

CLOVIS PEOPLE

Written by

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INT. MONA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DUSK

MONA (70s), girlish for her age, is seated on the couch taking a hit of weed from a small water pipe. Her living room is decorated artfully Bohemian, with beautifully woven Native American tapestries, rugs and crystals.

INSERT SFX: Running water and a light clattering of dishes can be heard from the kitchen.

MONA

(speaking while exhaling)  
Leave the dishes! I have nothing else to do and you have a long drive back. Do you want a hit for the road?

DANI (O.S.)

No thanks. I have to concentrate on driving - don't want to hit any wildlife on the way home.

Enter DANI (30s) very attractive in a natural style, plops down comfortably in a big overstuffed arm chair across from MONA.

MONA

Before you go Dani, I need to discuss something serious with you. I know you think I'm woo-woo, and I am in many ways, but I'm involved with something important. I may need your assistance.

DANI leans forward with a gulp of apprehension.

DANI

Anything at all, I would do anything for you - ever.

MONA

I'm not quite sure when or how it even began, but I have been having visions - channeling primitive people, my ancestors perhaps - and my gut tells me it is somehow significant. I'm never exactly sure when it will begin or how long it will last, but I can see their daily lives and I can hear their conversations. It's so peculiar...

(MORE)

MONA (CONT'D)

I understand exactly what they are saying because I can hear their words translated into the English language. I transcribe every detail as soon as each visitation ends.

MONA takes another hit from the pipe and exhales.

MONA (CONT'D)

What I need from you, Danielle, is to promise me if anything happens to me, and I don't expect it to, you will take the transcripts.

MONA hands DANI a note.

MONA (CONT'D)

They're in my safe. Read the combination backwards, you'll never forget it.

DANI

It's my mom's birthday.  
I miss her so much.

MONA

She was my dearest friend. Closer than a sister to me.

They both stand and embrace.

EXT. MONA'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

MONA and DANI stand next to an SUV. They hug again.

DANI

You are pure goodness, Mona, that is why this has been entrusted to you. You don't have a single drop of tainted love running through your veins.

DANI gets into her car, starts engine, drives away. MONA yells after her.

MONA

Good luck on your blind date tomorrow! Love you.

MONA stands in the driveway waving until car is out of sight.

INT. DANI'S SUV - NIGHT

**Tainted Love** by **Soft Cell** plays loudly. She comes to a complete stop. DANI'S POV: Headlights shining ahead on blacktop road. We see a herd of deer enter the roadway and cross in formation.

INT. MONA'S HOUSE - STUDY - CONTINUOUS

MONA'S eyes are closed and she in the midst of a channeling session.

EXT. OPEN PRAIRIE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

A herd of primitive deer peacefully walk in formation. Ahead toward the horizon line, a group of Clovis hunters are walking unhurriedly but with purpose, equipped with a variety of spears, conical shaped woven vessels and miscellaneous provisions.

EST. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

\* A large fire hearth is in the center of the camp. The tool making area is off to one side near the entrance.

\* There are a number of individual hide-covered pole structures, resembling teepees, throughout the camp.

\* A group of males are seated around a large stack of agate cobbles.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

YOUNG DAKOTAH (9) follows his elder, VIHO, (50s) around the camp frustrated he could not join the hunting group.

YOUNG DAKOTAH

I want to go.

The raw rocks are varying in shades of brown, red, yellow and lilac. Gripping oval shaped hammer-stones, the men are breaking the cobbles into large, flat flakes.

YOUNG DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

I am big enough and strong too.

YOUNG DAKOTAH and VIHO pause briefly to inspect the men's handiwork.

YOUNG DAKOTAH (CONT'D)  
 You even said I am skilled at  
 making the points.

They continue past the spear-makers to sit across from each other on two boulders.

YOUNG DAKOTAH (CONT'D)  
 I want to kill a big beast. Why  
 can't I go?

VIHO  
 You must learn things first,  
 Dakotah. Who is the best hunter?

YOUNG DAKOTAH thinks for a moment wanting to get the answer correct.

YOUNG DAKOTAH  
 My brother, Motega!

VIHO shakes his head no.

VIHO  
 The wolf is the greatest hunter. If  
 you watch him with the right  
 intention, he will teach you what  
 you need to know. There must be no  
 joy in the killing - there is only  
 pride in knowing you caused the  
 least suffering while still  
 accomplishing your goal. You should  
 never take more than you need.  
 These are all things you must know  
 in your heart in order to become a  
 true hunter.

YOUNG DAKOTAH respectfully accepts VIHO's wisdom.

YOUNG DAKOTAH  
 How long will that take me?

VIHO  
 Ask yourself what kind of man you  
 wish to be. When you know the  
 answer, it will be time.

YOUNG DAKOTAH exits.

EXT. CREEKSIDE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MOMENTS LATER

YOUNG DAKOTAH sits down on the bank of a slow moving creek,  
 POV: water swirling around his feet.

INT. NAIL SALON - PEDICURE STATION - DAY

DANI is seated in massage chair POV: water swirling around her feet in pedicure bowl.

Enter DOTTIE (40s) Asian, salon owner.

DOTTIE

How are you today Miss Dani?

DANI

Really good, I went to visit Mona yesterday.

DOTTIE

Lucky you! How is our wonderful Mona doing out there in the boonies?

DANI

She is so great - never changes a bit. She seems very happy and content. While I was there, a handsome, native elder stopped by to check on her and to fill her bird feeders, she has about thirty of them.

DOTTIE

He was there to fill up her bird feeders? Knowing Mona, I'm sure he fills up more than just that, that woman is irresistible at any age.

DANI

You're so bad Dottie. But I'm sure you're right!

DOTTIE

What about you? You having any hanky panky lately?

DANI

Not really, but I do have a blind date today for happy hour.

DOTTIE

That is marvelous! Now I hope you won't be too picky... I say we go red on the nails - very sexy.

DANI

No red Dottie. That is not my style.

DOTTIE

Your style is not sexy? I refuse to do your normal clear.

DANI

Ok, no clear but let's do something light. White or pink - that's final.

INT. DANI'S SUV - DAY

INSERT: DANI's pale pink manicured nails on the steering wheel.

DANI is driving while talking hands free on her phone.

LISA (O.S.)

Are you getting excited?

DANI

Anxiety might be a better word.

LISA (O.S.)

Oh please. What are you wearing? Not that it matters because you always look gorgeous.

DANI

Not true. I think I look good though. White jeans, and that blue swirly top that I have, short boots. Not too fussy, not too cajjj.

LISA (O.S.)

It would be so nice for you to meet a good guy.

DANI

I suppose. But I do have Joey - he is handsome and athletic. He loves my cooking and he adores me.

LISA (O.S.)

Oh please. Joey is a dog. Seriously though, you should be open.

DANI

I don't understand why everyone acts like I'm so closed minded and particular.

LISA (O.S.)

Really? How about the guy you wouldn't go out with because he didn't like Santana?

DANI

Obviously! Anyone who doesn't respect Carlos Santana will never understand me.

LISA (O.S.)

Ok ok, but for Mike to set you up with this guy, he must be pretty special. You know how Mike feels about you - if I were to die, he would try to get in your pants directly following the funeral.

DANI

That is so disturbing, Lisa. I love you though and thank you for caring about me.

LISA (O.S.)

I love you too. One more thing, Dani... Do not! offer to pay. Let him be the man. Some men like to be men.

DANI

Ok, I promise.

EXT. SECLUDED RESTAURANT - PARKING LOT - LATE AFTERNOON

DANI pulls into the parking lot. DANI parks her SUV.

INT. DANI'S SUV - CONTINUOUS

DANI pulls her visor down for one last look in the mirror and a lipstick application. She sticks her index finger in her mouth and pulls it out.

DANI opens the door. As she exits her vehicle, her left foot lands ankle deep into a mud puddle.

DANI

Fuck!

INT. SECLUDED RESTAURANT - LADIES ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

DANI has one leg in the sink running water over her muddy boot and lower two inches of her white pant leg.

DANI looks around discovering there are no paper towels, only an air dryer.

She holds her foot up in the air under the air dryer and clicks it on.

INT. SECLUDED RESTAURANT - DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Seated at the table is WES DAVIDSON (30s) - light brown hair, blue eyes, blue jeans, white button down shirt.

Enter DANI following the HOSTESS (40s) who gestures with her hand toward the table and exits.

INSERT: DANI's one wet pant leg.

WES doesn't take his eye's off DANI as she approaches the table.

DANI

Hi, I'm Danielle but you can call me Dani. I'm sorry I'm late, I am usually quite punctual but - I stepped in a mud puddle - I'm not sure why this had to happen to me today.

DANI gestures toward her wet pant leg.

WES

I wasn't expecting you to be so absolutely gorgeous.

DANI gives a slight smile and blushes.

WES (CONT'D)

I'm just glad you didn't leave!

They laugh as WES stands pulling a chair out for DANI to sit. WES touches her hand reassuringly, taking notice of her nails.

WES (CONT'D)

Now let's get you a drink - what's your preference? Nice nails.

CROSS FADE

DANI sets down her menu and takes a sip of her cocktail.

DANI

It's been so long since I've been to this place but I've always loved it here. How did you come up with it?

WES

I asked one of my female co-workers to suggest an off-the-beaten-path place where we wouldn't run into people we know. It's awkward to be on a first date and have to do introductions.

(Impersonating DANI)

This is my friend, well actually I don't really know him, we're on a blind date.

DANI smiles and WES laughs.

WES (CONT'D)

And... I wanted it to be a beautiful setting which it certainly is - even if I don't look out the window.

DANI

That's sweet. So how exactly did you meet Mike and Lisa?

WES

Mike and I got to know each other at an archaeological convention in Paris and he's become a really good friend. They're both great people. Now let's see a photo of Joey.

DANI takes out her phone.

CROSS FADE

Table is covered with empty plates. WAITRESS enters and picks up one plate.

WAITRESS

Can I get you anything else?

WES defers to DANI with a hand gesture.

DANI

I think I'm good, thank you.

WES

We'll take the check then, thank you.

Waitress reaches into apron pocket and sets the check down.

WAITRESS

Ok. Please feel free to hang out as long as you like - no rush.

WAITRESS walks away. As soon as she is out of earshot, WES moves his chair a little closer to DANI's and lowers his voice.

WES

I *really* want to see you again. Would you consider that?

DANI

Absolutely - this was so much fun and very comfortable.

WES

Great! Are you free tonight then?

DANI laughs sincerely and is both flattered by and attracted to his candid and open approach.

DANI

I do have to get home to feed Joey but you are welcome to join us. We can continue this party at my place.

DANI picks up her phone.

WES

That would be fantastic.

DANI

Just texted you my address.

WES picks up his phone and is viewing DANI's text message as WAITRESS approaches. DANI glances at the check and then at the WAITRESS, feeling awkward. WES sets his phone down just realizing the WAITRESS had approached. He picks up the tab and puts his credit card in the folder.

EXT. DANI'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

DANI unlocks the front door with sounds of excited dog coming from the other side, she enters.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JOEY (medium size mix-breed) is jumping happily around and vocalizing his pleasure.

DANI

Did you miss me? Mommy met a nice  
guy and I think you will like him.  
Who's hungry?

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

DANI sets her purse & phone down on the counter while she scoops kibble into JOEY's bowl. As she is stirring some extra seasoning in, she sees her phone light up.

INSERT: Text message from WES, "Can't wait to see you. Be there in 10."

DANI smiles feeling butterflies in her stomach. DANI switches her phone ringer to the on position and sets it down. She places the food on the floor and JOEY enthusiastically eats his dinner.

There is knock. JOEY and DANI head for the front door. JOEY is barking. DANI opens the door and WES greets her with a lingering kiss on her cheek. WES is carrying a bottle of red wine, an Italian antipasto platter and baguette.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

DANI

This is Joey. Sit Joey. Wow! That  
looks yummy - let me help you.

JOEY does not sit. WES hands the platter & baguette to DANI as he crouches down to JOEY's level and scratches his neck between the ears.

WES

You are a very handsome boy. You  
have a hot mommy too, lucky dog.

DANI

Come in and let's put this stuff  
down.

WES follows DANI to the kitchen. JOEY follows.

WES

How about I open the wine?

DANI opens a drawer and hands him a wine key.

DANI  
Great. Let's sit outside.

DANI leaves the kitchen through a sliding glass door.

EXT. DANI'S HOUSE - PATIO - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

The small patio has a metal table and two chairs. DANI begins lighting candles, turns on music from outdoor speakers, creating a nice ambiance. DANI shakes out the seat cushions. Enter WES, carrying the wine and two glasses, as a big poof of dust rises from the cushions.

DANI  
Sorry, I guess I should use these a little more often.

WES  
That's good news for me.

WES sets the wine and glasses down on the table, pours the wine as he scans the patio setting.

WES (CONT'D)  
It's looking quite romantic out here.

The song **Quando Quando Quando** by **Michael Buble & Nelly Furtado** begins to play.

WES (CONT'D)  
May I have this dance?

DANI  
Sure.

He puts one arm around her waist and the other around her neck. She puts both arms around his torso. They dance around the patio and then WES pauses and slightly pulls away from her as he brushes some strands of hair away from her face.

WES  
I've been wanting to kiss you all night and I don't think I can wait anymore.

DANI smiles looking up at him.

DANI  
Ok.

WES still has one arm around her waist as his other hand moves up her back and neckline to lace her hair between his fingers. He lightly directs her face toward him and kisses her softly & extra slowly. They continue dancing and WES leans in toward DANI'S ear.

WES  
You smell good, and taste good, and  
feel good. Amazing.

DANI'S phone dings a text notification which startles them. DANI retreats to the table for her phone and turns off her ringer.

DANI  
I don't usually have my sound on  
but I turned it on when I got home  
in case you couldn't find my place.

WES  
No complaints here.

DANI  
Give me a sec.

DANI sits at the table looking at her text message. WES joins her and sits at the table.

INSERT: Text message from Lisa, "H E L L O ?!"

DANI types on her phone.

INSERT: Text message to Lisa, "Still with him. He's adorable. And, a good kisser."

DANI (CONT'D)  
Oops - I was supposed to text Lisa  
how the date went. She's totally  
jonesin' to know what happened.

INSERT: Text message from Lisa, "OMG"

WES  
Yea. Mike has been texting me all  
night.

DANI  
Really?!

WES  
No - not really. Guys are more  
private, women tell each other  
everything. What did you tell her?

DANI

I told her we were still together.

WES

What else?

DANI

I told her you were adorable... and a good kisser.

WES

Ohhhh - That's the best thing I've heard in a very long time. Thank you.

WES leans forward and looks at her, studying her every feature. He doesn't remotely attempt to hide how enamored he is with her. He snaps himself out of it.

WES (CONT'D)

On another note, as long as you have your phone there, let's download the free sleep app I told you about at the restaurant. It's all nature related sounds - no simulated music or dialog.

DANI hands WES her phone and he types in the app name. He hands her phone back to her.

WES (CONT'D)

Insomnia sucks.

DANI

Oh thank you - what a great idea - I am excited to try it. It's getting a little chilly, I think we should move inside.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

WES is seated on the sofa with JOEY laying next to him. DANI enters the room carrying linens under her arm. WES & JOEY both barely move their eyelids to look at her. She stares back shaking her head in mock disapproval.

DANI

Gosh, I really hate to disturb you guys but Wes, since we've been drinking, I want to offer two options: Number one you call an Uber or Number two -

WES interrupts and blurts out.

WES

Two!

DANI

Very funny. Or you can sleep on the couch.

WES

I want to sleep in your room with you - and Joey.

DANI

That's not going to happen. I can't just sleep with every guy I have a date with, that's not my style.

WES

I am not suggesting you sleep with every guy you have a date with, but I am suggesting that you do when you know you want to.

DANI

(with attitude)  
...You're cocky.

WES

Actually, I prefer cock-sure.

She playfully tosses the linens at WES and turns to leave the room.

DANI (O.S.)

Come Joey!

JOEY looks up at WES reluctantly but prepares to leave WES' lap and follow DANI down the hall.

WES

(To JOEY)  
Your mom is a spicy one!

DANI reappears and this time lightly tosses a pillow toward WES.

DANI

Here's your pillow. And besides, we've both been drinking a lot.

DANI turns and leaves the room.

WES

(To DANI in hallway)

If you think I want to sleep with you because I've been drinking, you are wrong. I wanted to the moment I saw you in the restaurant today.

DANI (O.S.)

Good night.

WES fixes his bed on the sofa, smiling the whole time.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - MASTER BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Wearing a satin slip-style night gown, DANI is doing her nightly ritual.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

DANI sits on the edge of her bed with phone in hand and suddenly remembers about the sleep meditation app. She puts her earbuds in. She hears chirping birds intermingled with the sound of a slow moving creek and a light breeze. She lays down very contentedly as her head lowers and sinks deeply into a fluffy down pillow. She exhales a big, relaxing breath. She lays with her eyes closed and begins drifting off.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH, now (19) and WEEKO(18) are playfully walking on a sunny day. Below is a slow moving creek. Birds are calling & chirping and there is a slight breeze, tall grasses moving in rhythm with the air movement. They veer off the high path and head down toward the creek.

EXT. WEEKO'S RIVERBANK BEACH - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MOMENTS LATER

They arrive at a small sandy beach lined with overgrown natural flora. He bends over the creek cupping his hands and takes a drink of cold water. He fills his hands again and pretends to drink but tosses the water onto WEEKO. She shrieks from the shock of cold and starts to chase him playfully. He stops abruptly and turns the chase on her.

DAKOTAH

You better be careful or I will pick you up and drop you in the water.

He easily catches her, wraps his muscular arms around her from the back and lifts her off the ground. She is laughing and kicking her legs. He sets her down and she turns to face him. He studies her as if it is the first time he has ever seen her.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

So why did you bring me here to  
your secret place?

She takes his hand and leads him away.

EXT. WEEKO'S ROCK GARDEN - 13,000 YEAR AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH and WEEKO stand on a sand bar which has been meticulously cleared. She drops his hand and he stands speechless gazing at a massive array of rocks deliberately positioned to highlight shape, texture, pattern and balance. She stands silent, shyly waiting for his reaction. He walks closer to take in the masterpiece and feels a surge of unfamiliar emotion.

DAKOTAH

(without facing her)  
Did you make this?

WEEKO

Yes.

DAKOTAH

Weeko, it is so beautiful. As  
perfect as the clouds in the sky or  
the flowers on the earth. You are  
very special. You see things  
differently than others.

DAKOTAH explores the work of art. WEEKO busies herself removing fallen leaves and twigs and making adjustments to the installation. WEEKO takes his hand again and leads DAKOTAH back toward the creek.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MOMENTS  
LATER

DAKOTA and WEEKO sit creekside on two large boulders, smooth with natural indentations, much like a horse's saddle. DAKOTAH exhales a sigh of enjoyment.

WEEKO

I wish I could find one like this  
for grandfather.

DAKOTAH nods his head in acknowledgement and agreement. WEEKO stands and hops across several rocks to the middle of the rushing creek with complete ease. She straddles two rocks, squats and pees as she gazes upstream.

DAKOTAH watches her, and although he cannot quite identify it, he feels a physical desire for her.

WEEKO skips back and returns to her seat. She notices he has not taken his eyes off of her.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

What?

DAKOTAH

I want to touch your skin and your hair and your face. I feel different. It is like when I am stalking an animal... cautious and aroused. Does that scare you?

WEEKO

No, you never scare me. Sometimes the others do. Maska does.

DAKOTAH kneels in front of her and touches both of her arms with his hands and continues caressing her shoulders and neck and cheeks like a person touching a fur pelt for the first time.

WEEKO closes her eyes and experiences great pleasure from his touch.

Something alerts DAKOTAH's senses and subtly he begins scanning the dense forest above and smelling the air.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

Just off trail, a young experienced hunter is hiding in thick brush. He is wearing a necklace strung with teeth from his hunting victories and has a scar on his neck. He has black coarse hair that sticks out in all directions. He watches DAKOTAH and WEEKO from above, deriving voyeuristic pleasure from their interaction.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH rises in front of WEEKO and holds his hands out to help her stand. Instinctively, he positions himself behind her in a protective stance with his arms hugging her torso from behind.

They are both looking across the water as the wind begins to play a gentle tune. POV: NECKLACE HUNTER watches them swaying, as one, to the melody.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Morning music is playing in the background as DANI stands at the counter making coffee. WES enters the kitchen as the song changes to **Samba pa ti** by **Santana**. He sidles up behind her wrapping his arms around her. Gently he pulls her robe back and off her shoulders and it drops to the ground. She is in her satin slip. He speaks softly, close to her ear.

WES

This is a love song for the soul.  
We need to dance to this one.

She turns to face him and they slow dance through the kitchen and into the hallway, gently kissing as he touches her body. They disengage.

DANI

You are fun. So you like Carlos?

WES

He is amazing in all ways - a musician and philosopher.  
Do you always look so sexy?

DANI retrieves her robe and pours the coffee. WES sits at the kitchen table. With a giggle DANI sets his coffee cup in front of him and she sits across from him with her knees against her chest holding her cup.

DANI

I tried your sleep app last night and it was great! I slept better than I can remember doing for a long time.

WES

That's fantastic! I still can't believe you banned me from the bedroom. Joey wanted me to come in.

DANI

Did you end up sleeping ok?

WES

Once I got over the abandonment and loneliness I actually slept like a baby.

DANI smiles and leans across the table to give him a quick kiss on the cheek.

WES (CONT'D)

Do you mind if I jump in the shower?

DANI

Of course not. I'll grab you a towel.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - GUEST BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

WES is taking a very hot, steamy shower in a 2-sided glass stall. Only hints of him are visible due to the fogged glass. At the front, most prominent glass panel, we see his index finger penetrate the fogged glass as he draws the outline of a large heart; inside the heart he writes: WES + DANI

EXT. CURVED ROCK WALL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH is drawing the image of a bird and a girl on a worn natural rock wall with a pointed rock in his hand. WEEKO stands observing him and smiling.

WEEKO

I love to watch our bird brothers and sisters. They are busy and beautiful. Do you know my first real memory of us together?

DAKOTAH

No.

WEEKO

We were still very young...

FLASHBACK

EXT. DENSE FOREST - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

YOUNG WEEKO (8) is seated between two thick limbs in a tall tree. She is intently watching a pair of brightly colored birds, male & female. We hear voices of approaching boys but WEEKO is captivated by the two birds and fails to notice. Suddenly, a rock launches through the air and hits the male bird sending him plummeting to the ground.

YOUNG WEEKO screams and begins scrambling down the tree. YOUNG DAKOTAH and three other Clovis boys are completely startled by her presence. YOUNG MASKA (10) holds his sling shot.

YOUNG MASKA  
What are you doing here?

She completely ignores them and runs to the bird laying lifeless on the ground, assuming it is dead.

YOUNG MASKA (CONT'D)  
It's just a dumb bird and you're a stupid girl.

YOUNG DAKOTAH joins her as the other boys run off. YOUNG DAKOTAH bends and picks up the bird cupping it gently in his hands. He holds it closely to the crook of his arm intuitively sharing his body heat with it. In silence, they both stare at the small creature, willing it to live. YOUNG DAKOTAH feels a slight movement from within the shelter of his hands.

YOUNG DAKOTAH  
(quietly)  
He moved. His heart is beating.

INSERT SFX: Injured bird's mate is squawking and screeching from above.

YOUNG DAKOTAH feels a stronger movement from the bird and extremely slowly begins straightening out one finger at a time. The bird wiggles its wings, takes a single step forward and in an instant, the bird takes flight to join its mate and they fly away. YOUNG DAKOTAH and YOUNG WEEKO make eye contact, sharing a single significant moment. She turns and skips through the forest trying to re-locate the pair of love birds and he runs off to re-join the other boys.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

DANI is in her bed sleeping on her side with her earbuds in.

DREAM MONTAGE:

\* DANI is laying on her back on top of a tall, sandstone mesa.

\* DANI is looking up at the sky. POV: blue with wispy white clouds. A hawk flying just above her head with a small blackbird close on his tail. The blackbird is chasing the potential predator away from its nest.

\* The birds take turns disappearing into the clouds, ducking and swooping only to reunite again. They seem to be enjoying the dance.

\* DANI is completely spellbound.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DUSK

DAKOTAH is leading as he and WEEKO walk on the same game trail. INSERT: Orange caterpillar inching its way across the path. DAKOTAH sees it and jumps, avoiding stepping on it at the very last second.

DAKOTAH  
Everything has its purpose.

They continue walking and stop at an overlook. They watch a hawk flying in and out of the clouds.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)  
Today was very special. Can we meet at your rock garden again tomorrow? In three moons we go survey the breeding mastodons.

WEEKO  
Yes, Dakotah - after chores. I like myself best when I am with you.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - MORNING

DANI awakens and in a dreamy state, she is smiling and removing the earbuds. She reaches for her phone on the night stand and begins typing.

INSERT: Text message to WES, "Just had the most amazing dream of birds flying in the clouds - I want to be there. I know it is because of your nature sleep app. Thank you again so much."

WES replies.

INSERT: Text message to DANI, "Love it. Can I take you on a nature adventure on Saturday? I will handle all required provisions."

DANI replies.

INSERT: Text message to WES, "Sounds incredible."

EXT. WEEKO'S ROCK GARDEN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - AFTERNOON

WEEKO is tidying up her rock garden, making some adjustments and additions. She rakes the area with a fern frond creating a graphic, repetitive pattern in between each of the rock displays.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH is walking briskly along the upper path when something brightly colored just off-trail catches his eye.

INSERT: Pristine feather with bright red tips and a modeled turquoise-blue pattern emanating from the center.

DAKOTAH bends and picks up the feather. He smiles as he puts it in the fold of his loincloth. As he turns to rejoin the main trail he stops abruptly and stares intently at the ground.

INSERT: Two large human footprints, one purposely rubbed out.

Fixated on the print, we hear VIHO'S wolf wisdom in DAKOTAH'S head.

VIHO (V.O.)

You have learned well from your  
wolf brothers to examine tracks.  
Some tracks are left intentionally,  
as used in territorial  
communications, and others are  
unintentional which can offer a  
clue to detect prey or predator.

Feeling unsettled about his discovery, DAKOTAH continues down the trail.

EXT. WEEKO'S RIVERBANK BEACH - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH rounds the corner of the cove, and upon seeing WEEKO, begins picking up his pace to a trot and whistling his best bird imitation.

DAKOTAH

Pweeeeeeeee. Pweeeeeeeee.

WEEKO knows immediately it is not a bird and smiles to herself allowing him to get closer before she acknowledges him.

EXT. WEEKO'S ROCK GARDEN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH scoops her up like a baby in his arms and rubs his cheek onto hers. She is in a state of bliss as he sets her down. He does a full visual scan of the rock garden.

DAKOTAH

The garden keeps getting better.

DAKOTAH takes her hand and this time he leads her to the boulder chairs.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MOMENTS LATER

WEEKO is seated on one of the boulders as DAKOTAH assists her to lay back. She wiggles to align her curves to the rock's angles, making a comfortable fit.

DAKOTAH

I have a special present for you.

DAKOTAH presents the feather to WEEKO as if it were a bouquet of flowers. She sits up slightly and gasps at its beauty. She holds her hands out like she is receiving a sacrament and DAKOTAH places it on her hands. WEEKO studies it, handling it as if it were a fragile artifact.

DAKOTAH takes the feather from her and begins stroking her neck, slowly, with the softest down feathers of the plume. WEEKO's breath becomes rhythmic and she sighs as he strokes her shoulders, breasts, arms, palm of the hand, each finger.

DAKOTAH unties the closures of her loincloth and all four corners of the deer skin flops to the rock. WEEKO raises her bottom and DAKOTAH slides it out from under her. He spreads her legs apart.

DAKOTAH resumes stroking, focusing on her lower body. The feather brushes up the inside of one leg and lingers. This is their virgin experience.

DAKOTAH offers her his hand to stand.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

Come with me.

INT. MONA'S HOUSE - STUDY - DAY

MONA is sitting, eyes closed, in a meditative position. Her eyes open, she exhales and reaches for an envelope sitting on a side table and fans herself.

MONA

Things are getting a little steamy.

EXT. DANI'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

WES opens his back seat car door and JOEY jumps in.

DANI

What can I contribute to this wonderful adventure?

WES

I have it pretty much together. Just bring anything you need for Joey, and we are good to go. Be sure you have a sweatshirt or jacket because it can get chilly the minute the sun sets.

INT. WES' LUXURY WAGON - LATER

WES is driving on mountain passes, DANI is seated shotgun with a mini cooler of snacks accessible, JOEY is in the back seat looking out the window.

WES pulls off the main road onto a remote jeep trail and parks.

EXT. REMOTE DIRT ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

WES and DANI meander up the road while smoking a joint as JOEY explores. As they come out of the tree-lined road into an open meadow, JOEY stiffens, sniffing the air.

DANI looks in the direction where JOEY is transfixed. DANI gently touches WES' arm and points with a nod.

INSERT: A 6x6 BULL ELK stands with a FEMALE ELK nearby.

FEMALE ELK, a bit skittish, makes a motion indicating she is ready to bolt. BULL ELK stands his ground.

DANI takes JOEY by the collar and they respectfully retreat toward the car.

DANI

(quietly)

Good boy Joey - no chasing.

WES

I think we interrupted a romantic interlude between them. That bull had clearly taken her to dinner, brought her flowers and was home free until we showed up. He was not going to let us screw it up for him.

They both giggle in agreement.

WES (CONT'D)

He and I are on the same page.

WES playfully smacks DANI on the ass as she skips back to the car.

EXT. LOVE TREE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

WEEKO is facing the tree with arms extended, palms flat against the bark and legs spread out behind her. She arches like a cat and then stretches into a swayback position. DAKOTAH begins stroking her back side with the feather, giving it as much detailed attention as the front received.

DAKOTAH stops and lays the feather aside. As he stands behind WEEKO, he bends and begins applying gentle pressure to her heels, ankles, calves, up the back of her thighs. He flips his hands over and makes contact with her butt cheeks with the top of his hands feeling the incredible softness.

He moves one hand in between her legs and with stiffened, straight vertical fingers he begins a back and forth sawing motion. He is not consciously thinking of what to do but is acting purely on instinct.

DAKOTAH removes his loin cloth, misshapen from his erection. He mimics his previous gesture gliding himself with the wetness between her legs. DAKOTAH enters her. WEEKO jerks slightly and moans. DAKOTAH freezes.

WEEKO

It hurts and feels good at the same time. You do not need to stop.

As his sensation intensifies, he impulsively begins thrusting with more speed and power, reaching his climax.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

The NECKLACE HUNTER has positioned himself above the beach furtively watching DAKOTAH and WEEKO. He reacts with a frenzied rage.

NECKLACE HUNTER

Grrrrrr... yip yip yip... ahhweeeee

The NECKLACE HUNTER runs away through the trees as if he were being chased by a demon. He is bloody, scraped and scratched from head to toe when he reaches the clearing. He stands panting like a prey animal who just barely escaped death.

EXT. LOVE TREE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH takes a few steps backwards still facing the tree and WEEKO's back. He is breathing heavily and we can see his muscular back rise and fall in sync with his breathing. WEEKO turns to face him. Her face is serene and her eyes are dewy and twinkling. He takes a step toward her and reaches out to brush hair away from her face. He looks in her eyes intently and touches his cheek to hers.

EXT. NATIONAL FOREST - TREE - DAY

DANI is standing facing a large tree with her hands pressed against the tree, and her wrists held together by WES' left hand. With his right hand he is pulling her hair up off of her neck passionately kissing her neck and shoulders.

She is wearing a bikini bathing suit top and her shorts and bathing suit bottoms are laying in a pile next to the tree. WES has no shirt on and begins unbuttoning his jeans. He kicks them off, now completely naked.

He continues sensually kissing DANI's neck, slowly exploring her body. Her breathing becomes rhythmic as she begins moving in sync with WES. WES enters her agonizingly slow from behind, but holding back from full penetration.

WES

You can tell me how you want it.

DANI

I want to feel you deep inside of me.

They continue their lovemaking as he waits for some signal that she reaches a climax. WES is holding her hips from behind.

WES  
Can you cum for me Dani?

DANI  
Ahhhhhh

DANI sighs with a full body shiver. WES has an orgasm as well. They stay joined together for a long minute enjoying the closeness and the aftermath of their passionate releases.

EXT. SECLUDED PICNIC SITE - DAY

WES' car is parked next to a fast running creek. There are towels draped over camp chairs, a cooler, table with glasses on it, dog bed.

From behind, we see DANI & WES sitting in a shallow pool of the creek, legs out in front of them. WES, naked; DANI still with bathing suit top and bottomless. WES lifts his left foot out of the water pulling it in closer.

WES  
Check out my duck foot.

INSERT: WES' webbed little toe connected to the next toe.

WES (CONT'D)  
My mom used to say it was God's way of reminding me that I was special and unique. My friends used to call me duck-boy - that is, until I got involved in martial arts. Then they were afraid I would kick the shit out of them so they stopped.

DANI laughs.

DANI  
I can understand their reluctance. I have never seen that before or even heard of it. I think it's cute.

He lowers his foot back down. They hold hands and watch dragonflies dipping in and out of the creek savoring the sun set.

Interrupting their meditative state, JOEY begins barking. They both turn their heads to see dust from an approaching vehicle and JOEY running along side.

WES jumps up to grab their clothing. Buttoning his pants, WES throws DANI her bottoms.

DANI (CONT'D)  
No Joey! Come.

JOEY continues barking.

The car comes to a complete stop directly next to their table and chair set-up and the driver waits for the dust to settle giving an opportunity for them to get JOEY under control.

WES  
Joey! Go sit down!

DANI is wiggling her bathing suit bottoms on as JOEY reluctantly joins her, protectively growling. WES instructs DANI to stay put with a hand gesture.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES, in uniform, emerges from the car.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES  
Good afternoon.

WES  
Hello - how can we help you officer?

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES  
You seem to be quite enjoying yourself.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES peers around WES to get a better look at DANI. WES steps forward skewing his view of DANI.

WES  
How can we help you officer?

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES  
Nudity is against the law. You are exhibiting indecent and lewd conduct. I find your obscene display to be offensive.

WES  
I apologize if you were offended. Most folks would turn around as soon as they see the site is occupied.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES  
Miss... Can you please join us here and keep your dog under control to avoid any need for my self defense.

DANI  
Throw me Joey's leash.

WES tosses Joey's coiled leash to DANI who catches it one-handed like a pro.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES is fixated on DANI as WES nonchalantly sets his cell phone on the table. DANI grabs a towel from the chair and wraps it around her.

WES

There are no Federal laws  
prohibiting nudity on Federal lands  
and I would hardly call this a  
public area.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES

Thank you for your input, now I  
would like a word with the lady.

DANI approaches as ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES checks her out from head to toe. She opens their car door and places JOEY inside.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES (CONT'D)

(to WES)

If you could please stand behind my  
vehicle.

WES complies, walking behind the vehicle, without taking his eyes off of DANI.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES (CONT'D)

So Miss, are you here willingly or  
are you under any duress?

DANI

While I appreciate your concern, I  
believe you are overstepping your  
boundaries... Assistant Ranger  
Sikes.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES

If you're gonna fuck in my forest  
you're gonna fuck me, or pay a big  
fee.

DANI

Do you get paid to be a voyeur,  
Assistant Ranger Sikes?

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES

I'll tell you what... If you can  
give me just a hint of what you  
gave him, I'll be happy to forget  
this whole thing.

DANI

Fuck you Assistant Ranger Sikes.  
The only thing happening here is  
harassment and obstruction of  
justice.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES grabs DANI's wrist as WES approaches.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES

Is this how you like it?

WES

Let go of her immediately.

ASSITANT RANGER SIKES reaches for his weapon and draws. WES swiftly kicks it from his hand. Caught off guard, WES easily overpowers him forcing his arms behind his back and ushers him back into his own vehicle.

WES (CONT'D)

Officer, thank you for your visit  
today. I will see to it that your  
firearm is returned to your  
superior officer.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES is visibly shaken as he starts his car. He rolls down his window.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES

You haven't heard the end of this.  
They will believe me over you.

WES

That could well be true. Have a  
nice day.

ASSISTANT RANGER SIKES drives away creating a large cloud of dust.

DANI

What the fuck just happened?

WES

There are creepy, low life assholes  
out there who get a little power  
and think they are king of the  
forest.

DANI

What if he lies and says you stole  
his gun?

INSERT: WES' phone on the table, RECORDING. WES' finger hits STOP and he picks up the phone.

WES

He won't.

DANI

What makes you so sure? He was such a creepy little guy - I almost felt sorry for how pathetic he was.

WES

First, I recorded it. Also, I work with a lot of people within the forest service and land management agencies who have known me for years. I know who to contact regarding your new suitor.

DANI smiles at him shaking her head. They stand hugging each other for a long moment.

DANI

Thank you. That could have turned out badly. You have so many good qualities, Wes. What was that karate kick move? I guess you haven't forgotten your martial arts training.

WES retrieves the gun from the ground and opens the car door and JOEY jumps out. WES places the firearm in his glovebox. DANI kneels down and scratches JOEY'S head and kisses his muzzle.

DANI (CONT'D)

(mocking)

Keep your dog under control to avoid any need for my self defense.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

MONTAGE:

\* The camp is bustling with activity. Women are wrapping food in husks and placing the provisions into conically shaped woven vessels.

\* Others sort spear points into sizes and shapes.

\* Hides are being separated by length and thickness.

\* Hemp is uncoiled & readied for tying up provisions.

DAKOTAH walks through the camp carrying a feather. He approaches WEEKO who is sitting with three other girls preparing small bundles of kindling. He hands WEEKO the feather. DAKOTAH and WEEKO make eye contact briefly and anyone in the surrounding area cannot help but feel their chemistry. The other girls look down and giggle without looking at DAKOTAH.

DAKOTAH exits.

EXT. FIELD OF TALL GRASS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MOMENTS LATER

DAKOTAH walks toward a field of tall grass.

We follow him as the song, **Spill the Wine** by **Eric Burden** begins playing.

MUSIC MONTAGE:

**LYRICS: "I was once out strolling one very hot summer's day, when I thought I'd lay myself down to rest in a big field of tall grass."**

\* DAKOTAH walks through a field of tall grass and lays down.

**LYRICS: "I laid there in the sun and felt it caressing my face as I fell asleep and dreamed. I dreamed I was in a Hollywood movie and that I was the star of the movie. This really blew my mind. The fact that me, an overfed long haired leaping gnome should be the star of a Hollywood movie. hmm but there I was."**

\* We see DAKOTAH from above, laying in a seemingly endless field of tall grass - serene and peaceful with sun caressing his face.

**LYRICS: "I was taken to a place, the hall of the mountain kings. I stood high by the mountain tops naked to the world in front of - every kind of girl. There was long one's, tall ones, short ones, brown ones, black ones, round ones, big ones, crazy ones."**

\* DAKOTAH stands naked on an impressive rock formation high above ground on a covered rock ledge.

\* POV: DAKOTAH looking out across open field.

\* In the field, a large group of dancing woman are topless, wearing elaborately designed loin cloths made of dyed hides, beadwork, fur pelts, and feathers.

\* They are also adorned with head ornaments of beads, dried flowers, and more feathers.

\* There are tall ones, short ones, black ones, brown ones, thin ones and full figured ones, some accented with body paint.

\* They are all smiling and dancing and swaying completely in sync with the song.

LYRICS: *"Out of the middle, came a lady, she whispered in my ear something crazy."*

\* As the women continue dancing, they open up a path straight down the middle. We see a woman walking up the cleared pathway from the very back of the group toward the front, toward DAKOTAH.

\* As she gets closer we see a MODERN WOMAN (30s) wearing a tight fitting pencil skirt, high heeled pumps and a button down blouse open just low enough to subtly highlight full breasts and cleavage. Her hair is in a bun and she is wearing studious eyeglasses. Her lipstick is shiny red, her overall appearance the quintessential sexy librarian.

\* Next frame MODERN WOMAN is standing next to DAKOTAH on the ledge cupping her hand and whispering in his ear.

**Spill the Wine** ends.

\* We see DAKOTAH from above again laying in the tall grass asleep as the song ends and he sits up jolted awake. His loin cover is elevated from having an erection.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

NECKLACE HUNTER is laying back on a boulder rock with mud poultices baked onto his cuts and abrasions. His eyes are closed, seeming almost happy in contrast to his typical foul demeanor. He walks to the water's edge removing his loin cover. He enters the water and dips completely underwater while wiping the mud off his body. He shakes off like a dog as he exits the water, picks up his loin skin and walks naked to WEEKO's rock garden.

EXT. WEEKO'S ROCK GARDEN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

NECKLACE HUNTER approaches a series of rock cairns and kicks the center rock out of each spire sending them crashing to the ground. Proud of his destruction, he exits and climbs up to the central game trail. The song, **The Riddle** by **Random Rab** plays.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NEXT DAY

With the hunters departed and preparations complete, the camp is calm. WEEKO adds timber to the fire pit and departs the camp.

EXT. WEEKO'S RIVERBANK BEACH - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

As WEEKO approaches her rock garden area, she observes broken branches and intuitively knows something is wrong.

EXT. WEEKO'S ROCK GARDEN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

She sees the collapsed cairns strewn about in disarray. She puts her hand to her mouth and gasps, with a pounding heart she whips her head around scanning the vicinity looking for the culprit. She then walks slowly, closer in to grasp the full extent of the dishevelment. She sees something scattered on the ground near the display of striped stones and approaches the area with dread.

INSERT: Dozens of turquoise blue, red-tipped feathers.

WEEKO begins collecting all of the feathers, picking each one up quickly, but gently, as if to spare them further harm. She picks two jumbo-sized green leaves, creating an envelope, and places the feathers inside. She frantically and robotically moves the fallen rocks, separating them back into groups. Drenched in sweat, she looks down at the blood on her hands which somewhat brings her back to her senses.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

Holding her envelope of feathers, she approaches the first boulder chair and is fixated.

INSERT: Dried mud on boulder chair.

She scans the vicinity again. Seeing something on the other boulder chair, she approaches it.

INSERT: Corpse of a bird with all feathers plucked off.

WEEKO picks up the naked creature cradling it in the crook of her arm. She drops to her knees and weeps.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

WES and DANI are sitting on the sofa with a cup of tea and a plate of cookies on the coffee table.

DANI

Do you want to spend the night here  
or are you going to drive home?

WES

(teasing)

Do I have to sleep on the couch  
again?

DANI

I think you've proved yourself  
worthy to sleep in the master's  
chambers.

WES

Shall we gather there for the  
feast?

DANI

Mmmm that sounds inviting.

WES

Is Joey going to be okay with this?

DANI

Joey is so smart, he understands  
everything. Watch this - Joey -  
open the door.

JOEY leaves his comfy napping spot where he is curled up,  
walks directly to the front door and stands on hind legs  
while swatting the door lever with his front two paws to open  
it.

DANI (CONT'D)

Good boy Joey! I haven't taught him  
how to close & lock it however.

WES

Impressive. Bravo Joey!

DANI stands, closes the front door and twists the lock  
mechanism. She extends a hand to WES and the three travel  
down the hallway toward the bedroom.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

DANI and WES are asleep in bed when WES' cell phone starts  
vibrating and wakes DANI up. DANI reaches over WES to silence  
the phone and sees the incoming caller's image.

INSERT: WES' cell phone with image of a sexy, very attractive  
woman wearing large designer sunglasses.

DANI is now wide awake looking at the ceiling when the phone begins vibrating again. This time, she shoves WES.

DANI  
Someone keeps trying to call you.

WES  
(groggy)  
Oh sorry.

WES reaches for his phone and looks at the screen.

INSERT: WES' cell phone "Incoming Call CASSANDRA"

WES (CONT'D)  
Oh shit.

WES jumps out of bed and leaves the bedroom. DANI remains in her bed distraught.

WES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
What happened?... Stop crying and  
tell me what happened. Why are you  
calling me, Cassandra?

DANI picks up her cell phone from her night stand.

INSERT: Last text message from Wes: "You are my dream woman"

DANI begins typing.

INSERT: Text message to Wes, "I knew this was too good to be true. Get the fuck out of my house."

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

WES is seated on the sofa with cell phone to his ear as he feels the vibration of an incoming text. WES glances at the message while incoherent rambling is heard coming from his phone.

WES  
Oh fuck.

CASSANDRA (O.S.)  
What did you just say? Are you  
talking to someone else? Hello!  
Heellllloww!

WES walks back down the hallway.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Enter WES still on the cell phone. DANI will not make eye contact with him. While looking directly at DANI, he begins speaking into the phone loudly.

WES

Yes, Cassandra, I am speaking to someone else. You are drunk and obnoxious. We've been broken up for over a year and your call in the middle of the night is presumptuous, rude and inconsiderate. Please do not contact me again. Goodbye.

INT. WES' LUXURY WAGON - DAWN

WES is driving down an empty freeway early morning, misty & grey, in a city just beginning to wake up. WES is pensive. **Butterfly by Crazy Town** begins playing.

FLASHBACK

INT. CONDO PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

Subdued accent lighting and city lights shine through ceiling to floor windows illuminating a canopied bed accented with flowing chiffon fabric panels draped from the frame.

WES' POV: CASSANDRA's (20s-30s) voluptuous body barely covered in black lace bra and g-string. She is dancing as she releases waist-length, thick, dark blonde hair from a twist on top of her head and it begins swaying around her body.

WES is laying in the bed half under a sheet, presumably naked, smiling and enjoying his private performance. Champagne bottles and glasses are strewn on night stand tables along with ashtrays with partially smoked joints and other paraphernalia. CASSANDRA begins expertly incorporating the chiffon streamers into her exhibition. Slowly, she pulls one completely off of the frame and rests it around her shoulders as she holds her hands out beckoning his hands to hers. He complies.

She begins wrapping the fabric, binding his wrists together and climbs up onto the bed straddling him. She raises his arms above his head and ties the loose ends of the fabric to the bed frame. She teases, breasts in front of his face just out of reach. She leans in as he kisses her breasts trying to free them from their sheath with his mouth.

She begins moving away slowly and down his torso with a shimmying motion while simultaneously kissing his body as she goes down. Her hair tickles his body as it moves across his skin during her descent and he has an involuntary body shiver.

INT. WES' LUXURY WAGON - CONTINUOUS

WES is at a stop light and honking horns from the cars behind him wake him out of his daydream. WES pulls his car off the road to the shoulder and picks up his phone.

INSERT: WES' cell phone, "Calling CASSANDRA".

INT. MONA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

MONA is standing at the kitchen counter taking two coffee cups from a cupboard. A knock at the door is heard followed by the door opening and closing.

EDWARD (O.S.)

Hi sweetie it's me.

Enter EDWARD (70s), Native American elder, as MONA is pouring coffee. MONA sets the coffee pot down as she turns to acknowledge EDWARD's arrival.

MONA

Hi Eddie, coffee is ready, have a seat.

EDWARD approaches MONA and gives her a sweet kiss on the cheek before taking a seat at the breakfast nook. MONA carries two mugs to the table setting one in front of EDWARD and joins him.

MONA (CONT'D)

How was your morning ritual?

EDWARD

It was such a beautiful sunrise prayer today, Mona. There is no better way to start the day than worshiping the sun. I went into deep trance today. Even our ancient elders knew that the sun's guidance can always be trusted.

MONA

I am so happy you carry on this tradition, Eddie - it is good for your soul and a great example for all of the young men who admire you.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - BEFORE DAWN

The village is silent as VIHO departs in virtual darkness. Bright yellow leaves fall from the trees.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO heads on the same game trail which ultimately leads to WEEKO's private beach. He finds a perfect spot just off the trail.

EXT. PRAYER ROCK - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO is seated on a flat boulder, he closes his eyes, inhales & exhales.

VISION MONTAGE:

- \* The howling of a wolf, sorrowful and mournful.
- \* A forest devoid of sound.
- \* Large mastodons, sloths and giant turtles are uncharacteristically lethargic and weak giving off an oppressive sense of despair.
- \* The sun rises from behind a tall mountain peak.
- \* A wide band of diffused light surrounds the sun within which the silhouette of a mated pair of wolves and two pups is visible. The male adult points his head to the sky and lets out a healthy, vibrant howl.
- \* The larger of the two pups echos his father's howl with all the determination he can muster followed by the smaller pup trying equally as hard to emulate her patriarch.

VIHO involuntarily lets out a chuckle as he awakens from his vision, the sun has risen and it is full daylight.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NEXT MORNING

WEEKO silently leaves the camp in total darkness carrying a small bundle.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

WEEKO uses one of the boulders as a table platform. She sets her bundle down and unfurls a small piece of hide and rubs it with dried ochre clay powder. She dips her fingertips into a shell bowl adding water droplets to the powder and continues rubbing in a circular motion. The powder paste absorbs into the hide, creating a permanent dye. She lines the hide with feathers from the executed bird. She walks a short distance and reaches her arm far underneath the base of a jagged bush to retrieve the bird corpse. She carries it in an honorable manner, on the platform of her outstretched palms. Carefully, she sets it in the center of the small burial crib she just created. She adds tiny shells and dried flower buds. As the sun appears from behind the mountain top, WEEKO performs a beautiful melancholic chant.

**Chanting** by **Amy Clifford** plays.

EXT. PRAYER ROCK - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO is seated on the flat boulder performing his morning sunrise ritual when he hears melancholic song coming from the beach below him. Rather than an intrusion, it becomes intermingled within his own experience and senses. It reawakens a sorrow, similar to his previous day's vision. He concludes his morning devotion and walks a short distance to a clearing.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO'S POV: WEEKO from above.

EXT. CREVASSE ROCK - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO observes WEEKO carrying something while walking ceremoniously toward an enormous boulder with a deep crevasse wedged into the hillside. WEEKO sets it aside and clears the debris accumulated in the deep crack. Then she gathers rocks, dried buds, grasses and creates a pile of sand at the boulder site. She carefully lifts the sacred object and reaching her entire body into the cavity she places it as far back as possible. Next she cups handfuls of sand, one after the other, and covers the object.

WEEKO selects each of the collected rocks and embeds them into the sand in a cobblestone effect.

Last, she sprinkles the grasses and dried buds over the grave. WEEKO stands in front of the boulder placing a hand on each side of the crack. **Raifiki** by **Zap Mama** song plays.

EXT. PRAYER ROCK - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO is contemplative.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - EVENING

WEEKO stands with her neck and chin outstretched, feeling the air movement, intuitively anticipating how the wind will shift while strategically placing her kindling.

Enter VIHO who joins WEEKO tending the fire, her most cherished duty. They stand together mesmerized by the dancing flames.

VIHO

Fire has always been inside of you,  
Weeko. It fosters your sense of  
wonder but it can also bring  
anguish. You question aspects of  
our existence and you care deeply.  
This is noble.

WEEKO remains transfixed on the flames, digesting VIHO'S every word.

VIHO (CONT'D)

As we grow and know more things, it  
is natural that we lose some of our  
innocence. I caution you not to  
allow resentment and bitterness to  
extinguish the child within. It is  
this child that inspires new ideas  
and possibilities. Accept the  
wisdom of your teacher, the great  
Element of Fire, and recognize that  
each phase is essential. The  
foundation, the fury of the blaze,  
the diminished, consistent coal bed  
- all necessary stages.

Beat as the fire crackles.

VIHO (CONT'D)

The spiritual force has both gifted  
you and burdened you with  
significant power my dear Weeko.  
You possess great strength,  
courage, and empathy.

WEEKO contemplates VIHO's words. VIHO quietly exits. The wild flames subside and transition into subdued firelight.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

DANI is laying on the sofa reading a book and JOEY is curled up on his dog bed. She touches her phone and the screen reveals a missed text from WES.

INSERT: Text from Wes, "Your lack of response is unreasonable and undeserving. I am coming to your house."

DANI sighs loudly and before she can reply, there is a knock at the door. JOEY leaps out of his bed and begins barking at the door.

EXT. DANI'S HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

WES stands at the front door.

WES

Joey, open the door.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Recognizing WES, JOEY performs his door opening trick. The door opens revealing WES holding a vase of tulips. DANI and WES lock eyes.

WES

(toward DANI)  
Good boy Joey... I won't enter  
unless I'm invited.

DANI

I can't believe you pulled that.

WES

May I please come in, Dani.

DANI

(annoyed)  
Yes... Come in.

WES enters, closes the door behind him, sets the flowers down on the coffee table and sits on a chair across from DANI.

WES

Dani, this is bullshit. I did not do anything wrong to deserve this. Do you still have your ex's contact info in your phone?

DANI

Yes.

WES

Well the same thing could happen to you. He could be out drinking with buddies and having amorous thoughts of you and call. And by the way, if I was stupid enough to allow you to become my ex-girlfriend, I would be constantly having amorous thoughts of you and calling. But, I digress.

DANI smiles at his typical transparency.

DANI

I am sorry. I should have responded by now - it takes me time to process stuff but I think I have it figured out.

WES

Okay. I hope you know you can say anything to me.

DANI

I am not angry with you. If I'm honest, there is some jealousy involved for sure, but the issue is not really that. I don't like to be disappointed and I tend to protect myself so I won't be. When it's just me and Joey, it's so easy. Relationships create too many opportunities for disappointment.

Beat.

WES

Wow! I wasn't expecting that. I respect your feelings, Dani, but it seems totally illogical to me.

(MORE)

WES (CONT'D)

You're saying you are willing to relinquish the opportunity for love and intimacy for the mere possibility of disappointment?

DANI

I'm not saying it is logical... or even healthy.

WES

Look, we both have a past. Good experiences and disappointments. For the record, Cassandra and I were never in love. Her superficiality left me feeling dissatisfied. I told her I had a new girlfriend and I blocked her number so the situation will not repeat itself.

DANI

Whoa - What did she say?

WES

She said, "Do you still think I'm pretty?"

DANI

Oh my gosh.

WES

Exactly. I thought we were on the same page, Dani. I want you to want this as much as I do. I am fucking crazy about you and I think you feel the same?

DANI cracks a smile and WES repositions himself next to her on the sofa and gently touches her hair.

DANI

I do love what we have and I think you are great and I guess the phone call thing just scared me and made me want to run away before I got in any deeper... Did you know tulips were my favorite flowers?

WES

No. You remind me of a tulip though, simple and elegant.

DANI

That's so sweet.

WES

One more question. How do you feel  
about make-up sex?

In a smooth, quick move from her seated position, DANI flips one leg over WES' lap and sits, straddling and facing him.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

CLOVIS BOY (6) runs clumsily into the main camp area exuding excitement.

CLOVIS BOY

They are returning! The hunters are  
near and have a mastodon with them!

All at once the people cheer. Enter OLDER CLOVIS BOY (9-14).

OLDER CLOVIS BOY

Are you certain they have a  
mastodon? That is not typical for  
the first hunt.

CLOVIS BOY

I'm sure! You can see for yourself.

The boys exit the camp followed by other children.

The women begin placing cooking vessels on the fire as others fill vessels with root vegetables, dried fruits and nuts. A celebration is in order.

WEEKO is working the fire, creating various cooking stations but without any of the shared joy or enthusiasm.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

DANI is seated on the sofa leafing through a newspaper on the coffee table. She flips the page and moves closer to take in the article.

INSERT: Newspaper headline "Beloved Patriarch of Northern Star Wolf Pack Confirmed Killed". Above article archive photo of wolf in the wild.

DANI

Fucking! humans.

DANI repeatedly inhales and exhales, attempting to keep her emotions in check. Touching the photo of the wolf with her fingertips, she speaks as if addressing the murdered wolf.

DANI (CONT'D)

You were a beautiful creature,  
doing exactly what you were born to  
do.

JOEY is positioned on the sofa next to DANI with his head on her thigh. She caresses his head as she wipes tears from her face and eyes with her sleeve.

There is a gentle courtesy knock at the door as WES enters. DANI and JOEY look at him without moving their positions.

WES

(teasing)

Don't anybody get up on my  
account. Are you ready to roll?

DANI

I just need a few minutes and I'll  
be ready.

WES

Are you okay?

WES approaches DANI and gives her a quick kiss hello.

DANI

Thanks, I'm fine.

INT. SPORTS BAR - DAY

WES and DANI are seated at a table for two. WAITRESS (30s) approaches and serves them two beers.

WAITRESS

Are you guys ready to order?

WES

No, we need a minute.

Drinking at the bar are CAMO GUY 1, CAMO GUY 2, CAMO GUY 3 and CAMO GUY 4 getting rowdy.

WES (CONT'D)

I left my phone in the car. If she  
comes back please order me some  
sweet potato fries. I need to make  
a quick call but I'll be right  
back.

DANI

No problem.

DANI is enjoying her beer and looking at her phone. Enter DOUG, camo crew leader.

CAMO GUY 1, CAMO GUY 2, CAMO GUY 3,  
CAMO GUY 4

(chanting)  
Doug Doug Doug.

DANI glances in their direction and expresses a slight smile when she overhears their boisterous conversation.

CAMO GUY 1  
A toast to Doug, wolf-killer  
extraordinaire!

CAMO GUY 1, CAMO GUY 2, CAMO GUY 3,  
CAMO GUY 4  
Hoo Hoo Hoo! Speech! Speech!

DOUG  
Thank you for the applause,  
gentleman. This is my greatest  
conquest - taking out the chief of  
parasites. It has been a long  
journey, but one that ended in  
victory. Let's drink to his demise  
and all others in his blood line.

DANI realizes this is the celebration of the senseless killing of the beloved wolf that she is mourning. She begins muttering to herself and shaking her head.

DANI  
Don't do it Dani, don't do it Dani,  
mind your own business.

DANI stands and approaches the men.

DOUG  
Well hello young lady. Are you  
looking for an autograph or can I  
interest you in something else?

CAMO MEN all laugh loudly.

DANI  
Frankly, neither. I'm not sure what  
you are so proud of. You killed  
someone's life mate and a father  
who was still providing for his  
young. That creature posed no  
threat to you nor had any interest  
in your life.

DOUG

Well then it seems we have a difference of opinion. Bring me that mate and her pups and I'll be more than happy to put them out of their misery as well. They're just a bunch of vermin.

DANI stands speechless for a long beat.

DOUG (CONT'D)

Did Miss Smartypants run out of things to say?

DANI

Actually, I was trying to digest the level of your ignorance. I am guessing that the only thing smaller than your brain is your dick.

CAMO MEN erupt with laughter. Angry and embarrassed, DOUG roughly grabs DANI by the hair.

DOUG

I'm pretty sure I did not misunderstand what you just said and you're gonna find out for yourself cuz you gonna be suckin' it.

Enter WES.

WES

I apparently missed the pre-party, but it would be advisable for you to let go of her hair, now.

DOUG

Your friend has a dirty mouth and I aim to teach her some manners.

WES

Three seconds.

DOUG

Fuck you, pussy.

DOUG releases his hold on DANI's hair as he initiates a swing toward WES. WES side steps and dodges the punch as he swiftly kicks DOUG in the rib cage sending him to the floor with minimal commotion. DANI returns to her seat while WES addresses the CAMO MEN.

WES

My apologies for any misconduct on her part, but a nice southern gentleman should be able to control his temper a little better than that. (To DOUG) You might be a bit sore for a few weeks - probably a cracked rib, but nothing more serious. Good day gentlemen.

WES joins DANI at the table and standing, chugs his beer. The WAITRESS is stunned at the exchange she just witnessed.

WES (CONT'D)

(to waitress)

I need settle up my bill.

WAITRESS

It's on the house.

EXT. SPORTS BAR - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

WES escorts DANI to the car as they walk across the parking lot in silence. WES and DANI get in the car.

INT. WES' LUXURY WAGON - MOMENTS LATER

WES and DANI sit in the car remaining silent.

WES

What the fuck Dani? I finally figured out the mystery of why you didn't have a boyfriend. They all must be dead.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

The camp cheers as the hunting party returns. Camp members hand gourds of berry juice to the hunters as a show of celebration.

WEEKO is fully focused on her fire duties.

Enter DAKOTAH looking for WEEKO. He finally sees her tending to the fire and rushes to her side.

DAKOTAH

I am so happy to see your face. Your warmth was with me for all the days.

WEEKO shyly smiles and looks down. She does not want him to see the change in her eyes.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

Are you happy to see me, Weeko?

WEEKO

Yes Dakotah but many days have passed and much has happened in your absence.

DAKOTAH

Do you regret what we did before?

WEEKO

No, no Dakotah, not at all. I am sorry. We will share our stories soon after all the provisions of the harvest are complete. I am happy to have you close to me again.

DAKOTAH

I want to feel your closeness for my lifetime. I dreamed of you and your special rocks every night.

WEEKO places one hand on each of DAKOTAH's cheeks, sharing the warmth of the fire.

WEEKO

I will be happy to be alone with you Dakotah.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

WEEKO heads for her private beach. As she is walking, she sees something in her peripheral vision dart past to the right of the path. She stops and scans the wooded area for the source. Seeing nothing, she continues on her way. Again, she sees a flash, this time beginning on her left and crossing in front of her face once again to the right side of the path. She freezes in her steps intently searching the forest. She sees a light reflection, similar to the way the sun hits a wet rock jutting out from the river. She follows the direction of the skipping, glistening presence as she weaves her way through the trees. Ahead, the light has multiplied by dozens of glittering, colorful entities. She had never seen anything like this before. She hears an animal's dreadful cry followed by a whimper.

NECKLACE HUNTER (O.S.)

Haa Haa Haa.

EXT. WOLF CONFINEMENT AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

FEMALE WOLF is tethered by its hind legs hanging from a tree. NECKLACE HUNTER is torturing the creature and enjoying the experience.

Horrified by her findings, WEEKO places both hands over her mouth to prevent herself from screaming. Suddenly, the glittering lights re-manifest, encircling her and drawing her away from the horrific scene. She runs through the forest at full speed following the procession of lights until she reaches the path.

INT. MONA'S HOUSE - STUDY - NIGHT

MONA is seated in an overstuffed arm chair, feet flat on the floor and palms facing up. Her eyes open and blink as she comes out of her trance.

MONA

I always knew there were fairies.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER ON

Gasping for air, WEEKO locates DAKOTAH pulling him aside. Her appearance & disposition tells him something dreadful has occurred.

WEEKO

Maska has captured a wolf and is torturing it. She does not have much life left in her. I will arrange with Viho a reason for Maska to return to camp. You must go to her.

DAKOTAH

Be brief with Viho. Let us keep the details between us for now. Meet me at the overlook.

DAKOTAH gathers supplies together and WEEKO runs to VIHO's enclosure.

INT. VIHO'S CAMP DWELLING - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

WEEKO

Grandfather please may I have counsel with you regarding an urgent matter.

EXT. OVERLOOK - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

DAKOTAH is waiting, enter WEEKO.

WEEKO

I will start calling Maska's name when I am near. I will tell him that Viho wants him to return to camp about an important matter. As soon as we pass, you will weave your way through the trees straight toward the river. There is a small clearing - you will see her there.

DAKOTAH

Go and do not allow Maska to return tonight. Keep him away as long as possible.

EXT. WOLF CONFINEMENT AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

WEEKO positions herself near the clearing.

WEEKO (O.S.)

Hello... Maska. Where are you?  
Maska, Maska.

MASKA is the NECKLACE HUNTER. He hears a voice and remains completely still. He listens more intently and hears his name.

MASKA

Stay where you are. Who is there?

WEEKO (O.S.)

Maska it is Weeko. Viho wants to speak with you immediately.

MASKA

Stay where you are.

EXT. CENTRAL GAME TRAIL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

MASKA

What is so important that Viho can not allow me some tranquility?

Annoyed, MASKA walks ahead as WEEKO picks up her pace to catch up.

WEEKO

I think it has to do with your new status from the kill of the mastodon. I think it is good tidings for you, Maska.

DAKOTAH is crouched and camouflaged in the bushes and confirms they have passed.

EXT. WOLF CONFINEMENT AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

Silence falls upon the clearing with FEMALE WOLF dangling lifeless several feet above the ground. Emerging from the trees we see SPEAR, a large male wolf with a distinctive black patch of fur on his left hind quarter. Stealthily, he confirms FEMALE WOLF is alone and approaches her. Her eyes are closed as SPEAR stands on his hind legs and begins licking her face. She opens her eyes and whimpers, part in pain and part in joy to see her mate. He tries to swat the twine down to no avail. He smells the air and swiftly retreats behind a tree. As DAKOTAH enters SPEAR re-emerges, snarling with full teeth bared. DAKOTAH sets his supplies down on the ground.

DAKOTAH

My brother, Spear - it is me - I am here to help you.

SPEAR recognizes DAKOTAH's voice from years of sharing their territory. DAKOTAH knew this wolf when they were both still pups and learning the ropes.

SPEAR lays down a short distance away from DAKOTAH alert to DAKOTAH's every move. DAKOTAH swiftly lays out padding directly beneath her. He removes a sharpened flat spear and begins a sawing motion until he cuts through the twine. The rope finally gives as FEMALE WOLF falls to the ground with a yelp and then silence. SPEAR begins pacing. Her energy is depleted and her life force is waning. DAKOTAH works diligently untying the remaining bonds from her legs. She is in shock and shivering. DAKOTAH wraps her in fur pelts and begins touching her teeth & gums with water droplets from his fingertips. At first she appears lifeless but her chest is shallowly rising and falling. He continues with the water until she finally moves her tongue to absorb the moisture. She swallows several small but vital sips.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

I think she is going to make it my friend. She needs to know you are here.

DAKOTAH motions with his hand. SPEAR re-positions himself in her line of vision and watches intently.

Next, DAKOTAH gently touches her hind legs to test the extent of her injuries. FEMALE WOLF winces and lets out a yip but allows DAKOTAH to continue. He flexes her ankles and rubs her legs to promote circulation. DAKOTAH walks a few feet away as he motions to SPEAR who then approaches her, licking her eyes and face, she moans. SPEAR moves down and licks her wounds on her ankles, she sighs. DAKOTAH approaches FEMALE WOLF again and offers more water. This time she slightly lifts her head. DAKOTAH smiles at SPEAR and removes a piece of meat from his pouch. He bites a piece off chewing it vigorously. Once the meat is pulverized, he spits it into his hand and holds it in front of her nose. At first she has no reaction but he persists. He takes a tiny pre-chewed piece and rubs it on her gums. Her tongue begins to instinctively lick her teeth and she swallows the tiny morsel. DAKOTAH bites off another slightly larger piece and she eats the entire portion of masticated meat. DAKOTAH is feeling more confident of her survival.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

(whispering)

You are a strong girl with a  
faithful mate. You can make it.

The sun is quickly setting as DAKOTAH mixes herbs with clay and water creating a poultice. He packs the mud on her ankles, wraps bark around each hind leg and covers her with his hides. The sunset casts a silhouette of SPEAR on guard, FEMALE WOLF seemingly comfortable wrapped in DAKOTAH'S skins and DAKOTAH sitting on a log enjoying the company of wolves.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

DANI and WES are sitting on the sofa as WES reads an incoming text message.

WES

I need to go pick up a generator my  
buddy repaired for me. Probably  
take me a couple hours.

DANI

Can't I go with you?

WES

You can, but Jimmy isn't always the  
most refined guy in the world -  
heart of gold though.

DANI

I think I can handle it.

WES

Cool. Payment is due on receipt...  
meaning I have to grab a case of  
beer on the way.

EXT. JIMMY'S HOUSE - GARAGE - LATER

Garage door open to the driveway filled with engines, tools,  
electronic equipment all fairly well organized with matching  
hooks and shelving.

WES' car pulls up into the driveway. DANI & WES exit the  
vehicle, WES carrying a case of beer. JIMMY (40s) appears  
from the garage. JIMMY shakes WES' hand and transitions it  
into a pat-on-the-back hug.

WES

Jimmy this is my girlfriend, Dani.

JIMMY

(playfully)  
Whoa, did you come into some money  
lately?

DANI

Thank you. Nice to meet you too.

JIMMY chuckles a harmless but triumphant chuckle. WES and  
DANI follow him passing through the house briefly and into  
the back yard.

EXT. JIMMY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

WES glances back at DANI with a quick eye roll and smiles.  
They each grab a beer out of an oversized stocked cooler and  
WES begins removing the cans from his case and adding them to  
the cooler. JIMMY lights an old school bong water pipe, takes  
a hit and holds it out for the taking. DANI accepts it, takes  
a hit and passes it to WES.

JIMMY

(To Wes)  
How 'bout a game?

JIMMY gestures toward the ping pong table.

WES

Naa. Maybe in a bit.

JIMMY is already up and hands WES a paddle.

JIMMY  
Come on - let me kick your ass for  
old times sake.

WES rises whispering to DANI as he leaves the seating area.

WES  
He just wants to show you that he  
can totally beat me.

DANI  
I'm still going home with you.

WES and JIMMY start a game. They have a few long great  
rallies, JIMMY playing offensively.

CROSS FADE

JIMMY prepares to serve.

JIMMY  
20 serving 14, game point,  
Davidson.

JIMMY serves and wins the point. They set their paddles down.

DANI  
Can I play a game with you, Jimmy?

JIMMY  
(playfully)  
Really?

DANI  
Please?

JIMMY  
Sure but you might break a nail.

DANI walks to the ping pong table and selects a different  
paddle.

DANI  
I like this color better.

JIMMY  
You wanna warm up?

DANI  
No, that's okay. Home team serves.

JIMMY serves a really tricky almost impossible to return serve. She misses it.

JIMMY  
1 serving 0, or is that ZEEEero.

DANI  
I hope you enjoyed that point.

DANI backs away from the table 2 feet.

DANI (CONT'D)  
Ready when you are.

JIMMY serves another incredible serve. She returns it with spin and he hits it into the net. He serves another - she returns, this time he hits it off the table.

JIMMY  
1 serving 2.

DANI  
With pleasure.

An intense rally ensues with both of them hitting and returning incredible shots. He wins the 4th point and she the 5th. DANI maintains the lead at service change.

DANI (CONT'D)  
3 serving 2.

She aces her serve.

JIMMY  
Fuck!

They play another incredible rally.

WES shakes his head in amazement.

CROSS FADE

DANI prepares to serve.

DANI  
Game point, Jimmy.

She serves and wins the point. JIMMY bangs his paddle on the side of the table hard, adding a dent to the already chewed up edge.

JIMMY  
(toward Wes)  
What the fuck - did she just get  
out of prison?!

INT. WES' LUXURY WAGON - DAY

WES and DANI sit in the car in the driveway.

WES  
What was that, Dani? I thought he  
was either going to punch me or  
have a coronary.

DANI  
I was Junior State Ping Pong  
Champion in high school - did you  
want me to let him beat me?

WES  
Is there anything else I should  
know about you?

DANI thinks for a second, leans over and kisses him.

EXT. WOLF CONFINEMENT AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAWN

Sunrise barely illuminates the scene which reveals DAKOTAH  
laying on the ground, SPEAR lays in front of FEMALE WOLF and  
licks her face slowly, methodically.

EXT. PRAYER ROCK - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO is practicing his sun worship prayers and is softly  
chanting. He slips into dream state.

VISION MONTAGE

- \* The sun glistens across a still and silent lake.
- \* Brisk wind develops causing a rippling effect over the calm  
lake. The waves continue to increase in intensity resulting  
in white caps across the entire surface.
- \* A low rumbling sound replaces the silence.
- \* The water turns brown and churns.
- \* A BOY (8) has difficulty walking through the wind storm.
- \* The wind blows him toward the water's edge.

\* The BOY is pulled into the brown murky water as if someone has grabbed his ankle. He slides waist-deep into the water thrashing and clawing at the bank for survival.

\* A MUSCULAR WOLF appears and lunges for the BOY. The BOY screams as the MUSCULAR WOLF grabs him by the neck and drags him to safety under a tree.

\* The MUSCULAR WOLF vanishes.

\* The BOY lays motionless under gracefully arching limbs of the tree.

\* The wind abruptly stops and the lake returns to its previous tranquil setting.

\* The BOY sits up. He rubs the back of his neck and checks for blood but there is none.

VIHO is seated cross legged, feels the sun warming his face and opens his eyes.

EXT. WOLF CONFINEMENT AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

The sun rises from above the canyon ceiling awakening DAKOTAH. He sits up reorienting himself to his surroundings then stands and walks to examine FEMALE WOLF. SPEAR does not retreat but stays in close proximity, evidence of his earned trust. DAKOTAH strokes FEMALE WOLF's head gently and she opens her eyes. She is weak but more alert than yesterday. DAKOTAH digs a hole in front of her and fills it with water. She gently laps it until it is nearly gone. DAKOTAH re-fills the hole and she takes two more laps and is finished. He takes meat from his pouch and first tosses a large piece to SPEAR and begins chewing a second smaller piece for FEMALE WOLF. Both accept his offering. DAKOTAH removes the bark bandages and gently inspects her ankle wounds and she emits a soft whimper. He rotates her ankles clockwise then counter clockwise. He repositions himself at her head and slides his arms between her fur and the hide he wrapped her in. As he pulls his arm out, she licks it. He offers her another piece of masticated meat and she takes it again. SPEAR raises his nose to the sky smelling the air. Concerned about MASKA's return, DAKOTAH watches him intently relying on SPEAR'S expertise to signal danger. No sign given, DAKOTAH scans the area looking for the presence of any nearby trail. He returns to the clearing to find FEMALE WOLF has squirmed partially out from her blanket. DAKOTAH unwraps her from the remaining cover and she very tentatively stands. She takes a few wobbly steps and rests again, lying back down on the ground. DAKOTAH packs his belongings, removing all evidence of their presence. He stashes his gear in a nearby hollowed out log concealed with brush.

SPEAR intuitively knows that DAKOTAH is preparing to leave and waits on the outskirts of the clearing. DAKOTAH picks up a branch and sweeps the area for any remaining prints. DAKOTAH approaches FEMALE WOLF and intuitively caresses her, starting at her head continuing to her hind haunches sending her into a tranquilized state. DAKOTAH squats and like a fork lift, places each extended arm, spaced front & hind, underneath FEMALE WOLF. He stands straight up steadily with the FEMALE WOLF resting in his arms. They head out, SPEAR leading the way.

EXT. OVERGROWN FOREST - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

Carrying FEMALE WOLF, DAKOTAH is breathing heavily, drenched in sweat as they continue on an uphill route. The terrain levels out and SPEAR stops at a spring where both DAKOTAH and FEMALE WOLF can rest and hydrate. They continue through a maze of thick brush. SPEAR stops in his tracks and we hear another wolf vocalize in the near distance. DAKOTAH knows this is as close as he is welcome. He gently sets FEMALE WOLF down on a pile of soft brush. He kneels next to her catching his breath and she licks his face repeatedly. His eyes well with tears. DAKOTAH turns and leaves as we watch him from behind, from the two wolves' POV.

FLASHBACK

EXT. CLIFF LEDGE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

YOUNG DAKOTAH is seated watching deer in the clearing below. A twig snaps as he darts his head in that direction. Enter MALE ALPHA WOLF, healthy with a thick, shiny, grey & black modeled coat and YOUNG SPEAR with his signature black spear patch. MALE ALPHA WOLF ignores DAKOTAH but YOUNG SPEAR's curiosity draws him to DAKOTAH like a magnet.

YOUNG DAKOTAH  
(in a whisper)  
Hello my little brother, Spear.

MALE ALPHA WOLF vocally signals that playtime is over and YOUNG SPEAR rejoins his father. DAKOTAH, the more willing of the two students, attentively watches the wolves hunt prey. MALE ALPHA WOLF smells the air; YOUNG SPEAR smells the air; DAKOTAH smells the air. MALE ALPHA WOLF observes the herd below. Although distracted by many things, the pup tries in earnest to also observe the deer.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - VIHO'S DWELLING - 13,000 YEARS AGO -  
LATER ON

YOUNG DAKOTAH is seated across from VIHO.

YOUNG DAKOTAH

I have accompanied a male and his  
pup during their lessons.

VIHO

What exactly do you mean by  
accompanied?

YOUNG DAKOTAH

I sat on the ridge for many days  
and waited for the wolves to return  
to where I had seen them before.  
Finally one day I saw a male and  
his pup. Then they returned every  
day, and every day they smelled the  
air and got used to my scent. I  
kept getting closer until the adult  
looked right at me. Once I knew he  
was not going to attack me, I began  
studying with them. The adult still  
ignores me but the pup is very  
curious and greets me every day.

VIHO

This is a very uncommon privilege,  
Dakotah. What else have you  
learned?

YOUNG DAKOTAH

I learned how much they rely on  
scent and sound. Any sound which is  
out of the surrounding rhythm is a  
potential warning. They identify  
the strong and the weak of the herd  
and anticipate their movement  
waiting ahead ready to pounce.

VIHO

You have learned very well and I am  
proud of you my son. The Great  
Spirit has entrusted you with wolf  
energy. A very high honor.

EXT. HOUSE PARTY - FRONT DOOR - DAY

WES and DANI hear music, talking and laughter from the party.  
WES is carrying a bottle of wine.

DANI

We don't have to stay too long, do we? I'm not that good at big parties.

WES

Give me the signal when you are ready and we can go. You have to give me enough time to show off my enchanting new girlfriend though.

DANI smiles as WES opens the door.

INT. HOUSE PARTY - ENTRY - CONTINUOUS

Gifts cover the entry room table of an elegant home. People are mingling and laughing. WES removes his coat and helps DANI off with hers.

WES

Do you want to go put our jackets in the bedroom down that hall on the right? I will get rid of this wine and grab us some drinks.

DANI

I'll take a double gin tonic with lime please.

WES hands DANI the jackets.

WES

I'll meet you right back at the food table.

INT. HOUSE PARTY - FOOD TABLE - MOMENTS LATER

DANI stands at the food table covered in beautifully prepared and presented hors d'oeuvres and arrangements of flowers. Feeling awkwardly out of place DANI begins loading up a plate of finger food.

DANI stands at the table alone surrounded by chattering and boisterous people. She eats a few hors d'oeuvres still waiting for WES. Enter CARTER (30s) extremely handsome and casually elegant.

CARTER

Hi, I'm Carter. You look a little lonely over here. An experience I'm sure you are not too familiar with (smiles warmly).

DANI

Hi, I'm Dani. Thank you for rescuing me.

CARTER

Did I see you come in with Wes?

DANI

Yes, Wes went to get cocktails and has yet to return. Would you please help me with these so people don't think the whole plate is for me?

CARTER

(kindly laughing)

Okay I'm happy to have your back on this one.

CARTER takes an hors d'oeuvre from her plate and pops it in his mouth.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Would you like me to grab you a beer? I promise it will be less than a minute before I return.

DANI

That would be so kind. I think I need to consume some alcohol in this situation, sooner than later.

CARTER exits and DANI nonchalantly scans the party for WES. Enter CARTER with promised beer in hand. He hands her the beer while simultaneously taking another hors d'oeuvre from her plate.

CARTER

I'm sure Wes got torn in a million directions. Everyone loves Wes. Good news travels fast. I heard he was seeing someone new. I also heard you don't like hunters.

DANI

I don't like idiot hunters who have no respect. Some of my dearest friends hunt. Do you hunt, Carter?

CARTER

I don't, but me and my brothers would have been a lot hungrier kids if our dad didn't hunt for us.

DANI

I'm sure he honored the animals who helped him feed his young.

CARTER

Sorry, I had you wrong.

DANI starts grooving to the music.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Do you like to dance?

DANI

Absolutely.

CARTER

I own a club downtown and we get great bands and djs. I know Wes travels a lot. You should come down and hang out in the private lounge some time. I promise when you arrive the doorman will know I am expecting you.

DANI

That sounds fantastic. Or... maybe we can do it when Wes is "IN" town. You had me wrong again.

WES approaches hurriedly with two cocktails in his hands.

WES

Carter, good to see you. I see you've met Dani.

CARTER

Indeed I have. Charming and beautiful. Where did you two meet?

WES

We got set up on a blind date by mutual friends.

CARTER

Why doesn't anyone ever set me up?

WES

You have to be solo for a certain amount of time before anyone would consider you an eligible bachelor. And besides, you are a chick magnet. He doesn't even need a puppy.

CARTER

He's exaggerating. Great to see you dude, I'm sure you two have lots to talk about so I'll catch you later.

DANI

Thanks for keeping me company.

CARTER

My pleasure.

Exit CARTER who pauses and looks back.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Hey Wes, I was telling Dani that you two should come down to the club and hear some music.

WES

I would love that. I'll keep an eye out on your calendar. Thanks Carter.

WES (CONT'D)

...Seems like you and Carter had a nice little visit.

DANI

Excuse me? Are you fucking kidding me? How about, "Dani, I am so sorry that I ditched you at a party where you don't know one person - thank you for dealing with it." OR "Dani, I am sorry I kept you waiting, I decided to be rude to you instead of rude to friends." Or...

WES

Okay Okay, got it. I'm sorry, you are totally right. I appreciate your patience, even if you don't feel very patient right now. I was an asshole.

DANI

Thank you. Should we have fun now? And one more thing... you are the only person I want to be with here.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

WEEKO works the blazing fire with piles of timber and dung nearby.

Tightly woven baskets, sealed with pitch and clay are filled with water and positioned on various cooking stations. WEEKO methodically, places heated rocks into the water in preparation for the feast. The band excitedly gathers. As VIHO takes center stage, the group falls silent.

VIHO

We are very fortunate to once again give thanks to the Divine Being, creator of all creatures and all of life, for providing us sustenance and protection. Sprouted buds will be eaten, while others will vibrantly blossom until they naturally shed their petals. It is so with the powerful beast who gave his life while his brothers and sisters live on. We must all show gratitude not only to the Great Spirit but to all creatures. We will now pass the pipe in his honor.

WEEKO hands VIHO a tightly rolled taper and he uses it to light the pipe as smoke swirls in beautiful ethereal spiral patterns.

EXT. MONA'S HOUSE - BACK YARD - DAY

The same beautiful swirls of smoke spiral upward revealing MONA taking a hit off of a pipe. She is standing in a circle of friends and passes the pipe. MONA's birthday party is in progress. People are mingling around fire pits, food and drink stations. There is a stage set up with many native drums and tables of percussion instruments of all varieties.

EXT. MONA'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

WES and DANI are walking toward the backyard.

DANI

You will love Mona.

WES

I have a feeling it is going to be quite a memorable evening.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

A YOUNG BOY carries the pipe with dignity and returns it to VIHO.

VIHO

We recognize that every hunter risks their own life to sustain our very existence. We are gathered today to acknowledge the hunters of our band whose physical abilities, resourcefulness and skilled practices result in the harvesting of a great beast. Maska, please join me.

MASKA rises and walks to the front of the gathering and takes his place beside VIHO.

VIHO (CONT'D)

Since you were a small boy Maska, you showed concentrated interest and determination to become a great hunter. Your hard work has benefitted our people, our family. Tonight we honor your fierce bravery and strength of will.

Cheers from the group. VIHO takes one step back indicating MASKA may now speak.

MASKA

I have become a man of great strength and ability. After a significant kill, tradition allows for me to choose my woman. With your blessing, Viho, I would like to make that declaration at this time.

Inaudible dialog is heard from the group. MASKA's girlfriend, PELIPA (19), beams with a smile from ear to ear.

VIHO

It is no longer a common tradition, but I grant your request.

MASKA

Weeko.

The band falls silent with the exception of PELIPA's gasp of betrayal. Shocked, WEEKO stays fixated on the fire.

VIHO

Your announcement comes as a great surprise, Maska. My dear Weeko, it is not necessary, but would you like to comment at this time?

WEEKO reluctantly walks to VIHO's side, and looks directly into MASKA's eyes.

WEEKO

I honor you as a skilled hunter but  
I am unable to accept your  
proposal.

MASKA

Hahahaha.

MASKA's uncontrollable, evil laughter causes discomfort among the group.

MASKA (CONT'D)

You do not have the right to reject  
my decision.

WEEKO leans in and whispers in MASKA's ear.

WEEKO

I would rather die.

MASKA resumes his evil laughter and leaves the camp. WEEKO returns to her place at the fire. Several members console PELIPA as we continue to hear MASKA's evil laughter. The band disperses back to their private dwellings. WEEKO is completely transfixed on the dancing flames as DAKOTAH approaches. She does not acknowledge his presence.

DAKOTAH

To every obstacle, there is a way  
out. We will find it together. You  
are not alone.

WEEKO turns her head to make eye contact with DAKOTAH.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

I do not want to see this sadness  
in your eyes.

WEEKO

You will always be my mate. I wish  
to be alone now.

WEEKO is alone, tending the fire. Periodic jumping flames illuminate and accent her facial features against her dark silhouette.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAWN

Enter MASKA who walks silently to the main camp. **Under My Thumb** by **The Rolling Stones** plays.

WEEKO has not left the fire. MASKA approaches and stands motionless staring at her. She does not acknowledge him.

MASKA

I saved one more for you.

WEEKO

What do you mean?

MASKA reaches his arm out and places a feather on the ground next to her.

INSERT: Red tipped feather.

It reawakens her bitter sorrow of the slain bird. She stays focused on the feather never making eye contact with MASKA.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

I will vanish into the clouds  
before you have me as your woman.

MASKA silently exits. WEEKO looks up, studying the sky and uses her index finger to draw imaginary lines connecting the stars.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH is busying himself dispensing of nervous energy. He keeps glancing toward MASKA's dwelling. Finally MASKA emerges, looking at the ground, walking toward one of the exits.

DAKOTAH

Maska, may I speak with you?

MASKA

What?

DAKOTAH

Maska, you are my brother since we were young. We have had few internal difficulties within our band, but I *will* stand up for Weeko's right to choose her own mate.

MASKA

I have earned top position and she will be mine.

DAKOTAH

This is about more than that. Our customs have evolved, Maska and you know that your own mother makes many decisions for herself.

MASKA

I did not see any woman by my side when I battled to kill the beast for our future. I have no further interest in what you say. My mind is made up.

DAKOTAH

I can not possess another but I will battle for her choice.

MASKA releases his evil laugh. DAKOTAH remains expressionless.

MASKA

Ha ha ha. I fight for myself and for what I want. We can fight, but your death is certain.

DAKOTAH

I propose we fight until one breath before death.

MASKA

I only fight to the death.

DAKOTAH takes a deep breath & exhales.

DAKOTAH

We shall commence then at rise of the next big moon.

EXT. MAIN CAMP - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

WEEKO is seated on the ground separating strands of twine into similarly matched lengths. Enter TALISA (12).

TALISA

Weeko, I am saddened by what occurred last night. I have always wanted to be like you, I admire you very much.

WEEKO

Thank you sweet Talisa.

TALISA's eyes well with tears.

TALISA

There is something troubling I must tell you. I overheard Dakotah and Maska this morning. Dakotah is going to fight Maska to the death to defend your choice.

WEEKO stands and begins repeatedly swallowing with hands on her stomach. With a vacant stare, WEEKO exits and we hear her retching O.S.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NEXT DAY

Enter DAKOTAH who scans every inch of the perimeter for WEEKO. Unsuccessful, he turns and briskly exits camp.

EXT. WEEKO'S ROCK GARDEN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

DAKOTAH finds the rock garden impeccably groomed. He continues toward the creek and looks, in vain, for any sign of WEEKO's presence.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

He is seated on a saddle chair feeling confused and looking around. He discovers relatively fresh footprints which he follows.

EXT. CREVASSE ROCK - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

The tracks lead DAKOTAH to the opening of the deep crevasse, the burial site of the bird. He lifts his head and sees two red tipped feathers planted into the earth with pebbles surrounding the bases. He races back to camp at full speed.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MOMENTS LATER

DAKOTAH frantically runs into camp.

DAKOTAH

Where is Weeko?

No response.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

(louder and angrier)

I said where is Weeko?! Who has seen Weeko?

PELIPA

I have not seen her today. Last I saw her was after meal last night.

DAKOTAH

Has anyone seen Weeko today? Answer me!

TALISA is looking down at her feet the entire time.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

Talisa! You know something. Tell me now where has Weeko gone.

Silence.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

Talisa, you will tell me what you know and you will tell me now!

TALISA

I heard you speaking with Maska and I told her about the fight. She said if she was gone there would be nothing to fight about.

DAKOTAH

(gently)

You did the right thing. Now tell me everything you know.

TALISA

I do not know anything else. She told me not to tell you and she left her chores. I am sorry, it is all my fault.

DAKOTAH

It is okay Talisa. The fault is not yours.

DAKOTAH embraces TALISA.

EXT. MONA'S HOUSE - BACK YARD - DAY

DANI approaches MONA and kisses her on the cheek. MONA turns toward DANI.

MONA

Danielle! I am so happy you could come.

MONA and DANI hug.

MONA (CONT'D)

This is my surrogate daughter,  
Danielle. This is Edward, Melody,  
and Two Rivers. Where is your beau?

DANI

Wes is grabbing us drinks - he will  
find us. Happy birthday, Mona.

EDWARD

I have heard a lot about you,  
Danielle. Mona speaks more highly  
of you than anyone else, including  
myself!

EDWARD puts his arm around MONA's shoulder and gives it a  
squeeze and then proceeds to leave it there. DANI and MONA  
subtly exchange a mischievous grin as DANI lifts her  
eyebrows.

MONA

Now that is not true, Eddie. I  
speak very highly of you. Eddie is  
a big chief on the res.

EDWARD

The reservation is a piece of cake  
compared to my other job. I did  
recently get a promotion though...  
I used to merely fill Mona's bird  
feeders, and now I am invited in  
for tea and such.

The group laughs as WES enters carrying two beverages.

MONA

Oh my god, this hunk must be Wes!

WES

Now that's a welcome I can get used  
to!

WES hands DANI her glass and proceeds to give MONA a one  
armed hug and shakes hands with the others.

WES (CONT'D)

Happy birthday, Mona. This is quite  
a lovely property and a grand  
celebration.

MONA

Thank you dear, wait until the  
drumming starts.

MONA (CONT'D)

We have every percussion instrument you can imagine and a few I'm sure you've never seen. If you don't find one you like, you can make up your own - clap two rocks together if you like.

WES

Sounds good to me.

MONA takes a sip of her drink as she glances downward and notices WES' foot.

INSERT: WES' webbed foot in a sandal.

WES (CONT'D)

(To MONA)  
My mother was a duck.

MONA laughs, unexpectedly causing her to spit her drink.

DANI

We are going to find a peace pipe and I'm going to take him on a tour of your amazing home if that's okay with you.

MONA

The place is all yours, honey. But before you go Wes, I was wondering if you are from North or South Dakota, or have some connection to the Dakotas?

WES

Passed through on a road trip once but that's about it. Why do ask?

MONA

I keep getting this weird Dakota hit from you. I don't know, probably smoking too much peace pipe, myself.

EDWARD

Mona is quite a psychic lady. I wouldn't be surprised if you have some incident which brings you there. You'll let us know if that happens.

WES

I sure will. Now I'm looking forward to it.

Exit WES and DANI.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR RIVER - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

WEEKO is drinking from the river. She climbs back up to the bank. WEEKO is seated on a log at the top of the bank. She is eating dried berries from a woven bundle. As she re-positions herself to face the sun, a few berries fall onto the ground and bounce down the bank far below settling on a rock.

WEEKO

You don't have enough food to be careless with it.

She gathers her few belongings and erases all of her footprints.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH is packed with provisions. He briskly approaches VIHO'S dwelling.

DAKOTAH

Grandfather, may I enter.

VIHO (O.S.)

Of course Dakotah.

INT. VIHO'S DWELLING - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO

I was expecting to see you after last night's events.

DAKOTAH

Weeko has left the camp. She was last seen at mealtime last night. I am going in search of her.

VIHO

The wisdom of wolf spirit is bestowed upon you and meant to serve you for this lifetime. Be observant of the messages you receive and separate your emotions from your intuition.

DAKOTAH

Thank you grandfather, I will rely  
on my intuition.

VIHO

And Dakotah, I believe you were  
born to lead others in your  
principled ways. I send you off  
with love in my heart.

DAKOTAH

I am honored.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR HOLLOWED TREE TRUNK - 13,000 YEARS AGO -  
NIGHT

WEEKO is kneeling on the ground preparing her bedding for the  
night. She fluffs up some dried leaves and lays a skin down  
on top. She unfurls a piece of bark and with a stone spear  
tip, she carefully carves a hash mark into the bark, marking  
the fourth night of her journey. She lays down covering  
herself with a second hide and falls asleep.

DREAM SEQUENCE:

WEEKO and VIHO are seated cross legged at the Riverbank  
Boulder Chairs during the day.

VIHO

Where are you going, Weeko?

WEEKO

Of that I am not certain. I will  
trust divine guidance to lead me  
where I belong.

VIHO

Do you believe you no longer belong  
with us, your family and kin?

WEEKO

I have a strong connection and  
regard for my people. It is for  
this very reason I must leave to  
prevent disharmony among us.

VIHO

We enjoy many seasons, Weeko. Some  
are more difficult than others but  
each contributes to the next. Every  
year, no matter the snow mass or  
severity, the snow melts so the  
earth may flourish.

(MORE)

VIHO (CONT'D)

There is a certain knowing it will be so. Sometimes we too must endure a difficult season.

EXT. CREST OF HIGH HILL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH stands on top of a rocky hill side looking in all directions. Feeling disheartened, he sits on a flat boulder to ponder his game plan. He hears VIHO'S words.

VIHO (V.O.)

You possess the power of wolf spirit. This wisdom is bestowed upon you.

DAKOTAH

What do I know about my subject? She is smart and resourceful. She makes fire. She is an attentive and committed student... Student.

FLASHBACK

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH and WEEKO are seated enjoying a sunny day.

WEEKO

You have such a special connection with wolves, Dakotah. Tell me about them.

DAKOTAH

They are the wisest of creatures. Keenly conscious of tracks, their own and others. Their sense of smell guides them toward prey and away from predator. When the wind is moving quickly, they are careful to mask their own scent. Somehow, they always know where there is a water source. Most admirable is their fierce loyalty to their mates and dedication to their pack. Like us, they have the ability to be part of a group while still embodying individuality.

EXT. CREST OF HIGH HILL - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH snaps back into present time.

DAKOTAH

I am going in the wrong direction.  
She will try her best to journey  
like the wolf. Luckily she is a  
novice wolf.

**One More Night** by **Michael Kiwanuka** plays.

The wind picks up as DAKOTAH gathers his provisions. He briskly descends down the hillside covering as much territory as possible before total darkness.

EXT. SMALL CIRCLE OF TREES - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

DAKOTAH beds down for the night, comfortably situated under his pelt. The surrounding trees create a welcome wind break.

EXT. SMALL CIRCLE OF TREES - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAWN

DAKOTAH is startled awake by a small FAWN, curious and investigating. He gains his bearings quickly.

DAKOTAH

Hello sweet curious girl. Have you  
seen a woman wandering about?

He packs up his belongings and observes the FAWN eating from a healthy patch of greens, the same type his own band frequently enjoys. He stops briefly to collect some of the leafy vegetables. As he bends next to the FAWN, he notices she eats only the tops.

INSERT: FAWN eating vegetation tops with nearby section of greens completely pulled from the ground.

VIHO (V.O.)

Be mindful of the messages you  
receive.

DAKOTAH

I hope this is your first clue, my  
Weeko.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR TERRAIN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

WEEKO is trudging along, looking exhausted and concerned.

VIHO (V.O.)

Sometimes we too must endure a  
difficult season.

WEEKO is straining her eyes to see in the darkness of the night. She walks directly into a low overhanging rock! She touches her forehead and rubs her fingers together feeling the blood on her hand. Crouching down as to not repeat the painful mistake, she discovers she is standing at the threshold of a shallow cave.

EXT. LICHEN SHALLOW CAVE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

Relieved, she tosses her belongings down and prepares her bed for the night. She removes her bark scroll and adds another hash mark.

EXT. LICHEN SHALLOW CAVE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAWN

WEEKO'S POV: morning light shines through a web of fine hairs covering her face. Her hair is matted with blood and stuck to her forehead.

WEEKO looks out and sees a beaten path with massive, irregular shaped rock formations rising high on both sides. Neon yellow, green and orange lichen resembles waterfalls pouring down the rocks. The bright lichen is also present on rock faces which looks like creatures and dancers and abstract lettering.

Then, WEEKO sees an enormous DINOSAUR-looking animal eating from a nearby patch of greens. He has a chameleon effect where his skin mimics the shades of the lichen nearest him. There is also an oversized RABBIT-like animal with the same chameleon characteristic. DINOSAUR lifts his enormous leg allowing RABBIT access to a section of the greens.

A loud rumbling sound comes from WEEKO's stomach as she touches her belly. She tentatively moves slightly outside of the cave and both animals look directly at her and go back to eating. She opens her food pouch and eats the few remaining berries. Still hungry, she approaches the far end of the vegetable patch where DINOSAUR and RABBIT are eating and begins swiftly picking leaves. The animals all but ignore her.

She retreats to the cave and devours the greens.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR RIVER - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH is on WEEKO's trail. He follows the sound of rushing water and sees the same stepped access. On his way down to the water's edge he sees three red berries on a rock.

## DAKOTAH

You are on Weeko's trail. Her favorite berries do not exist in this terrain.

DAKOTAH continues on his journey into the sunset.

EXT. LICHEN ROCK PASSAGEWAY - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MORNING

WEEKO wakes and sees the same two animals eating in the vegetable patch. She exits and cautiously approaches them and begins eating from the same patch of greens. The animals acknowledge her with minimal interest. She sits motionless as DINOSAUR reaches its long neck in her direction and smells the wound on her head. DINOSAUR turns 180 degrees and exits the lichen passageway. The RABBIT follows, as does WEEKO. DINOSAUR turns back to confirm they are following. DINOSAUR veers off the rock passageway following a worn path which leads to a vast meadow. WEEKO is awestruck at the destination.

EXT. LICHEN OASIS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

A grove of fruit trees line a narrow winding creek which runs slowly through the meadow. There are flowering berry bushes and shrubs. DINOSAUR stops in the middle of a bed of low growing succulent plants and neither animal eats it. WEEKO crouches and snaps a small tip off of the arm of one of the plants.

INSERT: Low growing succulent with oozing sap.

She touches the sap to the gash in her forehead. The two animals move on and begin grazing on fallen fruit from the trees. WEEKO watches the animals intently following their cue of edibles. She retrieves a piece of fruit.

WEEKO

AHHHH!

DINOSAUR glances in her direction as she devours the fruit and they continue to eat. WEEKO begins gathering as many provisions as she can carry.

EXT. LICHEN SHALLOW CAVE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

WEEKO's collected provisions are methodically sorted and stowed.

Squatting, WEEKO rolls a clump of dried tree fibers into a tight ball and then pulls at the fibers loosening them.

With her thumbs, she creates a small, nest-like shape and sets the nest on the ground in front of her. Then she takes a flat piece of wood and with a stone point, carves out a small circular indentation in the center. She sets two similarly sized rocks spaced apart on each side of the nest. She sets the flat wood on top, balanced on the rocks, elevated above the nest. She places each foot on the wood above each rock, to stabilize it. She places the flattened end of a narrow stick into the carved out opening and begins twirling back and forth between her palms, working it from top to bottom. The friction causes smoke to emit at the contact point. Setting the stick aside, she lifts the wood platform, turns it upside down, and taps a small ember from the carved hole into the center of her fiber nest. She lifts the nest and gently blows the ember into a flame.

EXT. LICHEN ROCK PASSAGEWAY - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MORNING

WEEKO joins DINOSAUR and RABBIT at the greens patch.

DINOSAUR leads the way back to the magical meadow. This time, WEEKO is prepared with baskets and pouches for collecting the cornucopia of food. As she walks, third in the procession, her attention is drawn to several downed trees on the ground with a silvery, metallic bark peeling off in narrow strips. She picks up several curly ribbons of bark and captivated, dangles them in front of her face and attaches them into her hair with knots. She picks up her pace to catch up with them.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR TERRAIN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH walks briskly, and abruptly stops to smell the air. He descends following his nose. He weaves his way through the thick brush and ducks just missing the same low hanging rock which WEEKO hit. Just ahead he spots the fire pit.

EXT. LICHEN SHALLOW CAVE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

Crouching, he sees the shallow cavity opening with the methodically arranged provisions. He recognizes small hides belonging to WEEKO, and drops to his knees and buries his face in the hide, smelling it.

EXT. LICHEN LOOKOUT SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH has set up a lookout post with visibility of the cave entrance and surrounding area. He sits on guard as he watches various insects busily moving over and under the thick ground brush. He reaches into one of his pouches and removes a stone spearhead and a small covered basket and lays them aside.

He begins collecting small red crawling insects by guiding them to his fingers and then flicking them into the basket. Leaving his belongings behind, he walks with spearhead and basket back to the cave.

EXT. LICHEN SHALLOW CAVE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

With the stone tool, DAKOTAH outlines two feathers on the interior rock wall. He backs up to view his drawing and satisfied, releases several of the red bugs and crushes them with the spear tip. They discharge a gooey red substance. Soaking the tip of the spearhead in the red liquid, he begins adding fine stroke marks to the tips of both feathers. He backs up, viewing the finished image, and smiles.

EXT. LICHEN LOOKOUT SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

He retreats back to his cover. Exhausted, he dozes off.

EXT. LICHEN ROCK PASSAGEWAY - 13,000 AGO - LATER

WEEKO, DINOSAUR and RABBIT return to the rock passageway. WEEKO drops her collected treasures at the cave threshold and rejoins her friends by the bed of greens. The two animals eat as WEEKO is content to sit and simply be in their company. She is feeling the sun on her face and fiddling with the silvery curly ribbons in her hair.

EXT. LICHEN LOOKOUT SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

DAKOTAH abruptly awakens and sits up resuming his lookout. Initially everything seems the same and suddenly, he sees movement from beyond the cave entrance. He draws his spear at the movement. He sees DINOSAUR, then RABBIT, then WEEKO. Dumbfounded by the chameleon effect and the entire scene, he observes the non-threatening, gentle interaction between the three. Seeing WEEKO seem so content and watching her twirl the ribbons in her hair sends a surge of emotion over DAKOTAH. He watches WEEKO go into her cave.

EXT. LICHEN SHALLOW CAVE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

WEEKO enters and sees the feathers drawn on the wall. She emerges from the cave frantically looking around.

WEEKO  
(quietly)  
Dakotah?

DAKOTAH does his bird imitation.

DAKOTAH (O.S.)  
Pweeeeeeeee. Pweeeeeeeee.

WEEKO instantly recognizes DAKOTAH'S call. Enter DAKOTAH. They stand, eyes locked for a beat. DAKOTAH approaches WEEKO and embraces her. She buries her head in his chest as he gently strokes her hair.

WEEKO  
Dakotah how did you find me - I am  
so sorry to leave you - It is all  
too terrible - Maska will kill you -  
I cannot be near him.

DAKOTAH  
Do not speak of these matters now.  
We have this time only to be  
together and nothing more.

EXT. LICHEN ROCK PASSAGEWAY - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

**Love of My Life** by **Santana** plays. Moonlight illuminates the silhouetted rock formations covered in the neon colored lichen. DAKOTAH and WEEKO are slow dancing.

EXT. DANI'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - MORNING

WES is loading luggage into the back of his car. DANI enters and joins him in the back of the vehicle taking an inventory of her belongings.

DANI  
Looks like we got everything.

WES  
I'm so glad you like road trips and  
I'm happy you are joining me.

DANI  
This is so exciting. I can't wait  
to see you speak. I bet you will  
captivate the audience.

WES closes the hatch.

INT. LECTURE HALL - PODIUM - LATER

WES approaches the podium.

WES

Good afternoon. Thank you all for being here. My name is Wes Davidson, as in Harley but no relation.

Laughter from audience.

WES (CONT'D)

I am quite impressed with the turnout this evening.

Spot light is shining in his eyes - WES' POV: scanning the audience.

WES (CONT'D)

I guess it was a good idea to include sexual practices of primitive peoples among my topics of discussion.

Laughter from audience and a couple hoots.

WES (CONT'D)

We won't actually be discussing how to do it slothy-style, but we will consider a few points about our ancestors' sexual relations.

New technologies have drastically changed the world of cultural archaeology. These advances continue to not only alter the way we approach our research, but have completely undermined widely accepted beliefs. Gene research, as an example, has established evidence that many modern humans have a little bit of Neanderthal DNA. These findings suggest that early humans, homo sapiens, mated with Neanderthals somewhat regularly. The image of the woman being dragged by her hair into the cave may not be quite accurate. She may have gone willingly.

Another great example is one of the most passionately debated topics among scientists: "Who were the first people to inhabit the Americas and in what time frame".

(MORE)

## WES (CONT'D)

For decades, it has been widely accepted that approximately 13,000 years ago the Clovis People were first. The Clovis-first hypothesis has now come under attack from many directions. New discoveries elude to the presence of predecessors by 2,500 years. That is no small discrepancy. Whether first or not, I am personally fascinated by, and in awe of the Clovis culture. Their name, of course, comes from the significant artifacts found in the 1930s near Clovis, New Mexico. Their remarkably sophisticated spearheads are also known as Clovis Points. The identifying factor of a Clovis site is determined by the finding of these long, slender and precisely executed spear points which, by the way, are as much a work of art as a deadly weapon.

Scientists have read the genetic sequence of a baby from a Clovis burial site in Montana. The findings point to a genetic continuity with Native Americans throughout the Americas. Information of this kind can have far-ranging effects.

WES takes a sip of water from a glass on the podium shelf.

INSERT TITLE CARD: 30 minutes later.

WES concludes his speech.

## WES (CONT'D)

I believe our predecessors cared for one another. They were ingenious in so many ways: survival tactics, practicing art, honoring and grieving their dead. They paved a brutally challenging road for us and my gut tells me we are not so dissimilar. Thank you.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

Modern and elegant, the lobby is beautifully lit with artfully appointed interior elements.

WES pushes the up button for the elevator as he and DANI stand in silence watching the floor numbers descend. The elevator arrives, two people exit and they enter. WES is carrying their overnight bags.

INT. HOTEL - ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

DANI

I am so proud of you. You were so natural and engaging. Thank you for inviting me to share this time with you.

WES leans over and gives her a short but heartfelt kiss. The elevator stops and the doors open. WES glances at his key envelope to confirm the room number.

INT. HOTEL ROOM SUITE - CONTINUOUS

DANI

Wow! I didn't know you were getting us the honeymoon suite. This is lovely.

WES sets their belongings down and puts his arms around DANI. He loosens his hold and kisses her softly. There is a knock at the door.

ROOM SERVICE ATTENDANT (O.S.)

Room service.

WES opens the door as the ROOM SERVICE ATTENDANT, (Male, 30s) enters placing an ice bucket, a bottle of cognac and glasses on the table in the seating area. He adds a plate of assorted sweets to the mix.

ROOM SERVICE ATTENDANT (CONT'D)

Will there be anything else I can provide for you this evening?

WES signs the tab and hands it to the attendant.

WES

All good, and please hit the do not disturb on your way out.

WES clicks a button on the remote. **Slowly** by **Max Sedgley** plays. DANI pours cognac into the two glasses.

DANI

You are charming and wonderful. I feel so happy to be with you.

WES

I'm falling in love with you, Dani.

WES offers his hand to DANI as he pulls her in and they begin dancing minimally and share a passionate kiss. They disengage and WES closes the curtains and switches off the lights.

DANI crawls under the sheets of the king size bed.

WES joins DANI in bed, immediately touching and kissing her passionately. WES disappears under the covers and is pleasuring her beneath the sheets. As DANI reaches her sexual climax, complete silence falls over the room for a beat. The silence slowly transitions to a resonating hum.

EXT. LICHEN OASIS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

The same reverberating humming sound is prominent as we see a close up of a HUMMINGBIRD hovering with its tongue darting in and out drinking from a flower. The tiny bird is iridescent in the similar neon yellow, green and orange lichen colors. DAKOTAH and WEEKO are seated in the field of flowers eating pieces of collected fallen fruit as WEEKO gently nudges DAKOTAH to observe the bird.

WEEKO

Viho told me that the song of hummingbird awakens the medicine flowers and creates a melody of pure joy.

They sit silently for a moment longer observing the HUMMINGBIRD.

DAKOTAH

I have a plan, Weeko. Please listen fully. Maska has rejected any desire to change and refused help from his family. I agree, Weeko, you could not survive under his control. I believe we were predestined. We are strong and together we can inspire our people to protect our way of life.

WEEKO

But Maska is a powerful force and if you die it does not resolve the situation but makes it worse. And why can't we just stay here together and never go back? I can never go back.

DAKOTAH

Weeko! You have not allowed me to reveal my plan to you.

WEEKO looks intently at DAKOTAH and nods her agreement for him to proceed.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

I propose that we return to camp together. Before we leave here, we prepare provisions should you return. The duel will commence on the next big moon. We will designate a place where you will wait during the confrontation. If I succeed, I will come for you immediately. If I do not come, you will leave at day break and return here. Weeko, I believe I will prevail.

EXT. LICHEN ROCK PASSAGEWAY - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MORNING

Morning sun streams into the cave opening as DAKOTAH studies every feature of WEEKO's face while she sleeps. With his fingertip he barely touches her lips outlining them and she gently opens her eyes as they exchange a look of love. He touches his lips to hers somewhat awkwardly. He backs away slightly and does it again. She smiles and they softly rub their lips against each other. They exit the cave in silence and begin packing.

WEEKO sees DINOSAUR and RABBIT eating in their favorite patch and joins them. Both animals stop eating and acknowledge WEEKO. DINOSAUR extends his long neck smelling WEEKO.

WEEKO

I will never forget you nor this experience. Your kind and gentle nature will never leave my heart. I will be forever grateful to you.

DINOSAUR and RABBIT go back to eating. WEEKO turns back toward the cave walking away from them as tears are streaming down her face.

DAKOTAH

You have a gentle heart, my Weeko.

WEEKO is holding out the spiral bark ribbons in her hair.

WEEKO

Shall I leave these here?

DAKOTAH

No. They will serve to remind you  
of your courage and your  
transformation. Wear them with  
honor.

WEEKO takes one last look back at DINOSAUR and RABBIT.

DAKOTAH begins mentally preparing himself for his test of  
cunning and courage.

One after another, flashbacks of MASKA from childhood to  
present, play in DAKOTAH's mind's eye.

FLASHBACK

MASKA MONTAGE:

\* YOUNG MASKA is in chase after small game, growling and  
yelping to startle the animal. The animal veers sharply left.  
MASKA races ahead attempting to reposition the animal to his  
right side and loses the pursuit.

\* MASKA is on a stalk and ambushes a creature from above and  
to his right side.

\* Shrieking & yipping, MASKA pursues an animal landing his  
target from his right side and above.

DAKOTAH

(To himself)

Never go right. Stay to his left.  
Anticipate vocal distraction, be  
soothed by it.

DAKOTAH takes WEEKO's hand and they walk hand-in-hand.

EXT. TEMPORARY CAMP - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

DAKOTAH is wrapped around WEEKO in a spooning position. They  
are both asleep. DAKOTAH has a vivid dream.

DREAM MONTAGE:

\* DAKOTAH is in an open field crouched behind low brush  
observing a huge coiled SNAKE.

\* The powerful SNAKE extends its full body length and strikes  
at a MONGOOSE.

\* MONGOOSE skillfully maneuvers to SNAKE's left side, then  
lunges and sinks its teeth deeply into SNAKE.

\* As SNAKE recoils itself for a second strike, MONGOOSE seizes the opportunity and goes for the kill.

DAKOTAH's eyes snap open.

EXT. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - DAY

WES walks past a sign which displays "Bureau of Indian Affairs".

INT. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

WES approaches the RECEPTIONIST (Female, 40s).

WES

Hello. I have an appointment with Chief Night Hawk. My name is Wes Davidson.

RECEPTIONIST

Ok Mr. Davidson, please have a seat and I will let the Chief know you've arrived.

WES views framed historical tribal photos on the lobby walls. Enter HAWK (Male, 60s), extending his hand to shake.

HAWK

Wes, good to meet you. I'm Chief Night Hawk.

WES

It's a pleasure, Chief. I appreciate you taking the time to see me.

HAWK

You can call me Hawk.

WES follows him down the hallway. HAWK pauses and turns the opposite direction.

HAWK (CONT'D)

On second thought, it's more comfortable in one of the private meeting rooms, follow me this way.

INT. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - PRIVATE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They are seated on several overstuffed leather chairs facing each other. There is a large window overlooking the garden and a fully stocked wet bar with a few stools.

HAWK

Let me start by saying your reputation precedes you, Wes.

WES

I hope that's a good thing.

HAWK

Quite good. I asked around about you and it seems you have a number of supporters among the brotherhood, which frankly isn't very common with these fellows.

HAWK chuckles.

HAWK (CONT'D)

I've reviewed the materials you submitted. I won't mince words here, Wes. We are an open minded people and care, as you do, about important historical findings. We revere our ancestors and honor those things they held sacred. Essentially, we do not authorize grave robbing in the name of science.

WES

I respect that line of thinking.

HAWK

However, I believe your specific research could be beneficial to our people. If you can conclusively link Native Americans to the first inhabitants of North America, I am willing to spearhead your cause... no pun intended.

WES smiles warmly and exhales some previously held tension.

WES

I really think we can prove it.

HAWK

We will need a detailed list of proposed tests.

(MORE)

HAWK (CONT'D)

Once presented to the elders, it will have to be a unanimous vote.

WES

Your show of support is a great honor to me, Hawk.

HAWK

Now, let's pay tribute to our forefathers.

HAWK stands, approaches the bar and pours two glasses of scotch into beautifully etched crystal glasses. WES joins HAWK at the bar. HAWK holds his glass high, positioned to make a toast.

HAWK (CONT'D)

Here's to making love to a woman in the woods - just like our grandfathers before us.

HAWK winks at WES, they clink glasses and WES looks bewildered. They both take a generous sip from their glasses.

HAWK (CONT'D)

I obviously did a background check on you and heard about the park ranger incident.

WES

You gotta be kidding me.

HAWK

I like the way you handled it, son.

They both finish their drinks and set them down on the bar.

HAWK (CONT'D)

I enjoyed our meeting, Wes, and look forward to doing some good work together.

WES offers his hand to shake and HAWK takes his hand and turns it into a manly hug.

HAWK (CONT'D)

I like your principles and your ethics.

WES

Thank you for everything, Hawk. This is just the beginning for us.

WES begins to exit the room but pauses and re-closes the door. He turns to face HAWK.

WES (CONT'D)  
I carry shame with me for what was  
done to your people.

HAWK  
I know you do.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - AFTERNOON

DAKOTAH and WEEKO enter the communal camp greeted by stares and a hushed recognition. TALISA approaches the couple, embracing WEEKO in silent tribute. DAKOTAH leads WEEKO to VIHO's dwelling.

DAKOTAH  
Grandfather, it is Dakotah and  
Weeko, may we enter?

VIHO (O.S.)  
Please do.

WEEKO and DAKOTAH enter.

INT. VIHO'S DWELLING - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

VIHO  
This is a joyous moment.

WEEKO  
Grandfather, I regret my departure  
without gaining your consent. I  
felt I must leave to maintain  
harmony. You guided me in dreamtime  
and I request your forgiveness.

VIHO  
It brings me pleasure to see your  
flesh before me. These are times of  
great transformation which requires  
no forgiveness. Tell me of your  
journey, Weeko.

EXT. WEEKO'S ROCK GARDEN - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

DAKOTAH and WEEKO are seated on the ground surrounded by the aesthetically placed rock landscape, DAKOTAH's back against a large boulder. WEEKO moves into a prone position, laying her head back into DAKOTAH's lap.

The moon is almost full and is brightly illuminating the scene. It is silent except for the purr of the nearby creek, a light rustling of leaves in the breeze and intermittent calls of night birds and insects.

WEEKO

The large moon is nearly upon us. I do not wish to burden you Dakotah, but I am naturally anxious about the upcoming event. I believe in you and I want to spend my life with you. If you have any doubts, I will leave with you now.

DAKOTAH

I know this is a great strain on you Weeko, and the consequences could be serious. My belief is that we have both been tasked with this challenge to carry out together. Knowledge has been presented to me and my will is strong. I am destined.

WEEKO

Dakotah.

DAKOTAH

Yes.

Long beat. WEEKO sits up and faces DAKOTAH.

WEEKO

Maska did something else as evil as what he did to the female wolf.

I came here the morning you left on the hunt and he had destroyed the rock garden and killed a bird leaving its feathers and its tiny plucked corpse for me to find.

DAKOTAH helps WEEKO to stand and he wraps himself around her in a show of both empathy and protection. They disengage still facing each other.

DAKOTAH

Oh Weeko. I am sorry, this is so senseless.

WEEKO

There is no place for cruelty in our world.

EXT. WEEKO'S HIDEOUT - 13,000 YEARS AGO - AFTERNOON

DAKOTAH and WEEKO, carrying provisions, are walking slowly & methodically in silence. They arrive at an area of thick brush. DAKOTAH removes a thatch of branches which have been strategically placed to conceal a cut entrance to the interior of the brush. DAKOTAH steps over the threshold, WEEKO follows. DAKOTAH sets the provisions to the back side of the small cleared space. WEEKO stares at the ground. DAKOTAH approaches WEEKO and places his hand on her chin directing her face upward to look at him.

DAKOTAH

I will come for you.

WEEKO

I will forever be with you whether  
it be here or there.

WEEKO gestures with her head and eyes toward the sky.

DAKOTAH holds her face between both hands and studies every feature. He moves his face close to hers and softly touches his lips to hers.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

The band members are gathered in the communal area. A hushed, somber emotion hovers over the group as they migrate to the adjacent open meadow.

EXT. FIGHT CIRCLE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

DAKOTAH enters center stage looking lean and healthy with spear in hand. MASKA, stocky and muscular, joins DAKOTAH. A tense silence fills the air. Both men grip their spears, two-handed and raise them high above their heads. MODERATOR enters. Rhythmic drumming begins playing.

MODERATOR

Fighting shall commence when the  
drums cease.

MODERATOR exits. DAKOTAH and MASKA remain stationary across from each other with spears held high above their heads. The drum tempo increases to a frenzied intensity.

EXT. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - PATIO - DAY

From the outer perimeter of the patio, WES observes HAWK and YOUNG STUDENT #1 and #2 gathered in a drum circle.

HAWK drums fervently, then pauses allowing them to fade in and emulate the chief. The drum riff ends falling into silence.

HAWK

That was fantastic. Soon you boys will be showing me up. See you same time next week.

The boys high five.

STUDENT #1

Chief, would you like us to take your drum inside?

HAWK

Thank you but I got it. Wes! Come join me.

WES joins HAWK on the patio, they shake hands. Both take a seat, silently taking in the view of the foothills.

WES

That was stupendous!

HAWK

We can always use new fans, thank you. How are things going on the site?

WES

Excellent. I should have your list next week.

HAWK

Hey, I thought you'd like to know your forest ranger buddy, Sikes got fired.

WES

The forest is now safer... the guy wanted to shoot me and the dog. I won't begin to tell you all the things I wanted to do to him.

HAWK

There will just be another one after him and another after that. I know all about ignorance, Wes... and rage. I've spent the better part of my lifetime learning about acceptance and restraint.

(MORE)

## HAWK (CONT'D)

Even when certain actions seem justified, we all get to choose how we ultimately conduct ourselves. You can either be a host to the Great Spirit or a hostage to your anger. All of man from the beginning of time has had this choice.

EXT. FIGHT CIRCLE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

DAKOTAH and MASKA stand with spears held high as the frenetic drumming stops abruptly. MASKA changes his grip on the spear to a single, right-handed grasp, while DAKOTAH maintains his two-handed hold.

MASKA begins emitting piercing, intrusive vocalizations; DAKOTAH exhales a controlled breath, maintaining a focused, mesmeric gaze.

MASKA charges forward, veering toward DAKOTAH'S left side. DAKOTAH anticipates the move and gracefully leaps further to MASKA'S left.

Frustrated, MASKA shrieks as he jumps in the air doing a full 360 degree turn while airborne. He lands firmly on his feet with knees bent. With full extension, he thrusts his spearhead toward DAKOTAH landing it and creating a huge gash on DAKOTAH'S thigh.

As blood begins pouring from DAKOTAH'S flesh we see a decided change in DAKOTAH'S eyes, appearing as if a new entity has entered his body.

Fixated on MASKA, DAKOTAH begins a pumping action, bending his elbows up and down with his two-fisted grasp. MASKA lunges forward again with spear held high, DAKOTAH dodges and moves swiftly out of range causing MASKA to become slightly off balance.

MASKA recovers and charges with spear raised. DAKOTAH twists his torso raising one elbow skyward creating a diagonal hold on his weapon. Breaking MASKA'S offense, DAKOTAH propels forward slamming the thick butt of his spear shaft into MASKA'S spear, causing him to lose his footing. Changing his trajectory, DAKOTAH drops low and uses the shaft to sweep MASKA'S legs out from under him.

MASKA falls to the ground with a weighted crash. Before he can regain his bearings, DAKOTAH plants his spearhead into MASKA'S chest.

MASKA's head flops to the side as an involuntarily convulsion takes over his body. Gasps and moans emanate from the crowd.

DAKOTAH stands motionless looking down upon MASKA. He removes the spear from his body and drives it into the earth.

DAKOTAH

I am truly sorry, my brother.

Blood continues to gush from DAKOTAH's leg. His adrenaline begins to wane, his face turns ghastly pale and he slumps to the ground.

ONA (50s) the medicine woman is kneeling and checking MASKA's vitals. She gently runs the palm of her hand from the top of his head over his forehead and closes his eye lids. She turns to see DAKOTAH's diminishing appearance and rushes to his side.

ONA

Dakotah do not sleep! Motega, take your brother to my dwelling.

MOTEGA grabs the band member sitting next to him to lift DAKOTAH.

ONA (CONT'D)

Move slowly and fully support his weight.

ONA darts away from the scene. As MOTEGA and helper lift DAKOTAH, his head flops to the side as he slips out of consciousness.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

They enter ONA's dwelling and place DAKOTAH on an elevated platform. ONA is transferring heated rocks from a small fire pit into a vessel of water.

ONA

Thank you. I will keep you informed of his condition.

MOTEGA and helper exit. ONA goes to work cleaning and packing the deep puncture with herbs and mixed dried poultice powders. She wraps it with greenery, adding bark compresses to stop the bleeding. VIHO enters ONA's space and nervously observes. She finishes wrapping the wound and touches DAKOTAH's forehead with her hand. She walks next to VIHO and whispers.

ONA (CONT'D)

He has lost much blood and I am concerned for the fire to set in. I will be vigilant, Viho.

VIHO

I am grateful for your gift of medicine. Please advise me of any change in condition, day or night. If you require my assistance I am at your disposal.

EXT. WEEKO'S HIDEOUT - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

The full moon is brightly illuminating all of the earth. WEEKO sits silently in her hideout envisioning every sound is DAKOTAH. Each disappointment, one after another, brings her to the conclusion that DAKOTAH was conquered. She begins softly crying which develops into weeping and growing to convulsive sobbing. She cries herself to sleep.

EXT. WEEKO'S HIDEOUT - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NEXT MORNING

Sunlight streaming through the shelter branches wakes her. The actuality of DAKOTAH's absence floods her senses. She is consumed by sorrow. She begins moving robotically, re-packing the few items which were dismantled. She ushers her supplies outside of the enclosure and re-covers the make-shift hide out with loose branches and debris. Although weighted down with provisions, she walks briskly through the woods on a now, familiar path.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

ONA is seated next to DAKOTAH dabbing water onto his lips allowing tiny drips to be absorbed onto his tongue and gums. Enter VIHO.

ONA

He had a difficult night. He is enduring much pain. In his delirium, much of what he says is unclear. He spoke Maska's name and called out to Weeko. I assume she has not yet been found?

VIHO

Weeko presumes Dakotah has joined the spirit world. She would not leave his side otherwise.

DAKOTAH begins moaning and struggling to speak. VIHO stands at his side.

VIHO (CONT'D)  
Dakotah my son, you must allow the  
healing, you must see yourself  
whole.

DAKOTAH  
Mo mo mo moteg.

VIHO pokes his head out of dwelling.

Enter MOTEGA who stands at his brother's side.

MOTEGA  
I am here for you my brother.

He takes his hand and squeezes it.

MOTEGA (CONT'D)  
I will give my own breath to keep  
you alive.

DAKOTAH  
Mo - Weeko... Children fishing.

DAKOTAH struggles to breath.

MOTEGA  
It is okay Dakotah. We will talk  
when you are well.

DAKOTAH  
No! Fishing, Dark Cloud.

MOTEGA  
I remember... fishing with Dark  
Cloud when we were children.

DAKOTAH  
Go. Weeko near.

DAKOTAH nods off. MOTEGA looks at VIHO and ONA.

MOTEGA  
I shall go in search of Weeko.  
Please tell my brother to wait for  
our return.

MOTEGA leans in and whispers into DAKOTAH'S ear.

MOTEGA (CONT'D)

I will find Weeko. You only need to  
heal yourself.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR WOODED AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

WEEKO has concealed herself within a grouping of brambles as she beds down for the night. She pulls DAKOTAH's hide up toward her face holding it over her nose and mouth as she deeply inhales any remaining scent of him, desperate to feel his presence. She lays back and closes her eyes. She hears VIHO's voice speaking to her.

VIHO (V.O.)

Visualize the outcome you desire  
and it shall be.

WEEKO's shoulders relax and her head tilts back as she falls into a restful sleep and dreams.

DREAM SEQUENCE:

On a sunny day, WEEKO and DAKOTAH stand at the water's edge of Weeko's Riverbank Beach, arms interlaced. Their mouths are moving in conversation and laughter but all sound is silenced by the roar of the rushing water.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR WOODED AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MORNING

Feeling a chill in the air, WEEKO remains under DAKOTAH's hide. She smells the hide and smiles a contented smile, as if DAKOTAH had been with her throughout the night.

WEEKO

I feel you with me.

Laying next to her are collected long bramble stems. She sits up and with a flexible piece of bark protecting her hands, one branch at a time, she shaves off all the thorns and leaves into a pile.

Suddenly, she raises her chin and smells the air. She hears voices and stays motionless. An unfamiliar and indiscernible language can be heard from outside of her cover. WEEKO carefully aligns herself to gain visual access from between the branches. WEEKO's POV: TWO WARRIORS carrying spears and speaking in an agitated manner. They continue past WEEKO's temporary shelter.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR WOODED AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

MOTEGA is trudging along through a thunder storm. He looks miserable as he wipes the rain from his face and eyes yet keeps pushing forward.

EXT. UNFAMILIAR WOODED AREA - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

Seated, WEEKO selects eight sticks from the green, purple and brown brambles, laying four vertically and four on top horizontally. She binds the cross section with a skilled under/over maneuver until she has created the base of her basket. Disrupting the silence, voices of the same TWO WARRIORS get louder as they become closer. She freezes. WEEKO's POV: TWO WARRIORS pointing and gesturing animatedly as they continue in the opposite direction. She resumes her weaving when she hears another unfamiliar sound of sloshing and a thud. Heart pounding, she peers through the cracks and sees a large male from behind rearranging his load. He continues in the same direction of the TWO WARRIORS. WEEKO watches intently. The stranger turns his head and WEEKO recognizes that it is MOTEGA.

WEEKO

(Whispers)

Mo

Startled, MOTEGA stops in his tracks and turns in WEEKO's direction. She sticks an arm out of her enclosure beckoning him toward her hideout. He approaches, removes the detached camouflaged brambles and enters setting his load down. WEEKO throws her arms around him and they silently embrace for a long moment.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

Two unfamiliar warriors just passed by. We must be extremely cautious.

MOTEGA

Thank you, Weeko. Maska is dead. Dakotah is alive but seriously wounded.

WEEKO cups her hands covering her mouth and nose gasping to prevent herself from shrieking.

MOTEGA (CONT'D)

Dakotah is in great pain and in and out of wakefulness. Ona is caring for him.

WEEKO

Let us go this moment.

EXT. MAIN CAMP SITE - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

MOTEGA and WEEKO enter the communal area greeted with hushed stares. WEEKO sees MASKA's mother, FALA (40s) sitting alone and approaches her.

WEEKO

Fala, I am sorry for your loss. I would never wish to cause you any pain or sadness.

FALA

I know Weeko. Maska was my son and I loved him. He had the venom in his being. There are no mistakes. I have no resentment. Go to Dakotah now, he needs you.

WEEKO bends over and embraces FALA. She leaves all her belongings behind carrying a single pouch. She walks briskly to ONA's dwelling and enters.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

ONA is re-wetting a cloth made of dense vegetation and placing it on DAKOTAH's forehead. WEEKO stands at DAKOTAH's side looking into his ashen and drawn face.

WEEKO

Thank you, Ona.

WEEKO touches DAKOTAH's wound covering.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

May I?

ONA nods in agreement. WEEKO carefully and methodically begins removing the layers of dressing. Once at the skin level, she gently touches the extremely inflamed area lifting the skin to inspect the interior of the wound. DAKOTAH moans softly. WEEKO removes from her pouch the collected succulent plant from the lichen oasis that she used on her own wound. She snaps a piece in two and applies a generous amount of the sap directly onto the open flesh. Closing the flap of skin, she saturates the entire area with the sap and begins re-wrapping the laceration with new bandages ONA had prepared.

ONA

I'll leave you two alone.

ONA exits.

WEEKO

I am with you in dream time; I am  
with you now; I will forever be by  
your side, Dakotah.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MORNING

ONA's movements awaken WEEKO, she sits up reorienting  
herself and stands next to ONA to observe DAKOTAH's  
condition.

ONA

The fire seems less today.

WEEKO smiles and gently touches his arm. DAKOTAH mutters  
something unintelligible.

WEEKO

Does he look less pale to you  
today, Ona?

ONA

I believe so. I am so happy you are  
here, Weeko.

Enter VIHO and MOTEGA together. VIHO and WEEKO silently  
embrace.

VIHO

What is his condition today?

ONA

I detect minimal improvement. Weeko  
put something on the wound which  
seems to be having a positive  
effect.

All gather around DAKOTAH to create a healing circle. VIHO  
lays out sacred ceremonial drum, rattle, and eagle feather.  
He hands WEEKO a rolled dried sage stick and she lights it  
from the interior fire pit and returns with it and a shell  
for catching embers.

VIHO stands at DAKOTAH's head, MOTEGA to his left, WEEKO at  
his feet, and ONA to his right.

VIHO

Dakotah... Weeko, Motega, Ona and I  
are positioned in the four  
directions. You are in the center,  
where balance and wholeness exists.

(MORE)

## VIHO (CONT'D)

As we purify, we extend our  
gratitude to the Great Spirit for  
guidance, strength and healing.

WEEKO introduces fragrant smoke into the circle and with the eagle feather, VIHO follows the smoke with a subtle back and forth motion. WEEKO passes the sage to her left, to ONA, and the procession continues until it circles back to WEEKO.

VIHO begins drumming a steady hypnotic beat. He sets the drum down, picks up the rattle and shakes it with a rhythmic, mesmerizing pattern. The ceremony concludes into silence.

## INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

DANI and WES are seated on the sofa sipping tea. WES holds his cup under his nose and inhales.

## WES

Peppermint is so fresh and good. I have to tell you, Dani, I love the ritual of cooking and eating together. It, more than anything, is what grounds me and makes me feel connected. I love being with you.

DANI sets her cup down on the coffee table and scoots closer to WES snuggling her head into his chest below his shoulder.

## DANI

I feel exactly the same way.

## INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS

DAKOTAH remains in a state of unconsciousness. He enters into a dream.

## DREAM MONTAGE:

\* Underground den with MONGOOSE, his mate and four small pups.

\* MONGOOSE emerges from the underground den and begins moving through tall grass.

\* He comes upon the exact same clearing from DAKOTAH's previous mongoose dream.



HAWK (CONT'D)

Let me know when you are in town next and we will schedule some business mixed with pleasure. Congratulations and talk soon.

WES (O.S.)

Thank you, Hawk.

We hear the phone go to dial tone. HAWK replaces the phone on the receiver and sits back down with a contemplative exhale.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

DANI is standing at the sink, enter WES, drenched from rain. DANI turns from the sink to face him.

DANI

Oh my gosh - you are all wet! Do you want to shower or at least change clothes?

WES

Actually, how would you feel about taking a nice hot bath together?

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - MASTER BATHROOM - LATER

DANI is in the bathtub, dense with bubbles. The room is lit by candlelight. WES enters the room carrying an ice bucket of champagne.

DANI

What is going on? Did I forget that it's my birthday or something?

WES pours champagne and sets the two glasses on the bath tub rim. He climbs into the sea of bubbles facing DANI. He reaches forward and hands her, her glass and takes his own, raising it for a toast.

WES

It's not your birthday, but I want to celebrate you... and my desire to be with you for all of time.

WES clinks his glass to hers and takes a sip. DANI remains motionless holding her glass in front of her.

WES (CONT'D)

We both have to drink in order to make the toast valid.

DANI

Right.

DANI re-clinks his glass and they both sip their champagne.

WES

The conventional marriage proposal scene is not appropriate for us. It is not the man's decision, but for both of us to decide. I know I want to be with you, Dani.

DANI

You are amazing, Wes. I love our relationship and I'm happy to know the depth of your feelings. They are mutual.

She rises out of the bubbles to reposition herself, straddling him and leans in to kiss him. DANI reaches for her glass, WES takes his and they clink and both drink.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

ONA is at DAKOTAH's side squeezing drips of water into his mouth. Enter WEEKO carrying her supplies.

ONA

I have mixed some nourishment into the water. We need to see improvement.

WEEKO

I brought these to help reawaken his senses.

WEEKO begins brushing a bouquet of wild grasses under DAKOTAH's nose. Next, she straightens his fingers exposing his flattened palms and sets a rock in the palm of each hand applying light pressure. Leaving the rocks in place, she slightly lifts the lid of a small enclosed vessel and holds it near DAKOTAH's ear.

SFX INSERT: Chirping cricking.

WEEKO carries the vessel to the entrance releasing the insect. She places several berries in her palm mashing them. With juice and pulp on her finger tip, she opens his mouth slightly and dabs it onto his tongue, gums and lips. She dips her finger in the remaining crushed berries and rubs it onto her own lips. Leaning over DAKOTAH, she touches her lips to his, making gentle contact. Slightly pulling away, she rests each of her thumbs delicately on each of DAKOTAH's eyelids.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

You will look into my eyes again.

ONA is intently observing WEEKO.

ONA

That was beautiful, Weeko. Now you must eat something.

WEEKO

I am not hungry, Ona.

ONA

Weeko, it is necessary for you to eat now!

WEEKO

Why Ona? What do you mean?

ONA

I just mean that when Dakotah awakens, you will need your strength. Talisa has made something special, let's go together to eat.

Exit ONA and WEEKO.

DAKOTAH lays motionless. **Hujin** by **Yoshida Brothers** plays. We see DAKOTAH's thumb move across the top of the smooth rock. Then, with both thumbs he slowly kneads the rocks like worry stones. His eyes slowly open. Taking in his surroundings, he barely lifts his head to reorient himself but immediately rests it back down. His tongue licks the dried berry juice from his lips as he swallows and moves facial muscles and his feet.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - LATER

WEEKO enters alone and quietly studies DAKOTAH. She begins tidying up the dwelling.

DAKOTAH

Weeko.

Startled, she sees his open eyes for the first time in many days and approaches his side. She removes the rock from his hand replacing it with her own hand. DAKOTAH gently squeezes her fingers.

WEEKO

Dakotah... seeing life in your eyes brings me the purest of joy.

She wipes a tear from her cheeks with their two interlaced hands.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

Are you really here with me?

DAKOTAH

I am here with you Weeko, where I shall stay.

WEEKO leans over DAKOTAH turning her head to the side and gently laying her cheek on his chest. Her hair drapes down and over his torso as he places his hand on her head, barely stroking her hair.

EXT. RIVERBANK BOULDER CHAIRS - 13,000 YEARS AGO - DAY

DAKOTAH and WEEKO are seated on one of the saddle chairs looking across the creek in silence.

INSERT: DAKOTAH's almost fully healed wound.

WEEKO

I am going to gather some of the last berries of the season. I want you to stay here and rest.

DAKOTAH is still somewhat frail and WEEKO helps him to raise his legs up onto the saddle rock chair into a prone position.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

The warmth of the sun will heal you.

WEEKO turns to walk away as DAKOTAH catches her wrist.

DAKOTAH

You heal me.

WEEKO turns back toward him, smiles and rubs her lips against his. WEEKO exits and DAKOTAH closes his eyes absorbing the heat of the rays. The sound of the creek is mesmerizing. Breaking the soothing tempo, we hear the sound of a wolf vocalize a healthy, vibrant howl. DAKOTAH bolts upright and begins scanning the hillside. Across the creek, SPEAR emerges from amid the dense trees. DAKOTAH stands approaching the water's edge acknowledging SPEAR's presence.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

Spear, my little brother I am happy to see you.

SPEAR emits a short yip and FEMALE WOLF joins him. Another yip and TWO WOLF PUPS appear by their parent's side. Their initial shyness is quickly replaced by wrestling and playful antics. DAKOTAH's eyes well with tears.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

I'm honored. Thank you.

SPEAR nudges the larger of the two pups interrupting their wrestling match. Both pups stand and look in DAKOTAH's direction. With SPEAR in the lead, they disappear into the thick forest.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

I am grateful for your loyalty.

DAKOTAH resumes a seated position on the rock.

WEEKO returns with a basket filled with berries.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)

Come sit by me, Weeko.

Spear was just here. His mate was with him. They came to show us their two pups.

WEEKO

Oh Dakotah. He came looking for you once before while you were still in dreamtime.

WEEKO stands in front of DAKOTAH and exposes her belly. She takes DAKOTAH's hands and places them on her stomach.

WEEKO (CONT'D)

Like Spear, you are also going to be a father. Ona knew before I did.

Leaving his hands in place, DAKOTAH leans forward pressing his lips to her abdomen.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - NIGHT

WEEKO is in labor, laying on a platform with back propped up, in between contractions. DAKOTAH is at her side and ONA is in the background preparing for the birthing of a child.

DAKOTAH

You are doing great. Ona says everything is normal and good. I wish I could take the pain for you, Weeko.

WEEKO smiles and squeezes DAKOTAH's hand. She releases his hand and digs both heels of her palms into the platform bracing herself for another contraction. WEEKO softly moans in pain. DAKOTAH moves to ONA's side.

DAKOTAH (CONT'D)  
(Quietly) Ona, this is normal,  
right? She is okay?

ONA  
Yes Dakotah, she is fine and this  
is perfectly normal. Can you go get  
me more water?

DAKOTAH  
Of course. You will remain with  
her?

ONA  
Yes, Dakotah, I will be here.

DAKOTAH exits.

ONA (CONT'D)  
What am I to do with all this  
water?

INSERT: Many vessels filled with water.

WEEKO  
Thank you, Ona.

ONA approaches WEEKO's bed side.

ONA  
I am honored. Knowing I could not  
have my own children, the sacred  
ones saw to it that I would have  
many, many children in my lifetime.  
When you were born, I knew you were  
going to be a special one.

ONA squeezes WEEKO's hand.

ONA (CONT'D)  
It is going to become more  
difficult now. You must put all  
your attention on breathing. Always  
be breathing in or breathing out -  
this will help you and the baby. As  
it becomes more intense, I want you  
to have a peaceful place ready in  
your mind's eye and you go there  
each time until the pain passes.

WEEKO strongly inhales, then exhales. She begins moaning loudly as DAKOTAH re-enters with another vessel of water. He glances at ONA for reassurance. ONA nods. Followed by a period of calm, WEEKO inhales strongly and every exhale is accompanied by a moan.

VISION SEQUENCE:

WEEKO is walking along the lichen passageway, her chosen peaceful place. Unexpectedly, DINOSAUR pokes his head right in front of WEEKO's face and his calm, gentle eyes lock with WEEKO's.

INT. ONA'S MEDICINE ROOM - 13,000 YEARS AGO - MORNING

A NEWBORN BABY is softly crying. WEEKO is holding her NEWBORN BABY swaddled in a fabric of soft plant material. WEEKO and DAKOTAH are looking at the tiny human with wonder in their eyes.

WEEKO

Look Dakotah, he has your same bird  
foot.

INSERT: NEWBORN BABY's tiny webbed foot and DAKOTAH's webbed foot.

INT. MONA'S HOUSE - STUDY - EVENING

MONA is seated in her comfortable upholstered chair, eyes closed. Her eyes open as she smiles and a happy tear rolls down her cheek. She extends both arms out in front of her, palms up.

Reveal WES and DANI.

They all three join hands.

FADE TO BLACK.

ROLL CREDITS.

**Switchblade** by **Link Wray** plays.