

A FILM TREATMENT BY PAUL BIANCHI

BELOW DECK

UNIDENTIFIED CREW ON BOARD

MY MOTIVATION



THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING MY TREATMENT FOR THIS SHORT MOVIE. I BELIEVE THIS FILM HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE AN EXCITING SHOWCASE OF THE XR STAGE AND IS THE PERFECT PREMISE FOR THE WHOLE TEAM TO EXERCE AND EXPERIMENT WITH THEIR ROLE AND SKILLS WITH SUCH NEW YET DEMANDING TECHNOLOGY.

AS A DIRECTOR, I HAVE A SET VISION AND IDEAS FOR THIS PROJECT, ALWAYS OPEN TO PROPOSITIONS BUT KNOW WHEN TO STICK WITH THE VISION. MANAGEMENT-WISE I VALUE CLEAR COMMUNICATION, RESPECT AND FULL EFFORT FROM THE CAST AND CREW. FILMAKING-WISE I VALUE PRECISE, ARTISTICAL AND QUALITY FILMMAKING.

I STRIVE AT HAVING AN OVERVIEW OF EVERYTHING AND KEEPING UP WITH THE OVERALL STORY. I AM QUALITY AND DETAIL-DRIVEN AND PAY GOOD ATTENTION TO ACTING, DELIVERY, MOVEMENT AND PURPOSE. HAVING WORKED ON A VARIETY OF PROJECTS AND HAVING HAD AN INTERNATIONAL UPBRINGING, I HAVE LEARNED HOW TO COMMUNICATE ACCORDINGLY TO MY FELLOW TEAMMATES AND ACTORS, APPROPRIATELY SHARING POINTERS AND ACTING NOTES TOWARDS A BELIEVABLE RESULT.

FOR THIS MOVIE, SINCE THE STORY IS SHORT AND MOSTLY DIALOGUE, I WISH TO INCORPORATE ACTION AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THOUGHT THROUGH BLOCKING, MOVEMENT, DELIVERY, CAHRACTER AND FRAMING. EMOTION AND ATMOSPHERE WILL BE A PRIORITY TO GET THROUGH THE AUDIENCE TO KEEP THEIR ATTENTION AND MAKE SUCH A SHORT FILM CAPTIVATING ENOUGH.

EXPERIENCE:

WON 4 AWARDS OUT OF 7 AT THE BUAS SHORT MOVIE FESTIVAL AS A DIRECTOR AND

SCREENTWRITTER INCLUDING "BEST MOVIE" ',"BEST DIRECTOR"AND "BEST SCREENWRITTER".

WORKED AS A DIRECTOR FOR PRJ3, TV DEPARTMENT AND PRO2. PRODUCER FOR PR5.

CHOSEN BY AMAZON AND RTL AT THE CREATIVE CUP FOR POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF A GAME SHOW





SCRIPT

INTRO: WE ESTABLISH OUR SCENE LOOKING AT ON AN OLD WOODEN PIRATE SHIP IN THE MIDDLE OF A RAINSTORM, LIGHTNING STRIKES RUMBLING THROUGHOUT THE DECK, FAINT ORANGE LIGHTS LIT UP ALL OVER THE BOAT. SUDDENLY SOUNDS OF PLATES CRASHING AND CHAIRS FALLING OVER BREAK THE STORMY SILENCE , WE HEAR THE BEGINNING OF AN ARGUMENT AS WE CUT TO THE GLOOMY INTERIOR UNDER THE DECK ON ONE OF THE LIGHTNING STRIKES. A PIRATE DRESSED FANCILY (JANE), IS HOLDING ANOTHER SCRUFFIER PIRATE (SAMUEL) BY THE COLLAR, HAVING BEEN CHASED AROUND HE IS BEING ACCUSED OF A GRAVE AFFAIR. THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES AS THE FANCIER PIRATE IS SHAKING THE SCRUFFIER ONE FOR ANSWERS.

SAMUEL IS UNIMPRESSED, HE DOESN'T LISTEN TO FEMALE LEADERS. HE ROLLS HIS EYES AND PULLS HIMSELF OUT OF JANE'S GRASP AS HE KEEPS THE CONVERSATION GOING. AS SOON AS JANE ACCUSES SAMUEL, HE UNSHEATHES HIS SWORD AND POINTS IT AT JANE AS HE DEFENDS HIMSELF. JANE DOES THE SAME TOWARDS SAMUEL AS SHE DEFENDS HERSELF AS WELL. SCRIPT ADDITION: AFTER ACCUSING EACH OTHER THEY SIMULTANEOUSLY LOOK AT THE SURVIVING PARROT IN A CAGE AT THE END OF THE ROOM AS IF TO SAY THEY ARE CONSIDERING THE PARROT TO BE THE TRAITOR. THEY THEN SHAKE THEIR HEADS AS THEY REALIZE HOW ABSURD THIS ALL SEEMS.

SILENCE FALLS AS THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW TO PROCEED NOR WHAT TO THINK. AS SAMUEL SITS DOWN AT A TABLE, HE THOUGHTFULLY CONSIDERS THE SITUATION BY HYPOTHETICALLY ASSUMING JANE IS INNOCENT. JANE APPROACHES THE TABLE AS SHE REPLIES, SHE LEANS ON THE TABLE WITH HER TWO HANDS FACING SAMUEL, STILL NOT TRUSTING HIM. SAMUELS FINAL LINE IS INTERRUPTED BY THE LOUD THUD OF HEAVY FOOTSTEPS ON THE UPPER DECK.SAMUEL SLOWLY GETS UP HIS CHAIR EYEING THE UPPER DECK, HIS HAND ON HIS SHEATHED SWORD HANDLE .AS JANE FOLLOWS THE SOUND OF THE STEPS WITH HER HEAD SHE SLOWLY PULLS OUT HER PISTOL AND AS THE FOOTSTEPS MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE LOWER DECK, SHE COCKS IT. THE DOOR IS HEARD BEING SWUNG OPEN AS WE ONLY LOOK AT OUR PIRATES FACES CHANGE TO DISBELIEF, A GIANT LOW PARROT SQUAK IS HEARD RUMBLING THROUGH THE SHIP AS WE CUT TO BLACK. (THIS ENDING ONLY IF AGREED WITH EVERYONE TO INCLUDE THE PARROT JOKE IN THE MIDDLE.)

CHARACTERS



JANE:

AN EXPERIENCED AND TOUGH PIRATE, JANE GREW UP HER WHOLE LIFE AROUND THE LOW SCUM OF THE SEA. SHE HAS HAD TO STAND UP FOR HERSELF AT EVERY MOMENT AMONG A CREW OF MALE ONLY PIRATES, WHICH HAS MADE HER EXTREMELY FIERCE AND BRAVE. SHE QUICKLY WENT UP THE RANKS OF THE SHIP FOR HER CUNNING WITS AND COMMON SENSE MALE PIRATES LACKED. ALTHOUGH NOT QUITE A CAPTAIN YET, HER CLOTHES AND ATTITUDE HINT AT HER BEING OF A HIGHER POSITION THAN OTHERS. SHE WEARS FANCIER CLOTHES AND WEARS EXPENSIVE JEWELRY FROM HER RAIDS. A PIRATE HAT ONLY HIGHER CREW WEARS HOLDS HER LONG HAIR IN PLACE. NEXT TO HER SWORD SHE IS ONE OF THE FEW OF A HIGH ENOUGH RANK TO HAVE HER OWN PISTOL.



SAMUEL:

A RATHER NEWER CREW MEMBER, SAMUEL IS PART OF THE LOWER RANKS OF THE SHIP. HE'S SLY BUT CARELESS WITH A VULGAR DEMEANOR DUE TO HIS LACK OF EXPERIENCE AND YOUNGER AGE.

HAVING VERY LITTLE RESPECT TOWARDS FEMALE PIRATES, SAMUEL DOES NOT APPRECIATE HAVING JANE HIGHER IN THE CREW CHAIN AND IS RELUCTANT WHEN IT COMES TO ANYTHING IN RELATION TO HER. HIS LOWER RANK CAN BE RECOGNIZED BY MORE SIMPLE AND LESS CLOTHING, BASIC JEWELRY AND NO FANCY SILKS FROM GLOBAL TRADES OR RAIDS. BECAUSE OF HIS LOWER STATUS HE DOES NOT OWN A HAT NOR A PISTOL, HIS ONLY MEANS OF DEFENCE IS A RUSTY OLD SWORD

SET & PROPS

JANE AND SAMUEL FIND THEMSELVES ON A CREAKY AND USED PIRATE SHIP ANCHORED IN THE MIDDLE OF A RAINSTORM. THE SHIP HAS SEEN A LOT OF WEAR AND TEAR FROM THE ROUGH ELEMENTS OF THE SEA AND THE BATTLES IT HAS SURVIVED.

BELOW DECK WE FIND OUR PROTAGONISTS TAKING SHELTER IN THE CAPTAINS QUARTER TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THEIR SITUATION. AN OVERCLUTTERED AND GLOOMY ROOM, GENTLY LIT BY COUNTLESS CANDLES, SOME LANTERNS AND A CHANDELIER. THE ROOM IS OVERCLUTTERED WITH SCRAP, EQUIPMENT AND TREASURE. SKULLS, ROPES AND MAPS ARE SCATTERED EVERYWHERE MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR OUR PROTAGONISTS NO TO KNOCK ANYTHING OVER.

IN THE MIDDLE SITS A LARGE WOODEN TABLE WITH A LARGE MAP LAYED ON IT. CUTTLERY, COINS AND MUGS COVER THE MAP. AROUND THE TABLE ARE THREE WOODEN CHAIRS, ONE CLEARLY FANCIER, MEANT FOR THE CAPTAIN. AT THE END OF THE ROOM IS A BIRD CAGE FOR THE CAPTAINS PARROT. A TREASURE CHEST IS SEEN WIDE OPEN FILLED WITH KNICK KNACKS AND SHINY GOLD ON ONE SIDE OF THE ROOM. COBWEBS AND DUST ARE TO BE FOUND IN UNTOUCHED CORNERS.

SAMUEL CARRIES A RUSTY SWORD AS JANE CARRIES A FANCIER SWORD AND A PISTOL.

TO GIVE A SENSE OF DEPTH: ROPES HANGING FROM ABOVE, LANTERN HANGING FROM ROPE. BACKGROUND IS QUITE BUSY AND LAYED AS TO GIVE PERCEPTION. FOREGROUND (TABLE, SKULLS, STACKED BOOKS ETC) SHOULD ALSO BE USED FOR CERTAIN SHOTS, CAN ALSO BE USED FOR FRAMING SHOTS.



MUSIC & SOUND



TO SELL THE ENVIRONMENT PROJECTED BY THE XR SCREEN, AUDIO WILL BE CRUCIAL. AMBIENT SOUND NEEDS TO BE WELL RESEARCHED AND EDITED. MUSIC NEEDS TO FIT PERFECTLY FOR THE ATMOSPHERE AND TIMING OF THE CHARACTERS ACTIONS, MOVEMENTS AND TIMING.

SOUND: RAIN, THUNDER, CREAKING WOOD, WAVES DEPENDING IF THEY ARE SIMULATED, PARROT SQUAKS, SWORDS UNSHEATHING, PISTOL COCKS

MUSIC: PIRATE MUSIC SIMILAR TO PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN BACKGROUND MUSIC. SPECIFIC STRONGER MOMENTS WHEN MOMENTS OF ACTION : SWORD CONFRONTATION, PARROT JOKE, FOOTSTEPS ABOVE AND REVEAL.

TONE

BECAUSE OF THE SHORTER NATURE OF THE SCRIPT, I THINK IT IS SMART TO HAVE A TONE THAT IS ALREADY FAMILIAR SUCH AS THE PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN SERIES. THOSE MOVIES MANAGE TO TELL SERIOUS STORIES AMONG APPROPRIATE AMOUNTS OF ACTION AND COMEDY.

I WOULD LIKE TO REPRESENT SUCH A TONE OF SERIOUS ACTION IN CHARACTERS MOVEMENT, A LIGHTEARTEDNESS IN CONVERSATION AND BRIEF COMICAL MOMENTS THAT BREAK THIS SERIOUS AND GRIM WORLD OF PIRATES

BY KEEPING THIS ASPECT OF FAMILIARITY AND PORTRAYING A DARK, GRITTY YET HUMOROUS WORLD, THE TWIST AT THE END OF THE PARROT COMES AS A SURPRISE CLASHING WITH THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION THEY FIND THEMSELVES IN. (HOPEFULLY RESULTING IN A CHUCKLE)

The logo for "Pirates of the Caribbean" is displayed in a stylized, gothic font. The word "PIRATES" is in a smaller, more delicate script, while "CARIBBEAN" is in a larger, bolder font. The word "of the" is written in a small, cursive script between the two main words. The logo is set against a dark, textured background.