

THE LEGEND OF ATLANTIS

A VIRTUAL WORLD TRANSMEDIA TREATMENT

BY DEAN BERNAL

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FADE IN TO:

Shallow rippling waters that are surging over glistening white sand that seems to go on forever. We seem to FLOAT UP ON an ancient coin embedded in a shallow coral out cropping, and CLOSE IN TO the coin which depicts three dolphins swimming around the profile of a Greek god. The side of the face bears two distinct scars on the right cheek. The image ripples and DISSOLVES INTO

INT: FOUNDRY

The rippling water becomes molten bronze. We are witnessing the birth of a powerful life sized figure. In CLOSE UPS, we see a muscular arm, connected to a back laden with great power: sparks and red hot flames are molding a bold shape imbued with strength and a timeless virility. We move back to reveal that the man is interwoven with a large dolphin that echoes many of the same characteristics. The man/god is touching the dolphin's rostrum...we CLOSE TO the dolphin's eye, cooling in the rising steam, and the image shifts to the blue end of the spectrum as we DISSOLVE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: MEDITERRANEAN

We are in a world of blue, DRIFTING DOWN INTO an ancient undersea environment that holds the sunken pillars and stairs of ATLANTIS. Although it is a place of crumbling ruins, it is also clearly a place of great powers and knowledge.

A whale song sounds deeply. Slowly, a vast shadow darkens the shimmering light from the surface. Bold dark jaws encrusted with an eon of barnacles pass above us; the great shape continues to pass revealing an enormous belly, and finally massive flukes that churn the waters. THE GREAT WHALE has arrived, and it is accompanied by a large pod of dancing dolphins that are darting all about the whale. The dolphins seem to recognize Atlantis, and proceed to play amongst the pillars and stairs of the fallen city as if it were a playground before returning to the great whales' side.

The underwater entourage approaches a grave yard of whale bones adjacent to the ruin of Atlantis. It is a place of finality, of dark jutting shapes that cut up through the

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clear waters, a place seemingly more ancient than Atlantis itself. It is here that the great whale chooses to spiral down and finally settle amongst the bones in a cloud of silt. It is time for the great whale to pass into the next life.

THE WHALE'S EYE

The enormous, impossibly deep eye of the whale as it closes and the scene FADES TO the dark blue of endless night. We FADE IN TO

THE DOLPHINS

as they fearlessly stand guard around the pillars of the sunken city, moving slowly, respectfully, honoring the great whale's passage. Before our eyes, the whale, the dolphins and the city all begin to fade from existence as we DRIFT UP AND AWAY TO

A LARGE HAMMERHEAD SHARK

that fills the screen with its dark shape. A second killer passes then another. We see that there is a school of the graceful monsters, and that they are approaching Atlantis, sensing the imminent death of the whale. They circle and lurk in the waters outside Atlantis, waiting for the vigilant dolphins to depart. We FLUIDLY PULL BACK and Atlantis and the swirling sharks become distant and eventually disappear into the blue.

EXT: TURKS AND CAICOS, A CLIFF NEAR THE OLD LIGHTHOUSE

It is a scene of rugged island beauty, the rough surf pounding the shore of the island, a jagged cliff rising in the near distance, an old but well kept lighthouse keeping watch over the Atlantic waters. Further down the beach a newer structure: an aquarium and research facility. A dark brooding storm is building, hovering over the ocean. The darkness is laced with streaks of lightning. We CLOSE ON the lighthouse, and RISE TO

EXT: AMARYLLIS IN THE LIGHTHOUSE WINDOW

Her long blonde hair blows in the wind. We see raindrops begin to form on the window, but she does not withdraw to the room. She seems at peace as well as excited by the impending power of the wind and sea. Her face is one great strength

and classic beauty. In A SERIES OF DISSOLVES we see AMARYLLIS settle into the large round room that is her bedroom, and a gallery of sorts that houses several of her large sculptures. One of her favorites, "Caicos" that depicts three intertwined figures, a god like man, a dolphin and a goddess is near her bed, and she touches it before extinguishing her oil lamp and surrendering to a deep sleep. By now, the storm has arrived in full force, but as we CLOSE ON Amaryllis's face, we see peace and FADE TO early morning light refracting through a window glistening with rain drops.

EXT: LIGHTHOUSE WINDOW

It is a morning humming with clarity and great promise. Amaryllis appears at the window in an oversize nightshirt and throws open the window to take in the fresh morning. Clearly exhilarated, she quickly ducks back into the room, and we DISSOLVE TO the lighthouse door and steps as Amaryllis appears, arms laden with a sketch pad and collecting basket. Her MOTHER appears in the doorway with a large sweater and a smile on her face. Amaryllis pauses, takes the sweater, and delivers a big kiss to her mother before turning and moving quickly down to the beach.

EXT: A WIDE, WILD BEACH

The MUSIC is Enya's "Caribbean Blue" as a DREAMLIKE MONTAGE unfolds: It is evident the adult Amaryllis houses a child, an innocent soul that takes great joy from and finds great wonder in the world of the shore line. She stops often to study her discoveries, singing softly to herself as she walks. All sense of time has been left behind. Amaryllis approaches the rough rocky part of the shore, and crouches to examine the tiny life forms that inhabit the rocks. We CLOSE IN AS the singing suddenly stops. Amaryllis makes a startling discovery, and tries to stand quickly, stumbling backwards away from the rocks.

EXT CLOSE SHOT: THE ROCKS

and a bloody human arm that seems to be rising out of them.

EXT HIGH SHOT: THE BEACH AND AMARYLLIS

as she starts to run away from the disturbing discovery. And then she suddenly stops

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and turns slowly as a torrent, a river of images comes to her. FLASH MONTAGE: the raging ocean, her parents, men fighting the storm in a small craft, a powerful dolphin, the brooding storm and it's bolts of lightning. A look of concern and compassion has replaced the initial fear on Amaryllis's face as she slowly returns to the rocks. She slowly walks around the arm that is still bleeding from the shoulder, and can now see a submerged body hanging at the drop off.

EXT: FROM THE WATER, LOOKING UP

From beneath the water, it is revealed that below the waist, the male body gives way to the powerful tail and flukes of a large dolphin. We return to the surface, where Amaryllis is completely unaware of the MERMAN. The water is silted and a tangle of Saragassos grass, and it conceals the dolphin half as well as most of the human that Amaryllis is reaching to examine.

EXT: IN THE WATER

Below the Merman in clearer waters, we can see two groups circling and ready to fight if necessary. A pod of dolphins is guarding the Merman, and a school of sharks has clearly developed an interest in the dangling body.

SFX: UNDERWATER ON TWO DOLPHINS, AS THEY COMMUNICATE

We see the dolphins intently facing and gesturing toward each other, accompanied by bursts of bubbles. We hear the high pitched sounds as they echolocate back and forth, and their thoughts are displayed as written burst subtitles:

"We cannot stay much longer!" The sharks are approaching in greater numbers!" He has transformed to a Merman as the Legend of Atlantis foretold. He must have been one of our gods, transformed into a dolphin, and now that he is returning, he must die as a human!"

The dolphins continue to watch from below as we DRIFT UP PAST them to the surface where Amaryllis is sitting on the rocks.

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EXT: THE ROCKS: CLOSE ON AMARYLLIS

As she touches the arm. More of the submerged man has been washed up on the rock. We can see his face and a broad, bronzed back. Gazing at the upturned face of the Merman, Amaryllis has lost all fear, and reaches to touch the cheek of the handsome face, where there are two scars. On impulse, she gently leans down and lightly touches her lips to his and in so doing, breathes life into his lungs. As she looks into the face, the Merman slowly opens impossibly deep blue eyes and gazes upon the beauty of Amaryllis.

EXT: THE WATER BELOW THE MERMAN

Where we can see one of the growing number of sharks now approaching at high speed, as the dolphins tighten ranks and send out a high pitched warning.

EXT: THE ROCKS ABOVE: ON AMARYLLIS

As the strong arm of the Merman suddenly reaches out and grasps her hand, pulling her into the water with him. We DISSOLVE TO

SFX: UNDERWATER

At first we see the sculpture "Caicos", seen earlier in the bedroom of Amaryllis. It is drifting, sinking slowly in the water, and then it begins to transform, metal being replaced by living flesh, until it becomes three living, breathing beings. The large powerful dolphin part of the trio now darts forward, pulling both Amaryllis and the Merman into the deep, where they escape the raging battle above: dolphins and sharks are fully engaged in a dance of swirling death. The Merman completes his transformation into a magnificent dolphin as they descend, and continues to take the now unconscious Amaryllis with him to the depths.

INT: LIGHTHOUSE, THE BEDROOM OF AMARYLLIS

She is awakened by the sound of her window closing. She finds that she is soaking wet, as are the clothes surrounding her bed. She wraps wet sheets around her body and quickly goes to the window, throwing it open. On the sea below, she can see shark fins circling.

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EXT: ON THE BEACH

As Amaryllis runs down to the beach, running to the rocks. They are barren, with no sign of a body or the earlier events. We RISE UP AND OUT, DISSOLVING TO

SFX: UNDERWATER

A large pod of dolphins surrounds DEANION (The Merman dolphin) in a circular formation. One of the pod is addressing Deanion, and we see and hear thoughts as described before, in subtitles.

“Deanion, you were half man and half dolphin as the Atlantis Legend has told us. We must take you to the Great Whale without delay. You must complete your mission now that the Legend is unfolding! Quickly, we must go now!”

In a flurry, the entire pod rapidly rises off the sea floor and exits as one.

INT: THE LIGHTHOUSE

Amaryllis attempts to explain the fantastic events that she has seen and experienced to her mother.

AMARYLLIS

“...and then mother, as he awakened, he grabbed my arm and pulled me into the sea. When he got into the water, I saw that he was half dolphin, and his shoulder healed instantly, leaving nothing but a scar!”

MOTHER

“Say nothing of this to your father, Amaryllis...he will be furious!”

AMARYLLIS

“But mother, this was clearly much more than a dream...”

MOTHER

“I don’t want to hear any more, Amaryllis. Please, no more!”

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Amaryllis’s mother shakes her head in fear, and begins to cry. She clearly believes the incredible story just as her daughter has told it.

We DISSOLVE TO later that evening, same room. Amaryllis and her mother are finishing preparations for a meal when her FATHER enters the room. He is a tall rugged man, one who has made the sea his life, but his face also displays a thoughtful and compassionate side. It is clear that he shares an especially close bond with his daughter as she hurries to greet him warmly. Despite her mother's look of sorrow, Amaryllis looks into her father's eyes and begins to speak:

AMARYLLIS

"Father, on the beach today...(she hesitates to gauge her mother's expression)I thought that I saw a very unusual man on the beach today, perhaps someone that was lost at sea...(she knows this to be untrue, but she is fishing for information and a reaction).

FATHER

(Thoughtfully) Perhaps, Amaryllis...we have been searching everywhere for survivors. Many men were lost at sea during the storm last night. Those that have survived are delirious and telling wild stories.

EXT: ON THE BEACH, NEXT MORNING

CLOSE ON Amaryllis as she intently works in her sketch pad. She is drawing the Deanion and Echo bronze; we watch as it reaches completion. Amaryllis pauses and gazes out to the rocks where she encountered the Merman before adding one final touch: the twin scars on the right cheek. We DISSOLVE TO

INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

In a MONTAGE of creation, we see Amaryllis working from her inner vision to bring the sketch to life in bronze. It is the largest piece that she has ever undertaken, yet works tirelessly, gently refusing all offers of help. It is clearly a very personal journey.

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SFX UNDERWATER: ATLANTIS AND THE WHALE GRAVEYARD

A vast blue tapestry shimmers before us. At first slowly, then with accelerating speed, we GLIDE across the endless floor of the ocean. In the distance, a solemn scene is

growing larger as we glide forward: the incredibly ancient whale graveyard with the tumbled but still majestic pillars of Atlantis as a backdrop. One of the last Great Whales of Wisdom awaits, seeming to hover over the graveyard like an aquatic dirigible. Into this serenity bursts a fast moving pod of dolphins lead by Deanion; they gradually circle in around the whale and slow down after one last rush of speed.

The Great Whale begins to speak, and we HEAR his words in a deep, ancient sounding voice that speaks slowly and thoughtfully. When the dolphins respond, we hear their echolocations and read their communication as subtitles.

SFX UNDERWATER: THE GREAT WHALE AND THE DOLPHINS

THE GREAT WHALE

“At last....I have been expecting you, hoping that you would arrive, as have those that came before me and held the Knowledge for the “Chosen One”. Your journey has been a long one, but I have provided unseen protection and guidance to insure your arrival. Know this: the true journey is just beginning, and Evil will shadow you throughout your quest for purity and the renewal of Atlantis.”

DEANION

“is it true then, am I the “Chosen One”?”

DOLPHINS, (As a chorus, excited)

“He has been half man and half dolphin! We have all seen this....the Legend must be true, as it is beginning to unfold at last!”

GREAT WHALE

“You have met death, Deanion?”

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DEANION

“Yes, but I was returned to life again by the breath of a mortal.”

DOLPHINS (As a group)

This is true, Great Whale...we saw this when we defended Deanion from the processed sharks. His life was gone, but the touch from the lips of a mortal revived his spirit to life again!”

GREAT WHALE

The Legend has indeed begun to unfold...time is now of great importance in the journey that you must undertake. The mortal that revived you is more than mortal, and in grave danger! You must first enter the sacred scriptures of Atlantis and find the lost soul of the mortal before it is too late. Beware: there will be a time that requires you to become the mortal that you were at the time of Atlantis...you must always let your dolphin spirit guide you. Go to the scriptures, Deanion and find the knowledge that you need to begin your journey. Remember, time is short! JoJo will be your guide to the scriptures.”

The Great Whale rises from the floor of the ocean, circling with great power, creating a current that pushes aside a massive stone. An opening with wide stone stairs is revealed, and Deanion joins JoJo, already rapidly descending into the sacred tomb. The way is lit by a greenish blue glow that emanates from orbs lining the wall. They disappear into the depths.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

It is late at night, and Amaryllis continues her work on the emerging sculpture. Her father enters with a look of admiration and concern. She has insisted on moving the large plasters herself. Amaryllis pauses and turns to her father, wiping her face.

AMARYLLIS

“It is almost done, father...”

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Amaryllis resumes her work, and cuts two scars in the right cheek of the sculpture, causing her father to become uncomfortable. When she scars the left shoulder, he becomes visibly anxious, and his eyes widen farther.

FATHER

“Amaryllis, those scars! Who told you of those scars?”

AMARYLLIS

"No one, father. I have seen them."

FATHER

"Amaryllis, I want to know where you have seen these scars before!"

He steps forward and grasps Amaryllis by the shoulders and fixes her with a look of concern bordering on fear.

"Tell me now where you have seen these scars, and what they mean to you!"

AMARYLLIS

"Please forgive me father...you know that I do not keep secrets from you. Mother was so worried when I told her my story, she thought it best to not bother you with it; even I have a hard time believing it. The morning after the storm, I was on the beach, and found a man washed ashore on the rocks. At first, he seemed dead, but when I placed a hand on his chest, I felt a beat of his heart. I tried to revive his breathing but before I could, he awakened and pulled me into the sea! Father, believe me, he was half dolphin, and we were joined by other dolphins to fight off many sharks. He never resurfaced, father. The scars that I saw were on this amazing man dolphin."

FATHER (Letting out a deep breath of air)

Amaryllis, please sit down. Do you remember when I told you that the men who survived the storm were delirious? They all shared a remarkable story...

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SFX: AT SEA IN A STORM, A DREAM MONTAGE

At first, the father's face is imposed over the storm as he begins to tell Amaryllis the strange tale. His face FADES AWAY as he tells the story VOICE OVER. We see the events that he describes in a frightening dream like MONTAGE.

FATHER (V.O.)

“The storm struck unexpectedly; at first, it seemed to be a great distance, but then it was upon the unprepared fishermen. The few that made it to life boats were the lucky ones, but faced another challenge: they were quickly pushed far out to sea and lost all sight of land in the blinding winds and rain. After the storm subsided, there was just one lifeboat remaining, and it was approached by a large dolphin that seemed intent on guiding the boat! They followed the dolphin, and soon, they had found a deserted island. One man allowed his hunger to rule his actions, and shot at the dolphin, thinking that his mates would understand. The bullet gashed the left shoulder of the dolphin and stopped him dead in the water.

The fishermen were horrified by this stupid, selfish act, and prepared for their doom. They tried to pull the dolphin aboard, but as they did, the dolphin became half human! They could see that the Merman was bleeding from the left shoulder, but had enough strength remaining to dive back into the water. Fearful, and feeling they had been cursed, the fishermen threw the gun man over board, where he was immediately surrounded by sharks. It was an atonement of sorts. They all swore to witnessing the incredible transformation, and continue to speak of the Merman as a god or messenger from the sea.”

DISSOLVE TO

INT: AMARYLLIS’S STUDIO

As Amaryllis’s father stands and walks to the sculpture, touching the fresh scars.

FATHER (Thoughtfully)

“It is curious that the scars you have added are exactly where the fishermen described
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FATHER (Continued)

them in their story...”

AMARYLLIS (Quietly)

“Father, do you believe my story?”

FATHER

“Yes, Amaryllis, but do not spread your story, for there is a feeling on the island that those who were ship wrecked are cursed with delusions and insanity. Be silent for now...there will be a better time for truth.”

AMARYLLIS

“But father, what of the sculptures?”

FATHER

“By all means continue...they are the best work that you have ever done, daughter. But keep them here for now, for they tell a story some are not ready for...”

There is great peace between Amaryllis and her father, and happiness mixed with relief in Amaryllis’s face as we FADE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: DEEP IN THE TOMB OF SCROLLS, ATLANTIS

Suspended in drifting currents, Deanion and JoJo read the massive stone scrolls in the Atlantis tomb. We CLOSE IN ON the scrolls and their cryptic visual symbols: they are very primitive. They begin to shimmer like water, and then it is as if a channel has been changed, and we can now see the ancient story that is being told VOICE OVER unfold.

THE SCROLLS (V.O.)

“There are five power pearls that have been stolen by the First Evil that caused the fall of Atlantis. If the five pearls of power can be recovered and placed at the five points of the “Asteria” star fish, then the Mother Mermaid will be given her peace, and once

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THE SCROLLS (Continued)

again, the spirits of Atlantis will flourish. The true Atlantis spirits have been encased in bronze by the gods at the time of Atlantis’s fall. It was a way to protect them for all time from the Evil. As your Legend begins to unfold, Deanion, you must know that Evil only needs to acquire a single pearl to succeed; you need all five! The Prince of Atlantis awaits the arrival of his Princess, the She Ray.”

The image shimmers again, and we return to the tomb as Deanion and JoJo swim swiftly up the long twisting halls to the ocean floor where the Great Whale is waiting. They approach the giant.

DEANION (Sound/ Subtitles)

“How will I recognize the true Atlantis spirits, Great Whale?”

GREAT WHALE (V.O.)

“Look into their eyes through the pearl, Deanion. It will reveal the Evil that lurks within. Once you have conquered an Evil, the Atlantis spirit will emerge and allow you to travel the great distances needed to acquire the next pearl. Be pure at heart, Deanion!”

The Great Whale creates a rushing whirl pool of water with his powerful fluke, a living vortex of water that swallows Deanion and JoJo, sending them surging forward to an unknown ocean.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

As Amaryllis puts the final touches on the Deanion and JoJo bronze. It glistens with a life of its own. Through the window, we can see one of the oldest fishermen who survived the storm staring at the statue in fear. He clearly recognizes the scars, and begins to run toward the village.

EXT: HIGH ANGLE BEACH ROAD

As the old fisherman runs toward the small village. We FADE TO

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SFX EXT: THE SOUTH PACIFIC/ MEDUSAE: THE FIRST PEARL

From an AERIAL PERSPECTIVE, we see an endless ocean dotted with countless volcanic atolls. Still very high altitude, but DESCENDING, we see that one of the land masses reflects light like glass. In time, we see that it is a living mass of clear flesh: it is “Man o War”, the Giant Jelly Fish that has captured the Atlantis spirit Medusae. To one side of the pulsing monster, a whirl pool forms and becomes increasingly intense. We continue to DESCEND until we are almost in the raging circle of water when we see Deanion and JoJo appear, whisked toward the center of the vortex with great force.

SFX UNDERWATER: BENEATH THE "MAN O WAR"

From a great depth looking up toward the surface, we see an incredible sight: the deadly dangling tendrils of the enormous jelly fish seem to drift down from the distant surface forever, like a curtain of death. Beside this wall, we see the ocean vortex spiraling down that contains Deanion and JoJo. They swim free and shoot out, JoJo racing toward the wall, beginning a circling maneuver that draws the attention of the creature. Deanion rockets toward the surface, and we FOLLOW AT HIGH SPEED as

SFX EXT: THE "MAN O WAR", ON THE SURFACE

Deanion blasts out of the water as if shot from a cannon. He is dwarfed by the huge mass of the jelly fish, but shoots up high over it's surface, finally arching downward. Deanion plunges into the jelly, vanishing from sight.

SFX: INSIDE THE JELLY FISH

Using all of his strength, Deanion surges forward, swimming through the thick, pulsing jelly. It is like a world of mirrors, light from the surface is refracted and sent in all directions, but Deanion pushes deeper, toward the now visible glowing red heart. When he does make contact with this center, a remarkable transformation begins. The red glow becomes golden, and begins to radiate out from the center.

SFX: ON THE SURFACE: HIGH ANGLE ON THE JELLY FISH

As we see the surface of the jelly fish begin to glow golden and ripple, the jelly forms
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into a face, that of Medusae. It seems to smile briefly as Deanion shoots out of the mass and arcs into the water.

SFX UNDERWATER: THE RUINS OF ATLANTIS

Where the bronzes that house the spirits rests. In a moment of magic, we see the statue of Medusae glow with golden light, and suddenly, the bronze is like new. In the distance, an excited dolphin darts away.

SFX EXT: THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Deanion and JoJo are together, beside the Man O War when something glints and catches the water like a diamond. We CLOSE IN as Deanion and JoJo swim toward the object, and we see that it is the first pearl, a wonder of glistening light. Deanion catches it in his mouth, and he surfaces with JoJo.

On the surface, a Giant Whale is approaching, moving toward Deanion and JoJo. He opens his vast jaws to reveal a whirl pool that draws them toward the whale. In a moment, they are swallowed, swirling down into yet another dimensional vortex.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

As Amaryllis passionately works to complete the sculpture of Deanion and JoJo. She notices a CLOAKED FISHERMAN outside of her window, and pauses to go see what he is doing. She see that he has planted vines that have already died; the cloaked figure shrinks away when Amaryllis comes to the window, and as he raises his arm,, the cloak slides back, revealing an arm that bears numerous open wounds. He turns and runs, stumbling in the sand. We DISSOLVE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: THE RED SEA/ LYS: THE SECOND PEARL

We are DESCENDING DOWN the face of an underwater cliff in the clear waters of the Red Sea. The wall is covered with a jungle of coral populated by fish of every size and shape imaginable. Beside the wall, a water vortex forms, spinning down from the surface far above. Deanion and JoJo spiral out of the vortex, diving deeper along the

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living wall...deeper into the blue depths until they see a Giant Clam that dominates an enormous out cropping shelf. The Clam opens and closes it's gigantic shell slowly as Deanion and JoJo approach, and we see a brief glow of red from the depths of the clam's interior. They know that they have found the Atlantis spirit "Lys", held captive by the shelled monster.

Deanion and JoJo split off to either side of the shell, and begin to play a deadly game with the Giant Clam: they take turns teasing the clam open, and then entering the dark maw, each time managing to dive out in a burst of dizzying speed. They begin to move so fast, we can barely see them move: one moment they are there, the next, they are

gone. The Clam slams his massive shells together, growing angry. Each time, Deanion and JoJo dive deeper into the Clam, until at last, Deanion emerges in a spinning dive, and we CLOSE and SLOW to see that he has the second pearl in his mouth! As he slows and faces the Clam with JoJo, we see a golden light begin to transform the Clam. In the depths of the interior, the face of Lys briefly appears, bearing a look of peace.

SFX UNDERWATER: THE RUINS OF ATLANTIS

A second bronze is lit with golden light, shaking off centuries of aquatic decay. In the distance, we can see the Great Whale hovering, watching this transformation.

SFX UNDERWATER: THE RED SEA

On the Giant Clam as it opens wide, and a vortex of water begins to surge out of the Clam, drawing Deanion and JoJo into it's accelerating force. They wink out of sight. and we DISSOLVE TO:

INTERIOR: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

Amaryllis is polishing the bronze as her father enters.

FATHER (Concerned)

"The villagers have hard about the bronze, and are afraid of it Amaryllis. They think
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FATHER (Continued)

that it is the Merman, and fear his vengeance."

AMARYLLIS

"But father, the bronze IS the Merman, MY Merman, the one I saw. They have nothing to fear from him..."

EXT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

On the Evil fisherman as he lurks outside the window of Amaryllis's studio. For the first time, we CLOSE ON his face, seeing that he is the fisherman who shot the dolphin, and that his cloaked face is a mass of open wounds from shark bites. His dead looking eyes glow red and we DISSOLVE TO A MONTAGE:

SFX MONTAGE: THE FISHERMAN'S NIGHTMARE

We see the fisherman sight and take the fateful shot at the dolphin, then the fight that occurs as the fisherman is pushed backwards overboard. From the water, the dark, angry shapes of sharks appear, striking the fisherman over and over. At first, the water is reddened by his blood, and then the sharks rapidly exit as the water turns a different kind of red. The fisherman drifts downward into the red water as we hear

EVIL (V.O.)

"I will return your miserable life, fisherman. But first, you must agree to accept a mission for me. There is a woman on the surface called Amaryllis. Others know her as The She Ray. You must take her life, and here is how you will do it..."

We return to the close up on the fisherman's eyes as watches Amaryllis through the window, waiting. His eyes glow red and we DISSOLVE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: THE BAHAMAS BLUE HOLES, ELEUTHERA/ AQUATICA: THE THIRD PEARL

At first, all that we see is an unending field of the deepest, purest blue imaginable. We are very deep, but still, light from the surface penetrates the blue space. In the midst

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of the seamless blue, a twisting vortex erupts, sending Deanion and JoJo cascading even deeper into the water. We CLOSE ON them and follow, DESCENDING into an eerie almost darkness, following their silvery trail of bubbles. In the distance, rough shapes loom that appear to be lit with a blue glow: we see that there are numerous cave openings that are illuminated from within. Deanion and JoJo dive into the largest opening, vanishing from sight.

SFX UNDERWATER: INSIDE THE BLUE HOLES OF ELEUTHERA

We are on a rocketing roller coaster of a ride, following Deanion and JoJo as they descend ever deeper, past countless tombs that house captive spirits of Atlantis. This is an ancient, haunted place. The deeper they go, the more they encounter the soulless blind cave dwellers, controlled by the true power of the cave, Aquatica. They race past the dwellers who cling to the walls in confusion. Finally, the shaft opens into a huge chamber lined in crushed shells and bone. Aquatica, a massive shelled octopus,

occupies one corner of the chamber. The beast's eyes glow red as Deanion and JoJo enter.

SFX UNDERWATER: AQUATICA'S CHAMBER

JoJo begins a series of high speed aquabatics, diving among the weaving arms of the octopus. It is enough to distract Aquatica until Deanion can get into position. When he is close enough and focused on the spot between the monster's red eyes, he sends out a continuous burst of sound that is so powerful, it ripples the water. The sonic blast lasts until Aquatica shakes, and a pearl is released into the water. Deanion shoots in and grasps the pearl. Aquatica is beginning to glow gold as the walls of the chamber begin to crumble and shake.

SFX UNDERWATER: ESCAPING THE BLUE HOLES

It is a race against certain death as Deanion and JoJo fight their way through the cave tunnels that are now collapsing all around them. Finally, they are free of the cave mouth, which generates a powerful spiral of surging water. Once again, Deanion and JoJo are drawn into a watery doorway.

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INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

Amaryllis is hard at work on a new sculpture, the She Ray. As she works, her tired eyes blink then close, and we DISSOLVE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: AMARYLLIS'S DREAM

Amaryllis has become the She Ray, a magnificent aquatic goddess with a halo of golden hair. She is approaching the Merman when the sea suddenly seems to darken: sharks are everywhere! FLASH CUT TO

EXT: THE LIGHTHOUSE

We see that the Evil fisherman lurking outside the window of the studio. Suddenly, Amaryllis senses his presence and jolts awake, looking toward the window. The cloak of the fisherman falls away as he steps back, and Amaryllis sees him for what he is: he is covered with open wounds from the sharks, but somehow, still living. Before she can take further action, a shaft of late afternoon light passes through the studio and catches

the completed bronze of Deanion and JoJo. The golden light it creates strikes the fisherman in the face, and he drops to the ground holding his burnt face.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S BEDROOM

She is resting, clearly exhausted, and moving about as she dreams a vision. We DISSOLVE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: A DREAMSCAPE VERSION OF ATLANTIS

We see the She Ray drift up to an Atlantis that is still ruined, but revived and alive in a way that we haven't seen before. The She Ray is drawn by a current that takes her to a temple like area where the restored pillars of the gods Medusae, Lys and Aquatica are standing. She can see their liquid spirits manifest before the pillars, and then they begin to speak to her in a haunting whispering chorus

ATLANTIS GODS (V.O.)

"Lisssten and watch, Amaryllis: you must act quickly and build these pillars to protect yourself, and the future of Atlantis!"

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As the Atlantis gods speak, a nearly transparent three dimensional image materializes in the water between Amaryllis and the gods. She sees the She Ray statue, now complete, surrounded by four small pillars, reflections of the ones that guard Atlantis. The water ripples, then Amaryllis/She Ray is alone, drifting in the empty ruin.

EXT. NIGHT: THE LIGHTHOUSE

As the beam swings across the water, we DROP DOWN to the shadows near the window facing Amaryllis's studio. We see the Evil fisherman working furtively, planting dark vines all along the base of the window. As he stands and slinks off into the night, we stay on the vines and see that they are growing at an alarming rate up the side of the building.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S BEDROOM

FROM ABOVE THE BED we see that Amaryllis is on her back, arms out, like she has been flying. WE CLOSE to her face as her eyes open with a jolt. We see that the bed

and her clothes are soaking wet, and that there is even a strand of seaweed in the bed with her. She stands and begins to peel off the wet clothes as we DISSOLVE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: PACIFIC OCEAN, CATALINA ISLANDS/ NAUTILA: THE FOURTH PEARL

This time, we see the vortex from Deanion and JoJo's p.o.v. : rushing surging water filled with rainbow like light until it grows faster and darker, and then we are suddenly plunged head first into a disorienting aquatic environment: the deep kelp forest off the coast of the Catalina Islands. The great dark dancing kelp stands race toward us, entangling and slowing us.

SFX UNDERWATER: DEANION AND JOJO IN THE GIANT KELP FOREST

We see that they are momentarily entangled, but swim free of the clinging kelp. Above them, dark shapes are circling, but as we CLOSE IN we see that it is a colony of sea otters. Deanion and JoJo surface among them, get a breath and then dive deeply, seeking the Dark Forest of Kelp.

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SFX UNDERWATER: DIVING INTO THE DARK FOREST OF KELP

As Deanion and JoJo dive down into the increasingly dense kelp forest, we ASSUME THEIR P.O.V. and see entangling, living darkness reaching toward us as we approach the heart of the Dark Forest of Kelp. Both Deanion and JoJo simultaneously emit an echolocation that we see and HEAR. We see that the echolocation pierces the darkness like a search beam. Again and again, the pair echolocates, illuminating the hypnotic horrors of the living darkness: countless entangled life forms drifting in the clutches of the kelp. Finally, they reach the heart of the forest.

SFX UNDERWATER: THE HEART OF THE DARK FOREST

In flashes of illumination we see tendrils of kelp reach out from every direction, and we see Deanion and JoJo manage to dive and dance through the maze of kelp. Suddenly, the echolocation changes, becomes more of call/communication. We begin to see glimpse of the captured Atlantis god, Nautila. As the god grows in strength and becomes more tangible, he combines his power with Deanion. The two begin to glow with a golden light that appears to drip from them to the base of the kelp bed. A golden lava begins to bubble up from the sea floor, circling the heart of the Evil Kelp. We

CLOSE on the lava and see a golden pearl emerge from the earth. In a blink, Deanion swoops down and collects the fourth pearl, releasing Nautila.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

In the stillness of twilight, we see that Amaryllis has completed her task, and is slumped asleep at a table in one corner of the studio. The She Ray and Merman statues stand surrounded by four miniature pillars, each topped by a bronze representing the now free Atlantis Gods. We hear a rustling, and see the dark vine planted by the Evil fisherman the night before climb in the window and work its way toward the statues. Amaryllis sleeps.

INT: STUDIO, ON THE VINE

As it reaches the pillar of Lys an begins to wrap around it.

SFX UNDERWATER: THE PILLARS OF ATLANTIS

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At first, all four pillars exhibit a golden glow, then the pillar of Lys begins to dim and darken as we now see the god Lys manifest as a transparent figure in the water. She is struggling for breath. Behind her, the three remaining pillars grow brighter and brighter until a watery beam of golden light streaks off toward the surface.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO

Now she is awake, and watches in horror as the vine continues to grow, reaching for a second pillar. Suddenly, the bronzes of the three remaining pillars begin to glow until they become molten, running down the pillars and seeking out the vine which begins to smoke and burn.

SFX UNDERWATER: ON DEANION NEAR THE KELP BED

There is a strange golden light in the water as the lava continues to burn the kelp below. Deanion looks toward the surface and sees a liquid vision appear before him in the water. It is his mermaid medallion, and the face comes alive, speaking to Deanion in a voice of haunting beauty.

MERMAID (V.O.)

“Deanion, you have come far! Now you must become human and sacrifice that human life. Then I can bring you eternity in the embrace of the sea, your true home. Be fearless, Deanion”

The face of the mermaid shows many emotions: sadness and hope, and finally, love as she vanishes into the water. Deanion and JoJo rush toward the surface, entering a vortex where we can see the shadow of a large boat on the other end.

EXT: AERIAL OF THE CAICOS AQUARIUM

From this high angle, we can see the domed Caicos Aquarium and marine research facility. It sits on a curved cut of shoreline that could be called a small bay. There is even a small dock, with the research/collection boat surrounded by several smaller crafts. Perhaps half a mile down the shore we can see the lighthouse. We ASCEND DOWN to CLOSE ON THE FRONT OF THE AQUARIUM. DISSOLVE TO

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INT: THE CAICOS AQUARIUM

We see a MONTAGE that portrays the daily activities that occur in the aquarium: after seeing the tanks and displays, we go behind the scenes to the research facility and see groups of scientists at work in rooms filled with equipment and tanks. In another room, there is a bronze of the Atlantis god Asteria on a table, surrounded by lights. Finally, we enter a connected domed room that houses a concrete tank perhaps twenty feet in diameter and ten feet deep. Two dolphins are circling tightly in the tank, and we see that they are Deanion and JoJo. A group of men in jumpsuits enters the room, approaching the tank with a stretcher.

EXT: ON THE LIGHTHOUSE, EARLY MORNING

We CLOSE ON the window to Amaryllis’s studio.

INT: AMARYLLIS’S STUDIO

Where she has changed clothing and cleaned up the damage from the vine. She has also restored the pillars and arranged them to protect the statues. In the distance, she can hear her father’s excited voice calling her name.

FATHER (Out of breath, appearing at the door)

“Amaryllis! Close your windows now and get to someplace safe! There is a terrible storm brewing and it looks like it will hit us soon!”

AMARYLLIS

“But father, it was a clear beautiful morning minutes ago...”

Seemingly in response, there is a tremendous thunder clap that shakes the studio.

FATHER

“Be quick, it is here!”

SFX EXT: THE STORM OF EVIL

In the sky, we see strange clouds swirling. They are completely black, and have the
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sinister shape of a shark. With a life of their own, they swarm like a school of blood mad sharks in the sky over the lighthouse. On the ground, the Evil fisherman raises his arms to the sky and laughs. Suddenly, one then another burst of blue lightning rips out of the clouds, striking the lighthouse again and again. Fire has started in several places, causing the Evil fisherman to laugh long and hard.

SFX INT: THE DOLPHIN TANK ROOM

The biologists have managed to capture JoJo for medical tests. At first he is compliant and docile, but soon, he begins to struggle and twist with all of his considerable strength, and catches the collectors off guard. Far across the room, Deanion circles faster and faster until he shoots up out of the tank, performing a slow flip in midair. From the time that he began the flip and it is completed, he transforms from dolphin to human. He lands in a crouch on two feet, sees that the scientists are still occupied with JoJo, and runs through a side door that leads to a locker room. He quickly dons a jump suit, and runs out into the lobby bare foot and still soaking wet.

EXT: THE FRONT OF THE CAICOS AQUARIUM, ON DEANION

As he instinctively turns toward the light house, and sees the sinister black clouds hovering over the building, and the smoke rising into the dark sky. Deanion begins to

run toward the lighthouse, awkwardly at first, and then faster and faster as he becomes accustomed to his land legs. We FOLLOW his progress from a HIGH ANGLE.

EXT: THE BURNING LIGHTHOUSE

Amaryllis's father is trying to break into a door that is blocked by fallen debris. The flames are rising, and we can hear Amaryllis inside. Deanion runs up, hardly out of breath, and quickly assesses the situation. Before Amaryllis's father can say anything, Deanion has scaled the wall and flipped himself inside the studio window.

INT: AMARYLLIS'S STUDIO, ON THE WINDOW

As Deanion drops in, hits the floor with a roll and looks through the smoke filled room to Amaryllis, nearly overcome by the heat and smoke. He quickly lifts her and ducks through a blocked doorway. For a moment, Amaryllis glances up and sees the twin

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scars on the face of her rescuer. She reaches up and touches his face, then passes out. Deanion plunges down a set of steps carrying Amaryllis.

EXT: THE LIGHTHOUSE DOORWAY

Amaryllis's father jumps back as the blocked doorway suddenly seems to explode from the inside out. Deanion steps out holding Amaryllis. Silently, he brings her to her father, gently placing her in his waiting arms.

DEANION

"She will be all right. Watch over her while I complete my mission. When the fire dies, go stay within the circle of pillars. You will be safe there. I must find a sculpture called Asteria...can you tell me where it rests?"

FATHER (Still in shock and disbelief)

"Are you who I think you are?"

DEANION

"I am many things, but that is not important, where is Asteria?"

FATHER

“It was purchased by the aquarium, and for some reason, they are studying it: they believe it to be some kind of artifact.”

DEANION

“Thank you. Protect Amaryllis from Evil until I return.”

Deanion turns and begins running toward the aquarium. This time, he runs like the wind, and quickly vanishes into the distance.

EXT: CAICOS AQUARIUM ON DEANION AS HE APPROACHES

Deanion runs up, then enters the main doors to the facility, still full of patrons.

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INT: THE AQUARIUM LOBBY, ON DEANION

As he stops and emits a high pitched sound that is part dolphin, part human. When we hear the sound, the walls of the building become somewhat transparent, enough to see shapes in other rooms. Twice more Deanion emits the sound, then sees what he is seeking: the Asteria statue. He bolts to the right and down a corridor to the anthropology lab, and bursts in just as

INT: THE ANTHROPOLOGY LAB

The Evil fisherman exits the rear door of the lab with the Asteria statue under his arm. A scientist is slumped over at the desk. Deanion vaults the desk and is on the just closed door in a heart beat.

INT: DOLPHIN TANK ROOM

Where JoJo is still captive. Deanion enters wary, searching for the fisherman, who is by the tank, raising the Asteria high over his head.

EXT: THE FRONT OF THE CAICOS AQUARIUM

As Amaryllis and her father pull up in a Land Rover and come to a stop in a cloud of dust. They jump out and run into the aquarium.

INT: DOLPHIN TANK ROOM

Amaryllis and her father enter the room from the side, and see that Deanion and the fisherman are locked in a fight near the tank. At their feet, Asteria lies broken. We can see the fisherman for who he is: his cloak has fallen back, revealing a face laced with still bleeding cuts and bites. They break apart for a moment, and the fisherman produces a long blade lined with shark's teeth from his cloak. In one sweep, he has cut Deanion's throat, but Deanion still rushes forward, grasping the fisherman by the cloak and pushing with enough momentum to carry both of them into the dolphin tank.

INT: ON THE DOLPHIN TANK

As the water begins to swirl and spin with a power and a depth that goes beyond the dimensions of the tank. Deanion, JoJo and the fisherman are pulled deeper as the

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water turns a vivid red. Amaryllis and her father have approached the tank and watch in shock as the vortex churns even deeper. Finally, the water begins to settle, and they see that just Deanion remains. They manage to drag his lifeless body over the edge of the tank. Amaryllis rushes to kiss him, but this time, it does not revive the Merman. Tears roll down her face as she holds him and notices his hand. It is clenched shut. She gently touches the hand, and it easily opens, revealing the fifth pearl. CLOSE ON the pearl, and FADE TO BLACK.

EXT: THE BEACH NEAR THE ROCKS ON AMARYLLIS

As she walks up, moving slowly. Across the bottom of the screen, we see: "THREE DAYS LATER". She sits on the edge of the water, where she first encountered the Merman, and looks out into the sea. From time to time, she opens her hand to look at the pearl. Deanion died for it, and she is not sure what to do with it. The solitude of the moment is shattered as an arm suddenly lunges out of the sea, grasping Amaryllis and pulling her into the water.

SFX UNDERWATER: ON DEANION AND AMARYLLIS

Deanion is half man, half dolphin already. The mermaid medallion given to him by the Great Whale hangs from his neck. Amaryllis begins to change, to evolve as soon as she enters the water: she becomes the She Ray that she envisioned with her bronze. When JoJo joins them, it is like the Caicos statue has come to liquid life. All around them, a great battle is being waged: a large school of sharks is facing off an equally

large pod of dolphins. Dark blood is beginning to swirl in the turbulent water. Deanion, She Ray and JoJo gather into a tight wedge and dive deeply, leaving the conflict above them. Below, there is a rushing tunnel of water, and they enter it.

SFX UNDERWATER: ATLANTIS

Just outside of Atlantis, a water tunnel opens, and Deanion, She Ray and JoJo shoot out near the temple with its pillars. Among the pillars, dominating the entire platform, is Asteria, a massive starfish with five appendages. Deanion approaches Asteria and place the four pearls that he has recovered, one at each appendage. He turns to She Ray for the fifth pearl.

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DEANION (We SEE his thoughts telepathically across the bottom of the screen)
“She Ray, the fifth pearl...we need it now! The legend is almost completed.”

She Ray appears reluctant, then swims to Deanion with the pearl. In the background, Asteria has risen up, towering over the pillars. As Deanion approaches Asteria with the final pearl, we see that it glints with a flash of red, reflecting Asteria's eyes. Before Deanion can warn the others, Asteria has acted with startling speed: it has captured all three of them with its tenacious arms, squeezing the life from them. It is Deanion that it draws toward its mouth. Deanion manages to grasp the mermaid medallion, and with one final surge of strength, plunges the medallion deep into the belly of Asteria. The giant starfish is effected immediately, releasing all three captives as well as the god Asteria, seen as a liquid apparition.

She Ray comes to Deanion's side, taking his hand into hers. We CLOSE ON DEANION'S RIGHT HAND and see that the image of the mermaid has been burned into his palm for all time.

SHE RAY (Telepathic thought we SEE)

“You are much more than my savior. You bear the mark of the mermaid, and are truly the Prince of Atlantis! Let us enter Atlantis at last.”

FADE TO DARK BLUE, THEN SLOW DISSOLVE TO

SFX UNDERWATER: THE PILLARS OF ATLANTIS

Deanion, She Ray and JoJo enter the sacred temple area of Atlantis escorted by a seemingly unending stream of dolphins and other marine life. In the background, there are several whales hovering. In the middle of the pillars, the god Asteria is waiting, arms extended. Deanion reveals his palm to Asteria, and solemnly places the five pearls. At first, it is as if the world has stopped: for several heartbeats, there is an unnatural silence and stillness. And then the final vortex begins to form.

SFX UNDERWATER/SPACE: THE FINAL VORTEX

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A ever expanding circular hurricane of water forms outside of Atlantis, drawing all living things into it. Nothing can avoid the pull of this vortex. The ocean floor near Atlantis is swept clean. When the vortex cycles down, WE DISSOLVE TO

EXT SFX: THE ATLANTIS AQUA POD IN SPACE

Traveling through space at the speed of light, we witness a miracle: all the life just swept from the ocean contained in a circular living pod of water that ripples and flows as it rockets through space, but maintains the fragile life forms within it's watery walls.

EXT SFX: ENTERING NEW ATLANTIS

From space, it is a blue world, merely dotted with land here and there. It is a world of water. We DRIFT DOWN to the surface, an endless ocean lit by two golden orange suns. In a moment, the aqua pod appears, shooting across the sky. WE FOLLOW the pod on an exhilarating ride across the surface of the ocean until it slows, and just dissolves, adding a great volume of water to the ocean.

SFX UNDERWATER: NEW ATLANTIS

From beneath the water, we see the ocean fill with the released life forms from earth, including Deanion, She Ray and JoJo swimming amongst the ark of life that has been brought to this new world. In the distance, great exotic buildings can be seen that form a new kind of ecosystem: an ecocity. They swim towards their new life.

SFX UNDERWATER: INSIDE NEW ATLANTIS

Across the bottom of the screen: "A YEAR LATER, IN THE CITY OF NEW ATLANTIS"

We see a MONTAGE of life inside this city of aquatic wonders shared by myriad life forms in peace, and see the different sectors of the city until we come to one particularly grand structure that is clearly an underwater building, but also appears to be an enormous marine creature, ready to take flight. We enter what could be described as an underwater zen garden, and see She Ray at work on new sculptures, "Homodelphinus" and "Florian". The garden is occupied by numerous other sculptures. Across the bottom of the screen, a SCROLL: "Amaryllis, as the Princess She Ray continues to envision sculptures that will create the next Legend of Atlantis."

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We ASCEND from the sculpture garden to a balcony overlooking the garden, and enter a vast chamber. At one end of the chamber, Deanion sits on a Nautilus throne. His subjects come and go, and we see JoJo dart in and then swim off to the ocean outside. In a SCROLL across the bottom of the screen: "Deanion takes the throne of Atlantis, fulfilling a legend, assuming a hidden destiny as Prince of New Atlantis."

FADE TO DARK BLUE, THEN SLOW DISSOLVE TO

EXT: HIGH ANGLE ON THE REMAINS OF THE BURNED LIGHTHOUSE

We see that the four pillars remain standing, in stark contrast to the charred wreckage that surrounds them. DISSOLVE TO

EXT: UNDERWATER: ON THE PILLARS OF OLD ATLANTIS, A MIRROR IMAGE

We DRIFT DOWN to the pillars, and CLOSE ON the dolphin coin depicting three dolphins circling the profile of Deanion, bearing the twin scars. Across the bottom of the screen, a SCROLL: "The Legends of Atlantis are only beginning to unfold...they will continue to unfold for countless life times."

RUN CREDITS OVER THE COIN. THEN CUT TO

SFX UNDERWATER: ON NEW ATLANTIS

We see Deanion (as a dolphin) and JoJo race out of the city, chasing each other to the surface. We ride their speed as they shoot through golden waters, bursting onto the surface. Both Deanion and JoJo are completely air born as we FREEZE and

FADE TO DARK BLUE.