

EXT. ANDES - JUNGLE PERIMETER - DAY

Ximeno leads Alister through the perimeter wall of a dense jungle that stretches well into the horizon.

XIMENO

(native Quechuan)

When you open your Heart to  
the Light, your Soul listens  
to the Universe, allows it  
to take hold of your Essence.  
You do not let it control you,  
but allow it to guide you.

(beat)

You are always in control --  
a student being guided...by  
his teacher. His teacher, the  
Universe. Like the river we  
passed, it heeds the shape of  
the land, runs its course.  
Everything, then, is at peace.  
In harmony. Life flows.

(beat)

It is the same with The Dance  
I teach you.

ALISTER

I just want to learn the moves.  
The kicks and the punches.

With lightning speed, Ximeno picks a fruit from one of the passing jungle vines, throws it at Alister -- striking him dead-center on the forehead. Alister shrieks in pain, stumbles backward.

XIMENO

You have a long way to go before  
you can just learn the moves.

ALISTER

That hurt, Ximeno!

Ximeno moves on, his back to Alister. Alister quietly

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picks a similar fruit from a vine, aims, and launches it at the back of Ximeno's head... Just as it's about to strike, Ximeno shifts his body, spins with lightning speed and catches the fruit in his hand.

XIMENO

Without knowledge of the Spirit,  
Ali, there is nothing for you  
to learn.

Ximeno wipes the fruit on his shirt, takes a bite from it, then, seeing the look of total defeat on Alister's face, laughs wholeheartedly. A beat later, Alister laughs, too. They hug and continue on into the jungle.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ANDES - RUINS - DAY

Ximeno leads Alister through a small assembly of stone walls, toppled columns and ragged structures that protrude haphazardly from the vine-covered landscape.

Alister jumps from stone to stone, ducking behind this one, appearing atop that one. A little kid in a playground.

ALISTER

Do you think they'll like the  
colored pencils?

Ximeno doesn't answer. His eyes and ears are suddenly transfixed on the treelines above them...

ALISTER

What is it? What's going on?

A FLASH OF LIGHT ricochets across the landscape. A BLAST OF THUNDER claps across the hills. An ominous beat as the thunder dissipates and Ximeno scans the skies. Alister watches the old man warily.

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ALISTER

Big storm coming? We'd better  
get back to the compound.

A SONIC BOOM shatters the calm. Ximeno's old eyes  
meticulously scan the jungle, the landscape.

From the darkened clouds above, a group of

MULTI-COLORED PULSATING SPHERES

suddenly descend majestically onto the valley below.  
They stop to hover noiseless, about a hundred feet  
before Alister and Ximeno. They flash violently, vir-  
tually mimicking a series of random lightning flashes.

Alister and Ximeno shroud their eyes, step backward.

The spheres move closer, expand, and suddenly --

A FLASH OF RANDOM IMAGES

Blurred in a frenzy of speed, incoherent...

--Alister running frantically through the dense jungle.

--Flashes of lightning across the heavens.

--Commandoes in black gear firing weapons.

--Ximeno slammed backward, lifeless, by an unseen foe.

--A Classic Grey Alien aloof to the fierce imagery.

--Alister's Mother and Father screaming, crying.

--A gun aimed at Alister, the trigger suddenly pulled.

--Alister held against his will, screams in terror.

MATCH CUT:

INT. ALISTER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alister bolts upright in bed, sweating, his teeth grit-  
ted, his eyes fixed on the memories of the past, the  
nightmare... His hands clenched to his chest.

Alister is no longer a boy of twelve, but a man in his  
early forties...