaves.

79. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Inside, the Iridium mobile phone rings. Mag takes it, hanging on as best as she can. It's Juhel.

JUHEL'S VOICE

Hey there, eel, you're one hell of a stud... You managed to get a woman to bed in the middle of the ocean! That's it, I have definitely lost!

Mag smiles and winks at Moussa. She answers the Breton.

MAG

(teasing with her charming English accent)

My dear Juhel, I'm so happy to hear your voice!

JUHEL'S VOICE

(surprised, embarrassed)

Oh, Mag it's you. Are you okay?

MAG

(sad)

I am, but I lost my boat. I'm going home. Game over! I really have the blues! And you?

JUHEL'S VOICE

I just turned left around the Cape. I'm leading. The Indian Ocean, the ice, wind and endless waves are mine...

MAG

(pensive)

Lucky you.

JUHEL'S VOICE

(embarrassed)

Sorry, Mag...

80. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Nice squall. Yann is at the helm. Global System is knocked around as waves attack it. Moussa, frozen, wearing his raincoat with hood and his harness attached, holds on in the cockpit while his teeth chatter.

Moussa enters the cabin.

81. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA- DAY**

We find Mag and Moussa in the cabin, very shaken.

MOUSSA

He's going to unload me in New Zealand!

MAG

(laughing)

Don't worry, you still have ten or twelve days here!

MOUSSA

But I want to go to France.

MAG

France? From here? That's at least two months!

MOUSSA

(amazed)

Two months?! To go to France!

MAG

What did you think? We're going around the world, young man!

MOUSSA

You're absolutely crazy!

MAG

You know, the three of us make a beautiful story! If only the press knew! It would make such a huge buzz...

MOUSSA

What are you going to say when you go ashore?

MAG

The sea, the wind, the waves, the fear and... the solitude.

Mag smiles.

82. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann is at the helm. He glances down the stairs and sees Moussa and Mag laughing.

83. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA // RACE COMMAND CENTER - VHF RADIO ROOM - DAY**

Inside, Mag does a bang-up job of promoting her rescue. She speaks to a journalist.

MAG

Water entered the cabin, my radio died. I took refuge in the front hold in my survival suit. It was terrifying; I was freaking out... Then I heard Yann shouting. 'Oh my God, he was there!' And then I started to believe it was true...

JOURNALIST

Thank you, Mag Embling, for those details. Here's the race director.

RACE DIRECTOR'S VOICE

Mag, the scientific boat will be there for you tomorrow morning. I'll contact you for the meeting point. You can tell Yann that the international panel will subtract the hours spent on your rescue.

MAG

Okay, I'll gladly tell him.

84. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - EVENING**

Yann pours champagne for himself and Mag in paper cups.

YANN

To your rescue, Darling.

MAG

(looks at Moussa)

Come on Yann, relax! Give him a cup!

(to Moussa)

Come have a toast with us, Moussa.

Yann serves Moussa a cup.

Yann, Mag and Moussa, clink cups and drink.

Yann pours more champagne in the paper cups. He puts a bottle aside.

YANN

This one is for the finish line!

MAG

Cheers!

The alcohol has already gotten them tipsy, especially Moussa and Mag.

MAG

Come on, let's dance!

She digs through Frank's CDs and selects several. Hand-written on one of the covers: *Aretha Franklin*.

MAG

Aretha Franklin! Yes!

She puts the CD in the computer. After a brief pause, they suddenly discover that it is a DVD. Mag clicks on it. Anna Bruckner, the marketing director of Global System Insurance, appears on the screen and starts doing an enticing dance to Aretha Franklin's provocative song:

ARETHA FRANKLIN'S VOICE

*Save me!
Somebody save me!
A but the closer I get to ya, baby
You drive me stone out-of-my-mind*

Yann and Mag look surprised. But the effects of the alcohol take away their inhibitions. Moussa cuts loose.

MOUSSA AND MAG

(singing)
Save me!
Somebody save me!

Moussa leads Mag and they dance together, wild. Yann laughs.

But Anna doesn't stop there. She performs a skilled striptease... Moussa and Mag shout, while Anna gets passionate and blows lascivious kisses at the camera (therefore at Frank).

YANN

Frank has got it going on.

MOUSSA

Nice...

MAG

I'm starting to get hot...

YANN

I don't want to see the rest.

He leaves the cockpit with the Iridium phone and closes the door.

85. EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA-EVENING / GSA WORKSHOP - OFFICE -
EVENING

Yann takes the helm. Alone in the cold. He takes the Iridium and calls Marie.

YANN

You don't know the best part?

MARIE'S VOICE

No?

YANN

Your brother is fucking Anna.

MARIE'S VOICE

Anna? What're you talking about?

86. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

Mag and Moussa are still in the cabin, a bit tipsy. Moussa speaks confidentially to her:

MOUSSA

I abandoned everything when I left...

MAG

You mean you can't go home?

MOUSSA

(laughing)

Not now anyway!

Moussa is suddenly serious.

MOUSSA

You know Mag, I have the Ndoum, as we say back home...

MAG

The Ndoum?

MOUSSA

I'm cursed!

MAG

Cut it out! What curse?

MOUSSA

They kicked me off my club for it! Out! From one day to the next, no more football. Even though Saint Louis was fourth in the championship.

MAG

But why?

MOUSSA

The Ndoum! It seems I was short-winded.
And in Senegal!

MAG

(laughing)
At least you're quiet here!

MOUSSA

(serious)
In France too.

MAG

(laughing)
In New Zealand, you can start playing
rugby!

MOUSSA

(serious)
But I want to go to France!

87. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - MORNING

In the cockpit, Mag and Yann watch the scientific ship's
lifeboat approaching. It's an emotional moment.

YANN

You don't want to take him with you?

MAG

I think it would be hard to justify. You
would be disqualified immediately, Yann!

YANN

It's a pain in the ass. But it's
complicated to drop him off in New
Zealand.

MAG

He's a good kid, you know.

Yann is silent.

MAG

Are we starting to get sentimental?

YANN

Yeah... But you started it!

She bites her lip and they hug.

She enters the cabin.

Moussa is waiting for her. They hug too.

MAG

Don't worry about the Ndoum. Yann is good luck.

88. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Mag goes on the scientific ship. Yann is alone on the deck waving goodbye.

89. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Both of them are alone after Mag leaves. There's a big absence without her. Yann is on the computer looking at the positions of his opponents. (*30th day of race, Indian Ocean, south-east of the Cape of Good Hope, GSA in 8th place*).

MOUSSA

(*friendly*)

What position are you in?

YANN

With the drop-outs, we're in eighth place. Juhel is leading, four days ahead.

MOUSSA

(*surprised*)

So you're in a good position?

YANN

For now, yeah, not bad. But with the 40's coming, things will get tough.

MOUSSA

Do the 40's last long?

YANN

Long enough to get to the 50's.

They go on the deck.

MOUSSA

(*despairing*)

Fuck! That's long! I'm sick of the ocean!

Silence.

YANN

Have you ever seen an iceberg? Look.

He points in the distance. A bluish form rises above the waves...

Moussa sees his first iceberg, mesmerized...

90. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Transmission with the race command center on the deck. A nearly lunar landscape. Gusts of wind sweep across the deck, walls of water nearly 10 meters high rise above the boat's stern, then slide under it...

It's hell.

Yann gives the impression of being a mountaineer cramped in his layers of raincoats. Only his eyes are visible.

YANN

(yells on the radio)

South of Kerguelen, I've never seen so much ice... The sea is huge. It's hard to go fast. Stronger than the roaring 40's, these are the screaming 50's. Haven't slept a wink since rescuing Mag...

91. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY // INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT**

The wind is blowing at 30 to 40 knots per hour from behind the Global System. It sails among icebergs, veritable cathedrals of ice.

Yann sails under automatic pilot, keeping an eye on his sailboat and the icebergs...

Marie, alone in the home office, listens to the answering machine.

YANN'S VOICE

(on the answering machine)

It sucks. I'm pissed at myself for coming so low. The boat is getting battered, I just have to bear it... It's hard and it's not over. It's turning into a real nightmare... I love you. Give Lea a kiss for me.

92. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Tempest.

In the cabin, still wearing their raincoats, Yann and Moussa are lying back to back like two tramps. Yann listens to the boat, half asleep. Moussa is scared to death with both eyes wide open. The noise of the waves, like massive landslides, constant thunder...

MOUSSA

Are you asleep?

YANN

Yeah!

MOUSSA

Why're you doing this?

YANN

Doing what?

MOUSSA

This! The race! Here!

YANN

Because I like it!

MOUSSA

You're crazy! It's insanity! This is hell!

YANN

Cut the bullshit and shut up!

93. **INT. LES SABLES - SCHOOL - LEA'S CLASS - DAY // INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

"Virtual Regatta" is on the overhead projector screen in Lea's 3rd grade class. Lea's teacher leads the class boat, "SpongeBob", up in the rankings. It is now in 27,603rd place.

Mrs. Trigoulet asks Lea to send a Skype request to her father on the computer. She agrees. Yann answers her.

LEA

(a little shy)

Hi Dad! I'm with Mrs. Trigoulet...

YANN

Mrs. Trigoulet?

LEA

I'm in class, with my teacher. She really, really wants to speak to you...

The teacher speaks:

MRS. TRIGOULET

Hello Mr. Madec, the class wanted to ask you a few questions, if you don't mind.

YANN

Okay...

MRS. TRIGOULET

Is it normal to have ice at this latitude in the Indian Ocean?

And do you think that the current low pressure system will stay and move with you...?

In the cabin, Yann is in front of the screen:

YANN

(amused)

Oh boy. We're in the middle of a race without help or assistance! I can only tell you that it's getting colder and colder and the weather isn't very nice. Is my daughter still there? May I say something to her?

Vexed, Mrs. Trigoulet leaves Lea alone in front of the camera.

YANN

I'm happy to see you, sweetie.

LEA

(whispering)

Me too, dad. Are you still in 10th place?

YANN

I'm in 8th now and almost halfway done.

LEA

Then you're on your way home!

YANN

Yeah! A few days from now and every day will bring me closer to you.

LEA

(moved)

Come home quick! Be careful, daddy.

YANN

Don't worry. I love you, Lea.

94. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Moussa is on the deck being pummelled by tons of freezing sea water. Cramped in layers of raincoats, he is frozen stiff...

95. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - VHF RADIO ROOM - DAY**

Press conference with Mag Embling at the race command center. Beside her is Frank Drevil *(without his cast but with his crutches)*. Behind them is a huge poster of Global System. "WITH GLOBAL SYSTEM, PEOPLE ARE WORTH MORE THAN MATERIAL"!

Anna watches Mag and Frank's performance.

On the giant screen are images from the rescue mission!

MAG

This guy is amazing. In the time it took for me to reach les Sables, he has already moved up two places. I can tell you that he is putting everything he has into this race. And what a race it is!

FRANK

With all the problems he's had from the start, I couldn't have done better!

MAG

(joking)

Are you calling me a problem?

Everyone laughs.

A JOURNALIST

Frank, would you have gone so far south, so close to the ice?

Anna signals him not to linger on the answer.

FRANK

I don't know.

Anna smiles at him.

96. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann is at the helm, cramped in his raincoat. He concentrates and negotiates each wave.

97. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - NIGHT // EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Frank and François are watching two screens: the map of race positions (*38th day of the race, Indian Ocean, South of Australia, GSA in 7th*) and images sent from Global System showing the boat navigating through extreme conditions in the 50's.

Frank and François are impressed by Yann's performance at the helm of the boat.

FRANÇOIS

In 7th place now! Man, is he pushing it!

FRANK

Pushing it too much! In the Indian Ocean with waves and at that speed; he's crazy!

With a tail wind in bad waves, he might
be destroyed!

Suddenly, the image trembles. A moving black form blocks
the screen... Yann comes from the door and shouts. He runs
at the camera and the image goes black. François reacts:

FRANÇOIS

Did you see what fell? It looked like he
got hit!

FRANK

I hope he's not hurt.

François looks at the image again, intrigued.

98. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

In the cabin, Yann is furious and bawls out Moussa:

YANN

You intentionally walked past the camera
while I was sending them images? You want
to get me disqualified?!

MOUSSA

(starts to break down)

I exist! I want to get out of here! I
can't stand your stupid race. I don't
want to die here. Drop me off anywhere,
just do it fast!

YANN

You think that's all I have to do? Drop
you off?! I'm not your chauffeur!

Moussa explodes and leaps at Yann. Yann handles him and
holds him firmly at the back of the boat. Moussa has a
nervous breakdown and goes into uncontrollable nervous
spasms.

The enormous swell sends a wall of frozen water onto the
deck, drowning the cockpit. The water enters the cabin and
showers Yann and Moussa. Yann breaks free and stands to
listen to the boat. Moussa remains on the floor, wet and
calm.

YANN

(firm)

You saw the weather outside! I'm in
charge here. So you stay on board and I
sail! I don't have a choice!

Moussa is resigned to this.

Yann leaves the cabin and closes the door behind him.

99. **INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT**

In Marie's office.

Marie and Lea are watching the race on the Vendée Globe website. *(40th day of race, Pacific Ocean, South of Tasmania, GSA in 6th place).*

Worried, they look at the various videos of Yann and his competitors, all in Dantesque sea conditions.

MARIE

(reassuring to Lea)

You see, he is on the other side of the world, but he's coming home now.

LEA

Yes, I know. Dad already told me!

Marie kisses Lea and hugs her.

100. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

It's still a tempest. Noisy as hell. The boat's stem dives under the 6 meter high waves and the wild sea sweeps over the deck to the mast. It seems Global System will never come out of the water.

At the helm, Yann concentrates intensely on the sea, trying to detect the presence of drifting growlers. It's the strange and fascinating world of the Far South. It is very cold.

In the cabin, Moussa is still resigned. He crawls across the floor, trying to prevent objects, crates from falling on him!

In the cockpit, the speedometer reads a wind speed of 44 knots and a boat speed of 29 knots. Yann concentrates. His hands start to suffer, frozen, cracked, cut...

101. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP // YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

In his GSA office, Frank (with his crutches) lights a cigarette. Marie is at her desk opposite him. Frank calls Yann on Skype. He doesn't answer. He takes 2-3 long drags and calls again. Yann eventually answers:

FRANK

It's Frank, you okay?

YANN

It's tough. Really tough. The boat is flying at ridiculous speeds and the sea is insane.

I have to wear a mask and snorkel at the helm. Everything is soaked!

Frank hears the horrible sound of the sea smashing into the boat, the creaking hull, the halyards smacking the mast...

YANN'S VOICE

(yelling)
You hear it?

FRANK

Yeah... You know Yann, that's where I won my race, by avoiding that low pressure system.

YANN

What do you think I'm doing?!

FRANK

Get out of there fast!

YANN

Great, Frank. Thanks. I have to go. Talk to you later!

Yann hangs up.

From her office opposite, Marie looks at Frank, who is speechless. She's isn't very reassured.

FRANK

That's wicked!

MARIE

(worried)
Is he in danger?

FRANK

It's risky!

MARIE

(stressed)
I can't take it. I'm not gonna make it, Frank.

FRANK

(reassuring)
Don't worry. It's not the first time he is in this kind of situation. He's got it under control.

102. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA -DAY**

The 60-footer is moving faster than ever before. But suddenly, it goes out of control and tilts sideways and the boat rolls to its side. Will it right itself?

Yann is crushed by the bulk of the wave. Luckily his harness holds. He instinctively reaches into the icy water, finds the winch under the wave, grabs the sheet and slowly releases it to control. Under tension, the winch creaks and rattles as it slides, the sail that had touched the water rights itself and starts to flap in the wind. The boat suddenly sits upright!

Yann was really frightened.

He takes the reef and reduces the canvas. Another perilous move. In the cabin, Moussa stands, half knocked-out.

103. **INT/EXT. MARIE'S CAR - LES SABLES - DAY**

Marie and Lea are driving down the streets of les Sables d'Olonne.

104. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT // RACE COMMAND CENTER - VHF RADIO ROOM - DAY**

Live connection between the race command center and Yann's boat.

Images of the race positions (*42nd day of race, Pacific Ocean, South of New Zealand, GSA 5th place*) and images of Yann's radio transmission.

Watching images of Yann facing the journalists, Frank (with his crutches) has his arms crossed, his face inscrutable.

Moussa is in the sail hold, lying on the sail bags.

JOURNALIST

Yann Madec, despite terrifying ocean conditions, you continue your incredible climb back up the rankings. You are now in 5th place, half-way through the race.

YANN

Yeah! I took the right weather options. I'm clinging to the first group, led by Juhel, who is taking everyone on a breakneck pace...

JOURNALIST

For your first Vendée Globe, are you already becoming a legend?

YANN

Oh, big words there. It's far from being over. I'm happy to have gotten back into this group. That's already something!

JOURNALIST'S VOICE

After many drop-outs, there are 11 boats still in the race. Six of you are within two days of each other. Which of your opponents seems the most dangerous?

Yann is silent.

JOURNALIST

(turns to Frank)

Your analysis, Frank?

FRANK

He said it all.

105. INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - DAY

In the GSA workshop, a giant Christmas tree with presents under it. Frank, Marie, Lea, François and the rest of the team with wives and children celebrate Christmas.

The children open their presents in a festive family atmosphere.

MARIE

(aside, to Frank)

Why isn't Anna here?

FRANK

Anna? Why are asking about Anna?

MARIE

(amused)

Just because! I have the impression she left some thoughtful touches for you on board. You like Anna, huh? She takes good care of you.

Frank smiles with embarrassment, knowingly at Marie.

106. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Yann is in the cabin. He turns on the Internet and finds an e-mail from Marie with a magnificent drawing by Lea: Yann at the helm of Global System. In Lea's handwriting, "We're thinking of you. Merry Christmas, Daddy."

107. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

On the deck, the fog...

In the cabin, it's Christmas. Yann is disguised as Santa Claus: a red hat, a red parka and tissues stuck to his chin for a beard. He hands Moussa a wrapped gift box marked: "For Frank, open at Christmas."

Moussa pushes the present away.

YANN

Go on! It's Christmas.

MOUSSA

It's not for me and I don't care about Christmas!

YANN

Come on, do it for me!

Yann hands him the box again.

Moussa opens it and opens the first present with curiosity. It's a CD!

MOUSSA

(interested)

Aretha Franklin?

Yann laughs.

MOUSSA

(with kindness)

I'm sorry... I don't have a present for you!

YANN

Maybe you're the present?

MOUSSA

Merry Christmas, Yann.

Yann is touched.

Moussa opens Frank's other presents, curious.

MOUSSA

Frank is nice!

YANN

You're right, he is nice! This race was one hell of a gift.

108. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann notices a big oil leak on the hydraulic jack that regulates the front stays. A flood of oil has spread through the cabin. It's hell. The smell is terrible.

Yann scraps it up with dish degreaser. Tough going. The oil sticks to the soles of his shoes. He slides, falls, slips, wobbles. Moussa is nauseous.

109 **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY // LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - EVENING**

Yann hears a Skype request.

Moussa has a Pavlovian reflex and hides in a corner.

From Marie's home office computer, Lea's face appears on the screen.

Yann connects, his hands covered with degreaser.

LEA

Merry Christmas, Dad!

YANN

Merry Christmas, sweetheart! You're adorable. I loved your drawing!

LEA

I have another present for you. I got an 8 on my test!

YANN

An 8?

LEA

Out of 10! I moved up two places! Just like you, you see! I love you, Daddy.

Marie comes in beside Lea in front of the screen.

MARIE

Merry Christmas, Darling!

YANN

For Christmas, I'm drenched in oil! I have a leaking jack.

MARIE

(joking)

As long as you're not leaking!

Silence.

YANN

(moved)

Marie... I didn't think I would miss you so much.

MARIE

(moved)

That's the first time you've ever told me that.

YANN

It's the first time I feel so alone.

Silence.

MARIE

We're with you. We're proud of you.

Marie and Lea are very moved.

110. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The 60-footer sails with the wind behind, Yann activates the automatic pilot.

Yann enters the cabin and sees that Moussa is in a bad way.

Moussa starts to go delirious. Yann goes over to him and puts his hand on his forehead. Moussa calms down and goes to sleep.

111. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Outside in the cockpit, the tempest calms down, but Yann is still struggling at the helm. He starts to feel tired. He puts on the automatic pilot and joins Moussa inside.

Moussa is still sick. Yann touches his burning forehead.

MOUSSA

(voice weak and hesitant)

It's the Ndoum... I can't take it anymore. Get me out of here!

YANN

(gently)

Don't worry, man, it's gonna be okay.
Here, take this...

He has him swallow a few pills.

112. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

On the deck, Yann is at the helm, exhausted.

113. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

Exhausted, Yann lies down beside Moussa, who is asleep. Moussa cuddles up to him as a protective reflex, like a child.

Outside, the wind strengthens. Global System starts to list.

114. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Yann misses his alarm clock. He has slept more than four straight hours.

YANN

Fuck me! Godammit! What an idiot!

Furious at himself, he grabs his raincoat and rushes to the cockpit.

He checks his course on his instruments. It's no good! The boat has changed direction. Yann takes the helm, gently luffs into the wind. The boat slows down. He starts to reef.

115. INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - DAY // INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

Frank (still with his crutches) is alone in his office. He calls Yann on Skype.

FRANK

You're too far south! You're going to miss the Ice Gate! Are you asleep or what?!

YANN

Yeah, I was asleep! It's the night!

FRANK

You're exhausted, you can't see straight. Below there's no one, just icebergs. It's dangerous! Climb back up!

YANN

I was asleep, I said! Yeah, I'm going up!

Yann hangs up.

116. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

In front of the computer, Yann calculates his course on his weather course plotting program.

In the ranking on the screen, he sees that he is still in 5th place and far from everything, very far South (48th day of race, South Pacific, between New Zealand and Cape Horn, GSA in 5th).

YANN

(to himself)

This is the end of the end of the world!

He goes to the watch post.

The Iridium rings. Yann answers.

YANN

Yeah?

JUHEL'S VOICE

Hey, eel, you avoiding the low pressure system? You're going solo in the South! Be careful, there's nothing but ice down there!

YANN

(to himself)

Jesus, no one will leave me alone!

(to Juhel)

I know! I slept like a beast.

JUHEL'S VOICE

You know what Juhel the Great says?

YANN

Go ahead, let's hear your bullshit...

JUHEL'S VOICE

Listen well, sailor: A great sailor is one who eats before he's hungry, sleeps before he's tired and treats himself before he's sick... Hello? You hear me?

YANN

Yeah. I hear you before you open your mouth.

He looks at Moussa, who blinks his eyes.

MOUSSA

(weak)

Yann, I don't feel well. My head hurts...

117. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

A snowy fog covers the sailboat. An unreal atmosphere. The sailboat seems to disappear behind a sheet of white. Yann is alert, listening: there is no sound, no horizon. A big swell, weak wind. Cold.

In the cabin, Yann checks his radar. He tries to locate the icebergs. Moussa is completely weak. He has fallen asleep, rocked by the rolling boat.

118. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Yann is at the helm. In the distance, an iceberg in the night.

Yann goes down into the cabin to check on Moussa who is sweating in his sleep. He takes his temperature. Yann is worried. He puts a bag of cold water on his forehead.

YANN

Moussa? Can you hear me?

Moussa really struggles to open his eyes. He tries to open his mouth but his lips remain stuck together.

YANN

(to himself)

Shit...

He calls the Vendée Globe doctor.

YANN

(pretending he is sick)

It's Yann...

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Hi Yann!

YANN

Hi Doc... I'm not feeling so well, I'm weak, I have headaches, I'm dizzy... I just took an aspirin.

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Do you have a fever?

YANN

Yes, 40.

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Okay. Take out the digital stethoscope.

Yann gets up, opens the pharmacy and takes the stethoscope.

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Okay? Press it against your chest... And breath deeply.

YANN

Okay, just a second.

Yann stands and opens Moussa's clothes, then puts the stethoscope on Moussa's chest. The boy is completely unaware.

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Good... Now breath! Twice... Three times.
Send me the data over the Internet and
I'll call you back.

119. EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

On the deck, Yann thinks hard. His face inscrutable, he seems on the verge of a nervous breakdown. He doesn't react to the boat's movements. He seems elsewhere and apathetic.

YANN

It's never going to stop!

Yann clearly has the blues. Yann opens the cabin door, looks momentarily at Moussa, asleep, then closes the door and goes to the helm.

120. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Yann waits beside Moussa, who sleeps.

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Yann... Listen, it looks like you're suffering from anemia. Are you eating correctly?

YANN

Yeah...

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Then I don't get it. In the meantime, take four B12 vitamins and four B9 vitamins per day. And get some rest.

YANN

Okay.

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Just to be safe, I'm sending your results to a specialist...

Yann looks at Moussa again, then closes the door and sits at the watch post.

121. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

Yann looks through the food reserves, which are already starting to dwindle, to find things suitable for Moussa's state. He heats up some rice. He hands a Tupperware to Moussa and gives him the vitamins.

MOUSSA

(weak)

Thanks.

122. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

On the deck, Yann is at the helm, tired. The 60-footer rides over large swells. The cabin door opens and Moussa appears with the Iridium. The boat's movements destabilize him. He gets a big dose of spindrift on him.

MOUSSA

(soaked and still weak)

Yann, the Iridium is for you.

Moussa hands him the phone, Yann takes it.

YANN

(to Moussa)

You feel better?

MOUSSA

Yes. It feels good to eat.

Soaking wet, Moussa returns inside and closes the door. Yann has the radio, it's the race doctor.

YANN

Yes. What is it?

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Hi Yann. Listen, I'll get straight to the point. Your exams aren't good. They detected a heart defect that could be serious...

YANN

What do you mean, serious?

DOCTOR'S VOICE

It's very serious, Yann. There's a real risk. A deadly risk. I want you to quit the race! I'll need your consent and we will organize your repatriation with Global System.

Silence.

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Yann?

YANN

(pensive)

Yeah...

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Well?

YANN

(angry)

An exam over the Internet is rubbish. My pre-race medical exam was normal. I feel just fine now. The vitamins worked. I'm going on!

DOCTOR'S VOICE

You can't take that risk!

YANN

Yes, I can take that risk and I will!
It's my responsibility!

DOCTOR'S VOICE

Okay... We'll organize an assistance operation and a boat will bring you medicine adapted to your case.

YANN

Yeah, go ahead and drop your meds. But please don't make any noise about the subject.

Yann hangs up. We can tell he is shaken up by this news.

He looks at Moussa sleeping through the porthole.

123. EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA- DAY

Yann is at the helm. Moussa is beside him. He looks better and fishes with a line. He has a bite! Moussa is very excited.

YANN

If football in France doesn't work out,
what will you do?

MOUSSA

(surprised)

Fisherman! Why do you ask?

YANN

Just because!

Yann hears a Skype request. He goes into the cabin and shuts the door.

124. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY // LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - OFFICE - EVENING

Marie calls Yann on the Iridium in a state:

MARIE

What's this all about?! I spoke with the doctor. It sounds serious.

Yann is silent.

YANN

(to himself)

He can't keep his mouth shut! The digital stethoscope with 6 meters of tube is bullshit! I had a little low, that's all! It feels good to sleep and eat well. I'm fine now!

MARIE

Yann... Don't fool around with this! You have to stop! Stop immediately!

YANN

I swear, I feel totally fine! Trust me. You know me! It's bullshit! Everything was normal during the pre-race exam.

MARIE

Think it over. Don't fool around with this. Think about you! About us!

YANN

Don't worry about me! I'm fine!

125. EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA- DAY

Yann goes on the deck, uncomfortable. He joins Moussa. It is cold.

YANN

You see the halyard over there on the deck? You can put it on the winch, give three turns...

Moussa hesitates, intrigued. He looks at Yann but doesn't dare obey.

YANN

Go on, do it!

Moussa takes the halyard, hesitates again, wraps around the winch. He looks at Yann without understanding.

YANN

(embarrassed)

I have some bad news for you!

Silence.

MOUSSA

(worried)

What?

YANN

While you were delirious, I did a medical exam on you. I sent the information to the doctor. They say you have a heart malformation. Probably since birth. You need to be treated. I'm sorry.

Moussa is stunned.

MOUSSA

An exam? Here?

YANN

Yeah, by satellite! The doctor is certain. We're stopping in Ushuaia in five days. Don't worry, everything is taken care of...

Moussa doesn't answer. He thinks.

MOUSSA

'Everything is taken care of...' What does that mean? Did you mention me?

YANN

(troubled)

No. Actually, everyone thinks it's me. They all want me to stop and get treatment. This is a crazy situation. Now it's my turn to lie.

(looks at Moussa)

It seems lying is a part of the trip...

A treacherous wave washes over both of them.

MOUSSA

(dripping with water)

There's no way we're stopping. They can be wrong, right? By satellite! Do you believe it? And I've been living with the Ndoum for a long time. That's why they kicked me off my club. If you stop, I'll jump in the water! I want to go to France.

YANN

You're one stubborn guy!

126. INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - OFFICE - MORNING

In the big mezzanine office, Frank (without his crutches) is talking with Marie.

FRANK

It's crazy, it's insane! He needs to stop! His health is more important than anything else. He doesn't have the right to do this to you! Did you manage to convince him?

Marie is silent.

MARIE

No, you know him, he's stubborn. He says it's bullshit, that he feels fine now! I think he thinks he's over the hardest part. In a few days he'll be around Cape Horn.

Silence.

MARIE

Help me, I can't take it anymore!

FRANK

There's a medical boat leaving from Ushuaia. I'll jump in it and bring him back to you.

Frank hugs his sister.

127. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Global System continues crossing the Pacific, heading for Cape Horn.

The sea is better, but it is still rough with strong waves. A wild sea with steel blue and dark blue waters...

They are sailing large, both of them on the watch post. Yann steers and constantly checks things. Moussa watches Yann work with interest.

Yann activates the automatic pilot and enters the cabin. Intrigued by the change in Moussa's attitude, Yann comes back out of the cabin.

YANN

What're you looking at?

MOUSSA

Nothing... A whale, I think.

YANN

(rushes out to see)

Are you kidding?

Leaning over the side, he discovers the whale less than ten meters from the sailboat.

YANN

The fool's right!

He grabs the sheet of the mainsail, which he unfurls with the winch and luffs to the wind to take the boat away from the whale.

YANN

She touches us and the race is over!

MOUSSA

(amused)

We never agree! I always get yelled at for everything!

128. INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - MARIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Marie is in bed reading. The alarm clock reads 1AM. A light comes on in the hallway. A voice:

VOICE

Mommy...

Lea's silhouette appears in the doorway.

LEA

Mom, I can't sleep.

MARIE

Come here, sweetie.

Marie puts Lea in her bed.

LEA

How does Daddy handle being alone for so long?

MARIE

(moved)

He's not alone. We're here.

LEA

Mom, I miss him!

Lea snuggles in her mother's arms.

129. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

In the cabin. Moussa is at the map table and looks at the positions of the contestants. *(50th day of race, South Pacific, West of Cape Horn, GSA 4th place)*. Yann is in the kitchen area. Yann opens the container of freeze-dried food and counts the number of dishes left.

Yann prepares food and hands it to Moussa.

YANN

Eat.

MOUSSA

I'm not hungry.

YANN

I said eat!

MOUSSA

How long can we last with what is left?

YANN

If we ration and you fish, we'll be okay.

MOUSSA

(laughs)

I don't care; I'm a cannibal!

Yann smiles.

130. **EXT. OFF OF USHUAIA - MEDICAL BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Frank is on board the patrol boat chartered in Ushuaia by the race's medical crew.

131. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

In front of his computer screen, Yann discovers an e-mail from Juhel with a video showing his naked ass as he passes by Cape Horn. The boat lists and water sprays his butt!

Right then, the Iridium rings.

JUHEL'S VOICE

You don't love me anymore? You don't have anything to say to me? So you've really left me, huh?! Did you receive my e-mail? I'm still winning.

YANN

Yeah! You're one lucky ass!

JUHEL'S VOICE

You had better get moving if you want to be a killjoy!

YANN

Watch out for the Corsican instead! He's not far behind you!

JUHEL'S VOICE

The Corsican! I'll handle him!

132. **EXT. MEDICAL BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

On the powerful patrol boat, Frank sees the Global System's sails through binoculars.

133. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA // MEDICAL BOAT - DAY**

The VHF crackles. Yann enters the cabin and takes the call.

FRANK

Yann, it's me. I see you, I'm a mile off your port side...

Yann can't believe it! He gets out of the cockpit and scans the ocean with his eyes. He spots the patrol boat racing at him.

YANN

(furious)

Frank! What the hell are you doing here?
Are you insane?!

He goes back inside, cuts off the VHF.

YANN

(to Moussa)

Hide! Quick!

He comes back out to the cockpit and takes the VHF.

From the fast patrol boat, Frank is on the VHF.

FRANK

Listen! This is your friend speaking.
You've had an amazing race...

YANN

Yeah! So?!

FRANK'S VOICE

So stop! Lower your sails! I'll bring the boat back and you ride on the patrol boat! Your life is at stake!

134. **EXT. MEDICAL BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The patrol boat is now close to Global System. It gets parallel to the sailboat...

135. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - MEDICAL BOAT - DAY**

Parallel navigation of the patrol boat and Global System with its sails up. They are moving fast. On the VHF:

YANN

I'm touched, very touched. If you believe in our friendship, you drop off the meds and you get out of here!

The patrol boat manoeuvres closer to the sailboat. Yann turns the helm and sails away. The moves repeat.

FRANK

Don't be an idiot, Yann! The race doesn't matter. And I can tell you that Marie shares my opinion. Think of her, think of Lea!

YANN

(explodes)

Don't get Marie involved in this! You mix everything up! You can't handle that I'm racing in your place! That I'm not working for you anymore! You come out here and give me shit in the middle of the fucking Pacific fucking Ocean! Let me sail my race! Get the fuck out of here! Beat it! You do you think you are?!

Frank is flabbergasted. He was expecting him to rebel, but not this violent, personal reaction. The patrol boat approaches. Frank, sad, tosses the medicine on board Global System and lets the sailboat go...

136. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann holds on to the helm, perturbed.

Suddenly, the front hold hatch opens. He sees Moussa's arm at first, then his worried face...

Moussa joins him at the watch post. He looks at him for a moment without daring to speak.

MOUSSA

That was Frank? He wants you to stop?

YANN

Yeah, that's the way he is.

Moussa is moved.

YANN

Take your medicine!

Yann stands. He turns on the automatic pilot and goes into the cabin and closes the door.

Moussa sees Yann on the computer through the porthole.

137. INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - EVENING // INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

In Marie's office, Lea is on her mother's computer on Virtual Regatta. She can now manipulate all the subtle adjustments on "SpongeBob's" course.

Just then, a Skype alert for Marie from her father. Lea accepts the connection and answers.

LEA

Hi Dad, it's Lea. You know with "SpongeBob" we're now in 7,243rd place. We keep climbing the ranks like you.

YANN

Good job, kiddo! Is Mom there?

LEA

No, she's eating with the neighbors. They are boring her to death, they only talk about you. But you know, Dad...

(Lea is suddenly moved)

You're not alone! We're with you! But I miss you. Your race is too long!

Yann is silent, moved.

LEA

Dad, come home quick. Promise me. Be careful!

YANN

(very moved)

I promise you. Tell Mom to call me. I love you, angel!

Yann is on the verge of tears.

138. EXT/INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

Yann at the helm, lost in his thoughts.

Moussa concentrates at the race map on the computer (*56th day of race, South Pacific, West of Cape Horn, GSA in 4th*). He calls to Yann:

MOUSSA

(competitive)

Yann! Aren't we too far off Keriou?

YANN

(a little surprised)

Huh?

MOUSSA

No, because... You could head down on
Juhel and Paoli's route...

Yann feigns a look of exasperation.

YANN

What business is it of yours?!

He turns on the automatic pilot and joins Moussa in the
cabin.

He looks at the map.

YANN

(knackered)

You know what? I just had an idea. I'm
going to adjust a few degrees and cover
Juhel and Paoli.

Moussa savours this.

139. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

We suddenly discover the rock of Cape Horn very close. They
pass it and head into the South Atlantic. Yann and Moussa
are in the cockpit, each at a watch post with a flask of
rum. They pass the small metal flask back and forth.

YANN

(grave voice)

"To all who lie on the bottom..."

Moussa is surprised.

YANN

Come on Moussa, we have to toast the Cape
Horners...

(fills a cup)

One for you...

(Moussa downs it)

One for me...

He drinks and tosses the bottle into the sea, then:

YANN

And the rest for them.

Moussa takes a very close up photo of Yann showing Cape
Horn behind him. In his hand, a paper that reads, "Cape
Horn, 57th day at sea".

They watch Cape Horn vanish in the mist...

140. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Shot of the boat on automatic pilot sailing along Patagonia.

Inside some calm Ella Fitzgerald is playing.

Yann climbs up the mast to fix his mainsail halyard stuck at the top corner. He balances despite a strong swell. It's dizzying.

Inside the cockpit, Moussa spends his time looking at the map races.

He comes out on the deck and is horrified to discover that Yann has vanished! He looks on the deck, around the boat in the water... We see an island in the distance.

Up high on the mast, Yann watches Moussa with amusement.

Moussa starts to yell.

MOUSSA

(yelling)

Yann! Yann!

Yann imitates the stressful cry of a seagull. Moussa discovers him.

MOUSSA

You idiot!

YANN

You're not so smart by yourself, huh?!
You're lost! You're scared, huh?!

Yann comes down from the mast, laughing.

141. INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - VHF RADIO ROOM - DAY

VHF transmission in the pressroom. On a screen, the rankings and the position map appear (*60th day of race, South Atlantic, off Argentina coast, GSA in 4th place*).

On a screen behind a journalist on the microphone, a fixed image of Global System.

JOURNALIST

The damage list is extensive, with more than half of the boats out of the race. After the Horn, you are now in 4th place behind Keriou's *Jet Express*, Ange Paoli's *Qatar Sails* and Juhel's *Cheminées Bretonnes*, which is still leading. Things are going well for you!

YANN'S VOICE

Yeah, the game isn't over. The weather can change drastically, especially with the Saint Helena high. Everything could change!

JOURNALIST

Until now you've made the right weather choices. There's no reason that would change, is there?

YANN

Yeah! If it were only that simple...

142. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

On the deck, Yann holds the helm closely. The boat sails well over a much calmer sea than the week before.

Yann calls Moussa from the cockpit. Moussa is in the cabin checking the weather map.

YANN

Moussa! Come see this. Come quick!

Moussa comes out of the cabin and joins him, cheerful.

A large albatross is flying around the boat with his three meter wingspan. He skims over the sails and the mast as if he were about to land. Yann and Moussa admire the bird's perfect flight.

MOUSSA

Wow! What is that?

YANN

It's a Wandering Albatross, the largest sea bird in the world. He can spend three years at sea. Incredible, huh?

MOUSSA

(amazed)

Three years!!!

YANN

You see... Our trip isn't that long!

Moussa is suddenly serious.

MOUSSA

(moved)

Yann... I wanted... I wanted to tell you... Thank you. Thanks for everything! It's unbelievable! Can you imagine, a young guy from Saint Louis, Senegal... At Cape Horn!

YANN

Yeah! It's crazy! I'm racing, watching an albatross with a stowaway when I was supposed to pass Cape Horn solo.

MOUSSA

(amused)

Let's say there's two of us passing it solo!

They share a knowing look.

143. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

Yann warms a freeze-dried dish on the stove. He tosses the plastic wrapper in a garbage bag.

MOUSSA

There's not much left?

YANN

Don't worry, eat. Don't repeat your Ndoum thing again!

Moussa eats in silence.

144. INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT // YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Lea enters the kitchen, opens a cupboard and grabs a box of cookies... Then she enters Marie's office. Lea turns on Marie's computer and turns on Skype. Yann appears on the screen.

LEA

Hi, Dad!

YANN

Oh! It's you, sweetie.

LEA

I love your picture from Cape Horn.

YANN

Is Mom home?

LEA

No, she's not home yet.

YANN

Oh!

LEA

I have a question, Dad.

YANN

Yes, dear.

LEA

After your race, are you staying with us?
You're not leaving again, are you?

Silence.

YANN

Lea! I'm not there yet. Let me finish the
race! I promise I'll take care of you...

LEA

You promise?

YANN

Cross my heart.

LEA

Come back soon, Dad.

In the cabin, Moussa has heard the conversation is touched.

145. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - MORNING**

Sailing along the Brazilian coast.

The climate has changed. It is warm. Moussa and Yann are
listening to some tropical music on a Brazilian radio
station.

Moussa tries to repeat the words, mumbling. Yann smiles.

Global System passes fishing boats.

Moussa, using a pair of binoculars, watches the fishing on
one of the trawlers.

146. **INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - MORNING**

The 60-footer sails away from the last fishing boat.

In the cabin, Yann is in front of his computer checking the
map. He has his back to the cockpit and listens to the
Brazilian radio loud.

In the cockpit, Moussa goes to the back of the boat and
removes the safety from the inflatable lifeboat in the rear
of the boat. It instantly inflates in the water, tied to
the boat with a rope. Moussa steps over the lines and leaps
into the lifeboat which immediately starts to drift.

147. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann comes into the cockpit and sees that Moussa isn't there. He immediately realizes the lifeboat is gone. He looks for it with binoculars, in vain.

He turns off the automatic pilot and turns the boat. Yann is worried and furious.

YANN

What an idiot!

148. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER // GSA WORKSHOP - OFFICE - DAY**

Agitation and worry at the race command center, where they have just received a Cospas-Sarsat alert, emitted from Global System.

The race director tries desperately to reach Yann, who doesn't answer.

RACE DIRECTOR

Command to Yann, Command to Yann...

The race director calls the Global System workshop.

Marie answers.

RACE DIRECTOR

Marie, Yann's distress signal was just activated. It's clearly the alarm from his lifeboat..

MARIE

What do you mean, his lifeboat?

RACE DIRECTOR

Maybe it's a false alarm. I'll keep you posted.

MARIE

I'll be right there!

149. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann shows no sign of life to the command center's repeated calls.

On the VHF, Yann tries to contact the trawlers seen earlier. The men only speak Portuguese studded with a few incomprehensible words in English. It's a dialogue of the deaf.

150. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT**

Marie arrives with Frank at the command center. Both are stressed.

They follow the director's communication attempts. Behind them is the giant screen with the map of the race positions. (*72nd day of race, Atlantic, off Brazilian coast on the Equator, GSA in 4th place*).

FRANK

And his satellite phone?

RACE DIRECTOR

He doesn't answer it! The trawlers in the area didn't signal anything. The ocean conditions have calmed down. I don't get it.

MARIE

(*stressed, to Frank*)

What could have happened to him? Did he capsize like Mag?

FRANK

I doubt it! The weather is fine, it might just be a technical problem.

RACE DIRECTOR

I notified the sea rescue unit. A plane has just taken off from Fernando de Noronha. It will be in the area in one hour.

151. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann reduces his sails and searches desperately for Moussa with his binoculars.

He finally spots the fluorescent lifeboat as a tiny dot, three miles away.

152. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Yann sails Global System to the lifeboat and moors alongside it.

Moussa silently gets out of the lifeboat and climbs aboard the sailboat holding a package.

YANN

(*angry*)

Get in! Hurry up!

Moussa climbs in and shows Yann a bag containing the lifeboat's food rations to give an air of composure.

MOUSSA

I went shopping... Don't yell at me!

YANN

(very angry)

You fool! Your little adventure activated the distress signal. They're flipping out at the race command center! You really piss me off! Right from the start, you only think about yourself!

MOUSSA

You see, I'm a burden. There's no more food and you're going to be disqualified. But the hard work is all behind you. You're in fourth place! Without me, you can still win!

YANN

You thought you were helping me? What am I gonna do without a lifeboat? Did you think of that?

MOUSSA

I just wanted to help you!

YANN

Well good job! Landlubber!

Yann releases the life raft, which he can't haul on board.

He glares at Moussa.

153. **EXT. IN THE AIR - RESCUE PLANE - DAY**

The plane flies over the lifeboat, lost in the middle of the ocean. The pilot reports on the radio that the boat is empty. This information accentuates the anxiety at the race command center. Frank holds Marie and comforts her.

154. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT // RESCUE PLANE - DAY**

As they wait for news from the plane, the tension is palpable at race command. Marie, on the verge of tears, looks lost.

MARIE

(to Frank)

It's my fault! I should have never encouraged him to go!

FRANK

Stop it! This has nothing to do with you!

Their conversation is interrupted by a radio call from the rescue plane which says he has spotted Global System under sail, without any visible damage but with no one on deck. Marie bursts into tears.

155. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Yann is in the cabin with Moussa. He hears the sound of the plane approaching.

He speaks curtly to Moussa.

YANN

(curt)

Don't move!

Yann steps out of the cabin. The plane flies by at low altitude over the boat. Yann signals that everything is okay. He enters the cabin to contact race command.

156. INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT / INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Yann appears on the screen at race command. Everyone bursts out in joy.

Marie comes back to life. Beside her, Frank looks normal again.

RACE DIRECTOR

You scared the shit out of us, Yann!

FRANK

What the hell happened?

YANN

(tries to sound convincing)

A big mess. I wasn't paying attention and got nailed by a big wave out of nowhere. It snuck up on my from behind and carried off the lifeboat. Water surged into the cabin and short-circuited the system. And then it took a while to reconnect everything...

Marie takes the microphone.

MARIE

(between laughing and crying)

I was scared to death. Don't do that to me ever again!

YANN

I'm sorry! It was just that fucking wave! And exhaustion. But everything is fine now.

MARIE

Are you sure everything's okay?

YANN

Yeah! Don't worry. I'll call you later.

Yann hangs up.

Frank joins Marie.

FRANK

(to Marie)

I'll be glad when he's home. You know
what: I want to give him a good hug.

Frank hugs Marie.

157. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

Global System is on automatic pilot as it crosses the Atlantic under moderate wind and on a calm sea.

In the cabin, Yann is busy stitching his spinnaker.

MOUSSA

You need any help?

Yann glares at him.

YANN

Cut the bullshit! I'm responsible for
you. I'm taking you home now! That's
enough!

Since the start, Global System has suffered considerably.
Yann takes the occasion to clean up. Moussa goes out on the deck.

All of a sudden there is violent noise from the deck, like gunfire.

On the deck, a school of flying fish are trapped.

Moussa is astounded. He calls Yann.

MOUSSA

Yann! Dinner's here!

158. INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT // YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - EVENING

In the cabin, Yann is on Skype with Marie.

Moussa is outside in the cockpit.

YANN

(embarrassed)

Marie, listen to me!

MARIE

I'm listening!

YANN

Um, how can I put this? It's like this, I'm not alone on board. I have... a stowaway!

MARIE

(stunned)

What are you talking about? A stowaway?!

YANN

Yeah! A black kid! He snuck on in Cape Verde.

MARIE

(surprised)

In Cape Verde?! But Yann, that was already two months ago! Are you joking or what?

YANN

He was hiding. I didn't see him right away.

MARIE

Hidden? For two months?! Are you kidding me?!

YANN

No! I'm in deep shit! You need to understand!

MARIE

(furious)

So this is what you mean by "everything's fine"!

YANN

I didn't have the choice! I couldn't toss him overboard! He's just a kid, Marie!

MARIE

A kid?

YANN

Yeah! A young Senegalese footballer! It's fucked up!

MARIE

Why didn't you tell me?

YANN

I don't know what to do?! You don't know what a fucked-up situation this is!

MARIE

You should have talked about it! Why didn't you tell me?

YANN

If I say a thing, I'm disqualified!

MARIE

Does Mag know?

YANN

Yeah, she won't say a word!

MARIE

And he was sick?

YANN

Yeah.

MARIE

You're making a huge mistake! You need to say something, disqualification or not! Just think about it, you're responsible for him! Quit fooling around!

YANN

Please, Marie! Give me a little time. I want to talk to Frank about it first!

MARIE

Then do it! But do it quickly...

Marie cuts the call.

159. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY

At the Azores High. The wind constantly changes.

Yann is on the deck, exasperated and scowling. There is nothing more frustrating than this speed. The sailboat moves slowly. He has to constantly jibe to find the wind. Exhausting work.

In the cabin, Moussa is at the map table, looking at the position map on the computer. *(77th day of race, North Atlantic, Southeast of the Azores, GSA 4th place)*

Moussa steps out of the cabin. Seeing Yann with an inscrutable expression, he speaks to him:

MOUSSA

Are you going to ignore me all the way to the finish? You can still drop me off in the Azores! It's on the way.

Yann doesn't answer and enters the cabin. Moussa watches Yann from outside as he has a conversation on Skype.

160. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY // LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - EVENING**

Moussa enters the cabin and silently watches Yann speak with Frank on the Iridium.

FRANK

(furious)

Yann, is this a joke? There are two of you?! For two months!

YANN

Yeah, two of us. You think I'm in the mood to make jokes?

FRANK

I don't give a fuck about your mood! What the fuck is going on? Does Marie know?

YANN

I told her two days ago! She gave me some time to tell you.

FRANK

I'm so honored, mate! You really know how to treat your family.

Silence.

YANN

Well, I'm in deep shit! That's the way it is. It's fate, call it what you like.

FRANK

Honestly, I don't understand you. You could have at least trusted me.

YANN

You're right. Maybe...

FRANK

What're you going to do now?

YANN

I'm coming to les Sables with him.

FRANK

He's the one with the heart problem?

YANN

Yeah...

FRANK

The lifeboat was him too?

YANN

Yeah...

FRANK

I understand now. But Jesus! What the hell am I gonna tell Mac Kenzie?

YANN

Ask Anna for advice!

FRANK

Leave Anna out of it, please!

161. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The 60-footer is under spinnaker. The wind blows hard, the boat sail at 25 knots. Yann feels relieved. He is at the watch post and scans the distant ocean. He leans towards the cabin:

YANN

Moussa! Come see this!

Moussa puts his nose out, but Yann holds him at the entrance to the cockpit.

YANN

Don't show yourself, but look over there...

He points at a sail on the dark, stormy horizon.

YANN

It's Keriou's *Jet Express*... We're gonna overtake him!

Moussa hides with excitement. They share the suspense together.

Global System is now just a few miles from Jet Express. Yann turns off the automatic pilot and takes the helm. He pilots, hoisting home his sails.

Global System under spinnaker is parallel to Jet Express, just under its mainsail and gennaker. Moussa is hidden in the cabin. The two skippers wave to each other and speak over the VHF. Keriou tells Yann about his broken mainsail rail and his useless spinnakers.

Still at the helm, Yann waves goodbye to Keriou while Moussa rejoices in the cabin, giving signs of encouragement.

The low pressure system seems to swallow Jet Express, which we no longer see in Global System's wake.

Moussa steps onto the deck.

Moussa sits in the silent cockpit. A rainbow spreads across the dark horizon and the sunlit ocean.

Moussa speaks to Yann:

MOUSSA

You know something, it's funny. Neither one of us should be here...

YANN

Yeah...

MOUSSA

Do you regret it?

YANN

I don't have time for regrets!

162. **INT. PARIS - LA DEFENSE - GSA OFFICE - DAY**

Geoffroy Mac Kenzie's office at the GSA headquarters. Frank, Geoffroy and Anna Bruckner are around a table.

MAC KENZIE

(furious)

But Frank! This is ridiculous! Don't you realize that?! It's unacceptable! We never should have trusted that imbecile! Let him drop the kid off in the Azores!

FRANK

That's impossible.

MAC KENZIE

What do you mean, impossible? He's in the Azores!

FRANK

Yann doesn't want to.

MAC KENZIE

He doesn't want to? I'm gonna tell him how to play with a million euro boat around the world!

FRANK

Anyway, it's just impossible. Yann is bringing him to les Sables! The heart defect, that's the kid!

Silence.

FRANK

We need to notify the race director of the situation, if only for the other skippers. To be fair.

ANNA

(false surprise)

Incredible! What a story! After saving Mag, this is gonna generate a lot of buzz!

163. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

The Iridium rings. Moussa picks it up:

MOUSSA

(hands the phone to Yann)

It's Juhel...

JUHEL'S VOICE

Hey, eel! You can escape from the net, I had to put on the brakes!

YANN

(laughing)

What's the matter?!

JUHEL'S VOICE

(suddenly glum)

It sucks! I hit a whale. I lost my keel bulb... I'm ballasting to keep the boat stable. I'm crawling back to les Sables. You'll be there two days before me.

YANN

Be careful! Don't try to be a tightrope walker! Take your time!

JUHEL'S VOICE

Good luck. Make haste! Paoli is 400 miles from the finish; we can't let a Corsican beat us!!

164. **INT. LES SABLES - MARIE'S HOUSE // YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - EVENING**

Marie is in her office at the computer speaking with Yann on Skype. Moussa is on the deck. Lea is in the living room.

YANN

I wanted to protect you. I thought I could handle it by myself.

MARIE

You hurt me! I was really scared for you.

YANN

I know, I'm sorry. I was totally lost. Frank was right, it's not easy to make the right choices and remain clear-headed when you're alone at sea... Does he resent me?

MARIE

Frank has swallowed it. But he's worried about your disqualification and the rest of his contract with Global System.

YANN

I'm worried about Moussa. He doesn't have papers!

MARIE

Moussa is a health repatriation case. It's Global System's job to handle. They owe you that!

YANN

Yeah, you're right.

MARIE

You know, I told Lea about it. She's really proud of you.

YANN

(moved)

I can't wait to wrap my arms around both of you.

165. INT. PARIS - GSA OFFICE - DAY

Mac Kenzie, Anna and Frank are in a GSA meeting at La Défense with the marketing and public relations directors.

Anna stands and presents the public relations campaign. A picture of the Global System sailboat at sea appears on a screen. Yann is at the helm, smiling, wearing his sponsor's official costume. Beside him is a man without a face.

ANNA

Here's what we're proposing as the slogan of the new campaign, "With *Global System Insurance*, people come before victory."

Mac Kenzie seems satisfied.

166. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

On the deck, Yann navigates in the black night.

Suddenly behind him, the stem of an enormous cargo ship appears several cables' lengths from the boat. The cargo ship, more than 300 meters long, passes by and creates an enormous wave that floods the boat, including the interior of the cabin...

Yann is surprised. He turns hard on the helm and negotiates the wave.

We hear Moussa shout inside the cabin.

Once the wave has passed, the sailboat continues calmly on its way. Yann turns on the automatic pilot and goes down into the drenched cabin.

Moussa is soaked. Yann laughs.

167. INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT

After emptying the water from the cabin, Yann straightens the flooded map table.

Yann tries to call Frank.

YANN

Hello Frank!

Static.

YANN

Hello? Frank? Damn, it's dead...

The connection is cut off. Nothing works. Everything is soaked.

Yann concentrates intently on the electrical diagrams. Moussa watches him get upset but doesn't say anything.

YANN

Fucking water, the radio's dead. We lost our connection. We're cut off from everything now. We're fucked.

MOUSSA

(joking)

You see, you don't like to be alone!

YANN

Did you give me a choice?

168. **INT. LES SABLES - RACE COMMAND CENTER - PRESS ROOM - DAY**

At race command, the Race Director reads a press release. Behind him on a screen are images of Paoli's victory as he arrived in the night. On another screen is a map of the other positions (*81st day of race, North Atlantic, off coast of Spain, GSA in 2nd*).

RACE DIRECTOR

The race organizers have been informed by Global System Insurance that their skipper, Yann Madec, has a passenger on board. According to race rules, we have convened an international panel of judges which will rule on this unprecedented event after hearing Yann Madec's case when he arrives in les Sables d'Olonne most likely tomorrow.

The audience, other teams and journalists are stupefied.

JOURNALIST 1

He has a passenger on board?

JOURNALIST 2

It's against the rules. He's definitely going to be disqualified!

The numerous journalists, there to cover Paoli's victory, are stunned and in a state of commotion.

169. **INT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - NIGHT**

Yann and Moussa celebrate the last package of freeze-dried food and their last night in the cabin by taking out the bottle of champagne Yann saved for their arrival.

In the cabin, with music blasting like a disco, they sing like two excited boys.

170. **INT. LES SABLES - GSA WORKSHOP - MORNING**

In the GSA workshop in les Sables. The entire Global System technical team is busy preparing for Yann's arrival, which is expected at the end of the day.

Marie enters the workshop with Lea and greets the team members. She kisses François then Frank warmly. Lea is intimidated.

171. **EXT. LES SABLES - YANN'S BOAT - DAY**

Global System arrives off of les Sables. Moussa can't believe his eyes.

He has never seen this in his life: helicopters, boats, the organizer's Zodiac boats, the sponsor patrol boats, the yachts, etc.

172. **EXT. LES SABLES - MAC KENZIE'S BOAT - DAY**

On their boat, Mac Kenzie and Anna Bruckner watch the arrival with their VIP guests.

Anna watches the 60-footer through binoculars. She spots Moussa on the watch post.

ANNA

(to herself)

You amazing young man! Don't worry, we're gonna take good care of you...

MAC KENZIE

Incredible! Despite all his problems, he still finishes second. He doesn't stop surprising me!

ANNA

(to Mac Kenzie)

People before victory...

173. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA -DAY**

Suddenly a cacophony of fog horns bellows from the crowd of boats when Global System approaches the finish line made by two buoys at the entrance to les Sables d'Olonne.

Moussa is completely overwhelmed by this grandiose show.

Yann is at the helm, moved and very impressed.

YANN

I didn't think there would be so many people!

MOUSSA

All these people! For you!

YANN

(laughing)

That's right, man! I sailed around the world solo... With one hell of a wacko mate!

As Global System approaches within a few meters of the starboard buoy, Yann makes one last manoeuver at the helm.

He calls Moussa to his side at the helm.

MOUSSA

What're you doing?

YANN

(laughing)

It's our arrival!

Yann yanks hard on the helm to starboard and intentionally goes on the wrong side of the buoy, missing the official finish line.

People on the boats are surprised as the cacophony of fog horns is at its height.

174. **EXT. LES SABLES - MAC KENZIE'S BOAT - DAY**

Mac Kenzie is disturbed by this.

MAC KENZIE

Huh?! What's he doing now?! He didn't cross the finish line!

ANNA

What class! From a public relations' point of view, this guy kicks ass.

175. **EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT SEA - DAY**

Global System on automatic pilot sails towards the les Sables channel...

The team Global System Zodiacs join him. Frank, François, Marie and Lea board Yann's boat.

Marie and Lea give Yann a long, tender, emotional hug.

The team members, all wearing the Global System uniform, take control of the boat.

Frank hugs Yann tightly without a word.

Boats cross paths all around Global System, getting closer and closer. People shoot off distress flares to accompany the concert of fog horns. Journalists on boats call out to Yann, who doesn't answer.

Lea speaks to her father.

LEA

Way to go, Daddy! I have to tell you something...

Marie intervenes:

MARIE

(amused)

Boy, does she have some news for you!

LEA

You won, Dad.

YANN

Really?

LEA

If you take off 2 days for stopping at Cape Verde and you count Mag's rescue! That makes 3 days! So...you're the winner!

Yann laughs.

YANN

You know dear, if ifs and buts were candy and nuts, every day would be Christmas!

Marie joins Moussa and gives him a hug.

MARIE

I'm happy to see you here!

Moussa smiles at her.

During this time, the team members have lowered the sails and turned on the engine.

176. INT/EXT. YANN'S BOAT AT LES SABLES - END OF DAY

Global System is in the narrow passage of the Sables channel. The fog horns, ovations, fireworks, distress flares increase as the boat passes.

Yann and Frank, side by side, are on the deck, moved by this welcome.

YANN

(to Frank)

Are you happy? I brought your boat back...

Frank gives him a big smile.

FRANK

You just did the most amazing thing!

YANN

You see... Victory isn't the only good thing in life!

They look at each other.

Fade out on the vast, empty ocean to music by *Radiohead*.

Superimposed on the screen:

By a vote of three to two, and in light of the exceptional circumstances of the race, the international panel of judges declared Yann Madec tied for second in the Vendée Globe with Denis Juhel, who finished two days later.

SpongeBob finished 547th...

End Credits