THE PIRATE HUNTERS

Written by

Alan Nafzger

PH: 214-875-1305
alan.nafzger@gmail.com
FADE IN

EXT/INT. U.S. NAVY DESTROYER – GULF OF ADEN – DAY

A destroyer is simply cruising along.

BEGIN TITLES

The radio chirps an indistinguishable message, only the RADIO OPERATOR, accustomed to the static, the accents and poor reception, can decipher.

RADIO
(partially indistinguishable)
We are being boarded. Attempted boarding.

RADIO OPERATOR
Captain. Pirates. French cargo ship. They are attempting to board her now. 12.8759° N, 46.2380° E

CAPTAIN
Battle stations.

Respond, “we’re on the way.”

Come to 290°. Flank.

A SAILOR on the bridge pushes a button. Alarm bells thought the ship ring.

A sailor in the bridge pushes the throttle down to flank speed. The ship lurches forward. The ship makes a sharp turn and tips over.

The sailors must grab a hold of something to maintain their balance. Cups and plates slide on tables. The cook busy over a grill almost burns his face.

All the sailors spring into action station. Sailors fall out of their bunks. They dress rapidly and equip themselves.

The destroy is hauling ass through the water.
The CAPTAIN makes a gesture to warm up the helicopter. Pilots immediately man the chopper and the blades begin to slowly turn.

The radio operator is seen talking into the microphone.

RADIO OPERATOR
This is the USS Farragut, a United States Destroyer. We are 10 mins out and coming to assist.

An OFFICER looks at the radar and then steps out on the observation platform. The officer spots and points to a ship on the distant horizon.

CAPTAIN
Come to 280°.

SEAL TEAM THREE, 14 men and 2 junior officers, are geared up and ready for action.

END TITLES
The SEAL TEAM are introduced to the audience.

The SEAL junior officers are EDWARDO RUIZ and RAY JACKSON. They are standing with a clipboard and Ruiz and Jackson call roll and the SEALs answer.

RUIZ
Sanberg
Houchens
Grum
Wommack
Helo with me!

JACKSON
Guerrero
Richardt
Gaudio
Vicsik
Levy
Garcia
Hernandez
Raz
Jefferson
Gaudio
Swick. Don’t drag your ass or you will be left out!

The tarp is taken off a SWCC speedboat and it is attached to a hoist.

The SEALs move from their equipment room to a staging area just off the deck. The helicopter is warming up. The speed boat is ready.

The destroyer slows.

EXT. FRENCH CARGO SHIP – GULF OF ADEN – DAY

Two French SECURITY WORKERS are crouched behind the ship’s rail. PIRATES are on the other side, about ten feet below, about to board from their skiff. This is their last chance to stop them.

The pirates are all armed with AK47s and RPGs.

All the French have to fight them with are emergency flares and a lame ass water cannon. The pirates fire a RPG at the men and water hose and an explosion wrecks that part of the ship. Afterwards, the steaming hot water is still spraying wildly with the hose jumping about.

The French security workers are firing flares through a short scaffolding pole.

FRENCHIE #2
Did it work?

FRENCHIE #1
This thing is about as reliable as an Iraqi SCUD.

FRENCHIE #2
You’ve not hit one yet?

Where the RPG hit is beginning to smoke.

FRENCHIE #1
Gimmie a flare, gimmie a flare!
FRENCHIE #2
Last one mate.

French #2 has sweat dripped from his forehead on the flare. The Frenchie #2 puts the flare in the back of the tube.

FRENCHIE #1
If we can take out just one pirate then perhaps we could get hold of his gun and start doing some serious damage.

FRENCHIE #2
Then this is our last chance. Now or never.

FRENCHIE #1
Okay ready?

Frenchie #2 takes hold of the pull-cord.

FRENCHIE #2
Ready.

Frenchie #1 pops up from behind the railing. He aims the tube down at the pirate climbing up a ladder.

FRENCHIE #1
Now!

Frenchie #2 pulls the cord on the flair.

At the noise, the pirate turns, raising his AK and doesn’t even flinch as the white-hot flare zips by, missing his head by a foot. He waves his gun at them and shouts something in Somali.

The Frenchies duck back behind the rail.

FRENCHIE #1
That’s it.

FRENCHIE #2
Game over.
The Frenchies run down to the hose and wrestle it under control. They point the hose at the pirates, who are on board now.

A teenage pirates, wearing a blue Ocean Pacific t-shirt and khaki shorts, lifts an RPG to his shoulder, aiming at the fire hose.

We see a flaming grenade flying straight for the Frenchies.

But just before impact …

FRENCH RADIO OPERATOR
They are on board. Repeat the pirates are on board.

EXT/INT. U.S. NAVY DESTROYER – GULF OF ADEN – DAY

The destroyer has arrived and has pulled alongside the French cargo ship only a minute too late.

The helicopter is airborne, with four or five seals on it. It is nearly at the ship. They are actually pulling up and about to repel to the deck.

A small boat with ten or more SEALS is also approaching. They are getting ready to board. The pirate skiff has pulls to the far side of the ship.

The American captain hears the radio message that the pirates are on board. He looks out through his binoculars and sees pirates running up the stairs to the bridge. We see’s prisoners being moved on the deck and pirates putting out the fire.

CAPTAIN
(mumbling)
Abort.

FIRST OFFICER
I’m sorry sir? Abort?

CAPTAIN
(with authority)
Abort.

The FIRST OFFICER nods to the radio operator.
RADIO OPERATOR
Abort. I say again. Abort.

INT. NAVY SPEED BOAT - DAY

The speedboat loaded with SEALS pulls up. They idle not 100 yards off the French ship. Their faces show the disappointment.

GUERRERO
It happened again.

RICHARDT
What the fuck did I sign up for?

JACKSON
Once onboard there isn’t anything we can do.

GAUDIO
Who says that?

VICSIK
I think it’s the president.

LEVY
International law, maybe.

JACKSON
Just do what you are told and don’t worry about it. And sit down.

GUERRERO
One of the Frenchies jumped over board. He’s on the other side of the ship.

The throttle is engaged, but instead of returning to the ship. The speedboat slowly circles the cargo ship. The SEALs give the pirates the death stare. Only one pirate (the one in the skiff) even notices them and he smiles and waves, knowing there is nothing the navy can do to them.

Guerrero imitates “the Fonz” and give the pirate the thumbs up. The pirate stops smiling.
The other pirates are dealing with the fire and the even more hostages.

JACKSON
There wasn’t anyone in the water.

GUERRERO
Could have sworn.

INT. NAVY HELICOPTER - DAY

The SEALS are out of their seats and hooked up to repel. DANNY GUERRERO is lined up to be the first out.

PILOT
Abort.

The pilot pulls away from the French ship.

SANBERG
What?

HOUCHENS
You must be kidding.

SANBERG
(to the pilot)
We are here; we are ready to board.

PILOT
Abort!

Sanberg wants to fight and is giving the pilot the death stare. Sanberg doesn’t sit as the helo veers off. He only grabs a strap to steady himself.

RUIZ
Sit down.

Sanberg refuses.

RUIZ
Don’t worry. One of these days.
SANBERG

Fine. But right now? I’m burned up.

(beat)
Again!

The reluctant Sanberg finally sits back his seat. He buckles himself in.

It isn’t long before the helo is back on board the destroyer.

6 days later…

EXT. BRIG - DESTROYER - DAY

The destroyer has pulled back but is monitoring the situation onboard the French ship. The navy is tracking the plane what will deliver the cash.

CAPTAIN
(over PA system)
This is the Captain. You are about to witness a ransom. I know it runs counter to your best instincts but we are on station here to monitor and report the situation.

CAPTAIN
(to the SEAL commander)
Spin up your SEALs, if anything goes wrong I want them on that ship ASAP.

The seals take their positions - near the SWCC and also onboard the helo. Everyone has a view of the ransom about to happen.

A French Air Force transport plane flies directly over the cargo ship. A package is pushed out and floats down by parachute. It is two life jackets with clear plastic wrap around them. Inside the two life jackets it appears to be a blue ice chest.

Several pirates leave the ship in the skiff and retrieve the package. The SEALs see the skiff signal the pirates on
the French ship that the money is there. They dance and fire their weapons in the air.

The expression on the faces of the SEALs is priceless. They all look on with hate. EXCEPT... Guerrero, who has had an idea and is smiling.

GARCIA
Why do they make us watch this shit man?

VICSIK
It’s demoralizing.

HERNANDEZ
(to Guerrero)
What the fuck is wrong with you?
(half beat)
Those little fuckers just got away with millions and you have this shit eating grin on your face.

GUERRERO
I have a plan.

HERNANDEZ
What?

GUERRERO
You’ll see.

1 week later...

EXT. DESTROYER – DAY

Richardt and Guerrero stand at an isolated part of the deck.

RICHARDT
All this piracy means to me is that I’m not back in Coronado.

GUERRERO
Dude, the reason we are here, and not California, is because this is happening ‘all’ the time.
RICHARDT
And they are getting tired of transporting us to and from the area?

GUERRERO
Right, a permanent task force.

RICHARDT
Why, to watch it all happen?

GUERRERO
Pretty much. But that is good. If the navy can’t, by order of the President, protect European shipping, then they sure as hell aren’t going to protect the pirates.

RICHARDT
So we can take them down?

GUERRERO
Excatly. Just think of it as your 401k.

(half beat)
Look, I read a report that stated only one ship in every 200 is attacked; and I looked into that; it’s more than double that. And these hijacked ships are always successfully ransomed.

RICHARDT
They always pay?

GUERRERO
Of course. It’s a booming business. The value of the goods passing through here is staggering; $110 billion travels to and from India (alone) this way every year.

RICHARDT
Ambitious little bastards.
GUERRERO
All the pirates needed were ladders, a couple of AK47s and a motorboat. Poorly paid crews keep bad watch, allowing the pirates to board before anyone knows. The ship owners usually pay ransoms quickly and in US dollars. These thugs are the wealthiest men in Somalia.

RICHARDT
I asked my dad, he was in the Navy for 30 years. He said he never heard of such back in the day.

GUERRERO
It started in the 1990s, as a result of illegal overfishing by trawlers from Taiwan, China, Japan, South Korea and Spain.

RICHARDT
Flags of convenience.

GUERRERO
The local stocks got decimated and it drove the local fishing villages under. Handfuls of fishermen started to 'tax' and sometimes attack these foreign fishing boats, driving them away. They then realised that cargo ships were also unprotected and were easy to board.

RICHARDT
The government in Somalia is fucked up. I understand.

GUERRERO
Frankly you know what I think, our government likes the piracy.

RICHARDT
How is that?
GUERRERO
Somalia is dirt poor. And we are nervous that Al Qaeda will hook up with Somalis.

RICHARDT
Somalia is a wholly Muslim state.

GUERRERO
Yes, but think economics. And they produce absolutely nothing, but a few fish. If the Somalis have a little bit of cash, they might be less willing to throw in with Al Qaeda.

RICHARDT
So if we steal from pirates, we are actually going against U.S. policy?

GUERRERO
It’s a fucked up policy.

Sanberg approaches.

SANBERG
Is he in?

Guerrero turns to Richardt for an answer. Long beat.

RICHARDT
Yeah, I think I am.

6 weeks later...

INT. BRIG - DESTROYER - DAY

The destroyer is docked at Jebel Ali. Most of the sailors are ashore. But Daniel Guerrero is locked in the brig of ship. Two MASTERS AT ARMS arrive and put Guerrero in shackles. They lead him to a room with three officers are at a table.

Guerrero is situated in a chair in front of them.
FIRST OFFICER
Is there a need for this much security around the prisoner?

The room is silent.

FIRST OFFICER
Have you assaulted our own personnel?

GUERRERO
I have?

FIRST OFFICER
May I ask why?

GUERRERO
Certainly sir. They interrupted my shore leave.

FIRST OFFICER
You assaulted a Somali citizen.

GUERRERO
The report says, I beat him half to death, sir. Yes. That is true.

FIRST OFFICER
Why?

GUERRERO
I caught him taking a photograph of the ship, sir.

FLASHBACK
Guerrero gets off the destroyer with several buddies and they are looking forward to a day ashore.

A Somali in a skiff pulls into the marina. He clearly takes a photo of the destroyer.

GUERRERO
Hey, look at that guy. Fucking Somali.
Guerrero notices and points to the Somali. He begins to walk in the direction of the marina. Guerrero’s buddies follow.

SANBERG
Wait; how do you know he’s Somali?

GUERRERO
Look how he’s dressed. What’s he sailing?

The Somali takes another photo and ties his boat off at the marina dock.

Guerrero runs at the man and slugs him. The Somali almost drops. Guerrero holds the man up with one hand and punches him about eight times in the face and gut. He doesn’t let the man fall until his buddies arrive. The Somali man falls back into his sailboat, unconscious and bleeding.

END FLASHBACK

FIRST OFFICER
You did.

GUERRERO
I did, sir.

FIRST OFFICER
And where is this camera?

GUERRERO
I don’t know sir. I left. It was my shore leave sir.

SEAL COMMANDER
I have a question or two, Guerrero. Are the photos the only reason you acted?

GUERRERO
Yes. Sir.

SEAL COMMANDER
It doesn’t have anything to do with your brother?

(long beat)
Wasn’t your brother a merchant marine killed by Somali pirates?

Long beat.

FIRST OFFICER
Answer the question, Chief.

Beat.

GUERRERO
That has nothing to do with this, sir.

FIRST OFFICER
Really, you expect us to believe that?

GUERRERO
I had put it completely out of my mind. Well, until you just brought it up again.

The room is silent. Long beat.

SECOND OFFICER
So if we do release you and you remain in the Navy what will you do?

GUERRERO
Sir, I don’t have an answer. I figure the pirates and the terrorists will get in bed together, but I don’t know what they are planning.

FIRST OFFICER
Is that it?

GUERRERO
No sir. I would like to be here to respond when something does happen.

Long beat. The officers whisper.
FIRST OFFICER
This is an extra ordinary action we are going to take. And it is your last straw.
(half beat)
Guerrero, I’m going to parole you to the responsibility of your SEAL commander. You can keep your SEAL pin...

Guerrero seems relived.

FIRST OFFICER
At the rank of Seaman.

Guerrero seems agitated.

FIRST OFFICER
What? That not suit you?

GUERRERO
No sir. I’m fine, thank you, sir.

FIRST OFFICER
Unshackle him.

The two officers leave the room. The SEAL commander remains.

The MASTERS AT ARMS are both afraid of him and even shackled they approach him slowly and with care.

They release Guerrero and leave the room.

SEAL COMMANDER
Look, Danny. You are a good man. In a fight, there isn’t anyone better.
(half beat)
I’m sorry about your brother.

GUERRERO
And you sure would hate to lose me.

SEAL COMMANDER
What?
GUERRERO
I just figured that is what you were about to say.

(beat)
That’s the last thing I hear from people. My whole life.

Long beat.

SEAL COMMANDER
Well?

GUERRERO
You aren’t going to lose me, sir.

Beat.

GUERRERO
I like it here. The shackles aren’t so great but you guys promised me that every once in a while I would get to kill some bad guys. I’m not leaving until you live up to your promise.

Long beat.

SEAL COMMANDER
Okay. Stay out of trouble. Please.

Six weeks later...

INT. DESTROYER – PORT OF DUBAI – DAY

SEAL COMMANDER
I don’t know how much punishment I can take; the last six weeks have been hell. You guys are about to self-destruct.

(half beat)
You want to be home; so do I. And they have us out here watching ships get hijacked. And you are right that is messed up.

(half beat)
And you put in all that work and sacrifice for your SEAL pin. And now you can’t even use it.

(half beat)
So, I’ve put in for leave. You have a month off.

(half beat)
There is a military plane leaving for Frankfort Germany, I suggest you be on it. I know I will be.

(half beat)
Let the junior officers know where you will be.

(half beat)
You guys need to cool off. Go surfing or something.

All the seals look at each other curiously. Is the commander onto their plans? Nearly everyone in the room is looking at Guerrero.

The SEAL Commander exits the room.

GUERRERO
What is up with that?

JACKSON
The surfing?

SANBERG
He doesn’t know anything. It’s just a figure of speech.

GUERRERO
The month leave, I mean.

RUIZ
Well, you guys are about to explode; that is one thing. Some of you have lost your damn minds.

JACKSON
The other thing is his daughter is fighting cancer and he wants to be with her.
GUERRERO
She in a Navy hospital?

JACKSON
Was; not anymore.

GUERRERO
Better she’s in a private hospital.

JACKSON
But the bills are unmanageable. Are we done here?

RUIZ
Okay you are about to go ashore. Just a friendly reminder. Don’t go around giving everyone the thumbs up. What you think you are saying is 'Ayyyyy! I'm the fuckin' Fonz! What you are actually saying is'Ayyyyy! I'm going to jam my thumb in your anus!'

WOMMACK
What the hell?

RUIZ
It's the Middle East, people. These people get really confused watching Ebert and Roeper. 'This movie is great, Bill! So great that I'd like to anally rape it with my thumb!'

JACKSON
And do not say ‘Hi’ to any member of the opposite sex. (half beat) What you think you are saying: ‘Hi Ketifa! How's things? Fancy getting a decaf latte?’ (half beat)
What you are actually saying: ‘Hi, slut! How’s things? Fancy booking a hotel room so that I can do inject and you can ingest some of Satan’s seed?’

WOMMACK
Why the fuck is this our port of call then?

HOUCHENS
Yeah, what’s wrong with Coronado.

WOMMACK
Yeah.

Everyone chuckles.

RUIZ
Gentlemen there are airplanes that will take you almost anywhere you want to go. You have 30 days.

GRUM
No, seriously about women here.

JACKSON
What? You want to know why? According to sharia law, it is deeply immoral for a woman to greet a man in public, or associate with any man other than her husband without an escort.

RUIZ
Last year, an American woman openly conversed with a man in Starbucks, and was immediately arrested, strip-searched and forced to sign several false confessions.

JACKSON
Though, perhaps this is nitpicking considering women are not allowed to drive, vote, own property, testify in court or ride bicycles
there. Bizarrely, it's perfectly fine for women to fly high-powered jet planes, although they're clearly fucked if they feel like taking a bicycle to the airport.

RUIZ
Keep in mind this is a fucked up place.

JACKSON
My advice is you go home.

Long beat. The junior officers seem to be gathering their papers off the table to leave.

RUIZ
Meeting over.

GUERRERO
How about we talk about our ‘surfing trip’?

In the past, they have all spoken about a heist of Somali pirates and ‘surfing’ is the euphemism. Everyone in the room knows what they are talking about.

The junior officers freeze; they have both declined before.

GUERRERO
(to Jackson and Ruiz)
You guys sure you don’t want in with us? Surfin’ safari.

SANBERG
No doubt.

GUERRERO
Always looking for a good leader.

RUIZ
The only thing I’m leading is Olga.

GUERRERO
You would rather backpack Europe with a German blonde rather than
go surfing with us? Worst thing that happens is nothing happens and you learn to surf.

SANBERG
A few days and you’ll have it down.

RUIZ
Actually she’s Swedish.

EVERYONE
Uhhh.

GUERRERO
What about you?

JACKSON
My mom is sick in San Antonio.

GUERRERO
Really sick?

JACKSON
She’s really sick, man.

GUERRERO
I’m sorry. But okay, you go do that.

The two junior officers leave the room.

EXT. HALLWAY – DESTROYER – DAY

RUIZ
Crazy sons of bitches.

JACKSON
They’ll get shot up.

INT. DESTROYER – PORT OF DUBAI – DAY

Guerrero motions for Raz to shut the door.

GUERRERO
Guys, you want to cut the commander in for a share?
(half beat)
For his daughter?

SANBERG
I’m good with that.

GUERRERO
I know everyone is.
(half beat)
Speak up if you aren’t. Without objection.

EXT. DESTROYER – PORT OF DUBAI – DAY

The gangplank is lowered and the sailors exit the ship. Most sailors walk merrily to the taxis that are lined up. There is a bus for the airport and only the Commander and the two junior officers are aboard it. Guerrero leads the SEALs almost speed-walking to the marina. The bus leaves for the airport. The commander is very curious where the SEALs are going. The junior officers know and don’t pay so much attention.

RUIZ
Sir? You heard anything about your daughter?

SEAL COMMANDER
No. Nothing today.

Commander is only momentarily distracted; he turns to follow the SEALs as the bus drives by them. He watches the SEALs board a yacht.

SEAL COMMANDER
It just looks suspicious. They should be on planes out of the Middle East back to California.

JACKSON
She’s over in a private hospital?

RUIZ
Good doctors?

SEAL COMMANDER
I suppose.
The Commander is definitely preoccupied with the mystery. He continues to watch the marina for a clue.

SEAL COMMANDER
My wife is there. I’m going to Boston now.

RUIZ
Well, I hope everything turns out.

JACKSON
Me too.

SEAL COMMANDER
Thanks.

The bus turns and the SEALs are out of sight.

SEAL COMMANDER
You have any idea where they are going?

RUIZ
They said surfin’.

SEAL COMMANDER
Surfing? Where did they get that idea?

RUIZ
They said you gave them the idea.

SEAL COMMANDER
Surfing?

JACKSON
You said “go surfing or something to cool off.”

SEAL COMMANDER
Oh. Okay. I see.
   (beat)
Where are they surfin’?

The two junior officers shrug.
EXT/INT. DUBAI MARINA - DAY

Guerrero spots their destination a 40-foot motor yacht (**The Pelorus**). It is perfectly white and brand new. It has a radar dish spinning on the roof and 10 surfboards visible on deck.

Bhadur Lajani (millionaire) is waiting on the deck with Aron Ou (medical doctor).

GUERRERO
Mr. Lajani, permission to come aboard?

LAJANI
Oh, please call me Bhadur or Baha.

GUERRERO
Okay, Mr. Lajani. I will try to remember.

Guerrero walks on board.

LAJANI
This is my doctor friend, Aron Ou.

GUERRERO
(to Aron Ou)
Nice to meet you.

ARON OU
Welcome.

GUERRERO
(to Lajani)
A doctor?

LAJANI
Well, one never knows. And he is my personal friend.

Guerrero agrees.

LAJANI
How are the men?
GUERRERO
Ready.

LAJANI
Well, let's go.

GUERRERO
This is everyone.

LAJANI
Come aboard.

They go inside the ship and it has been transformed from luxury cruiser into an arsenal. There are weapons racks and equipment shelves.

LAJANI
Rocket launchers, body armour, grenades, handguns, assault rifles, sniper rifles, submachine guns, machine guns, suppressors.
(half beat)
NVGs, knives, spiked breaching axe, chem lights, tourniquets, breaching charges.

There are makeshift beds everywhere.

LAJANI
I'm afraid there aren't enough beds for everyone.

GUERRERO
It's okay, we can sleep in shifts. Probably be wise to do that anyways.

The SEALs, who fall in line and follow through the yacht, are impressed. They might have been a bit nervous but this tour seems to prop them up a bit.

By the time, they are done with the tour under the deck, a fantastic buffet is laid out for the soldiers on deck.

About the time they are shown the table of food, DANIEL BRIGS (former SEAL) hobbles out onto the deck. He is in
shorts and we can see both legs have been amputated. Brigs is an African American.

He is surrounded by the SEALs and there is something of a celebration. The food can wait. Everyone lines up to shake his hand, most hug him.

GUERRERO
Daniel Brigs!
(half beat)
Good to see you man!
(half beat)
I didn’t know you surfed?

BRIGS
Sort of. Sure.

LAJANI
Daniel had an idea.
(half beat)
Put Daniel ashore at Bereeda with a radio.

GUERRERO
What? That sounds... You can’t do that.

BRIGS
MmmMmmuhmmmm.

LAJANI
No. Listen.

BRIGS
MmmMmmuhmmmm. I’m a deaf mute. No legs.
(half beat)
I have a tin cup. I set there and watch. At night, I can crawl out and dig up this radio. When the job is done, come pick me up.

LAJANI
Recon.

GUERRERO
Risky.
(to Brigs)
You up for it?

BRIGS
Of course.
(half beat)
Been lifting.

Lifting weights.

GUERRERO
Yeah?

BRIGS
Well...

GUERRERO
You wouldn’t want to...
(beat)
No you wouldn’t.

BRIGS
You need someone on the ground there and it sure ain’t gonna be one of the white guys.

GUERRERO
Jackson went to see his mother back in Texas.

BRIGS
Jefferson can look like an idiot, but he has legs. Think about it.

GUERRERO
You think you can pull it off?

BRIGS
I think. I’m just going to act like an deaf mute, I imagine they won’t even notice me there.

GUERRERO
That’s the idea, sure.
BRIGGS
Okay, think about it. But I really need this.

Long beat.

GUERRERO
Okay. Fine. No worries. Happy to have you.
(half beat)
Let’s eat.

Guerrero gets a plate of food.

GUERRERO
I wouldn’t let them know your son was killed by pirates. They know about my brother.

LAJANI
They are all about the money.

GUERRERO
Of course.

LAJANI
I don’t see how a little revenge can hamper their efforts.

GUERRERO
I’ve never seen anyone in my life trip over a dead body.

LAJANI
It seems improbable.

GUERRERO
But still.

LAJANI
No, I’m in it for the money.

GUERRERO
And besides you’re only here with the support.
LAJANI
I don’t know how to fight. That is your job.

GUERRERO
Agreed.

EXT. YACHT - EVENING

The yacht is moving out at a high rate of speed. Guerrero is at the bow staring down at the dolphins who are surfing the bow waves of the ship. Guerrero lays down on the deck stick his head over the edge to look down. He chuckles at the two large male dolphins play their game of surfing just in front of the bow. They emerge with a noisy burst of spray as they surfaced for air. Guerrero reaches down as if to touch them. But, he is still a good distance from touching them.

SANBERG
What you doing?

GUERRERO
Watching the dolphins.

Sanberg leans over the edge and look down.

SANBERG
Oh, wow.
    (half beat)
What are they doing?

GUERRERO
We really don’t know. The Greeks in ancient times wrote about seeing this.
    (half beat)
Maybe they think we are fishing and they are just doing to surf over with us to where the fish are. Maybe not.
    (half beat)
Might be just a power boost. You surf?
SANBERG
I’ve tried it before. Yeah. You can teach me some of your tricks.

GUERRERO
They’re surfing. Two males.

SANBERG
They’re just be having fun.

GUERRERO
Intelligent creatures.

SANBERG
So why not just have some fun and hang out

GUERRERO
You can hear them talking and whistling to each other.

EXT. KILMIA – EARLY MORNING

The yacht is anchored in a cove on the south side of the island. Most of the SEALs are at the rear of the boat playing video games, cleaning guns, listening to their ipods, sleeping, etc.

A few SEALs have been hiking on the island and discover a starving dog and name him, RECRUIT.

As word spread there is a dog in the galley, everyone comes to greet him. The dog gobbles the food down. The dog eats until he can’t walk. He lies down in the middle of the deck; his belly is huge. Lajani doesn’t seem thrilled for the dog to be on his boat, but he notices what the dog means to the soldiers.

Before the dog wakes from his first nap, they have fashion a life jacket for him and feed him up well.

GUERRERO
What’s his name?

JEFFERSON
Recruit, sir.
GUERRERO
I’m not a sir. Hell, I don’t have half your rank. Remember.

JEFFERSON
Sorry, I don’t know why I keep calling you that.

The sea is calm with no measurable surf. Guerrero pulls up some weather and tidal reports. Nothing will be happening anytime soon. Guerrero looks out at the cove.

Female dolphins swim in the cove with their babies; the little ones are venturing closer and closer, gaining confidence and courage.

Further out, a large splash, a dolphin making a grand leap.

Several SEALs don masks and fins, they slide silently into the water and glide slowly through the crystal clear sea, careful not to make any sudden movements.

The dolphins are curious and approached. We hear their clicking and whistling as they swam below the men. There were eight in all, two babies.

The curious juvenile ventures closer towards the men and a large female swims to him with noisy clicks, herding him back towards the group. The dolphin’s huge smiling faces linger on the men for the few minutes as the board the yacht. Everyone is up and having breakfast.

EXT. KILMIA - NOON

The surf is improving. Guerrero looks through his field glasses at the surf outside the cove. He checks the weather and tidal information.

Everything is organized quietly. Half the SEALs are sleeping. Guerrero simply points to a board and the SEAL agrees or disagrees. The four of the SEALs take surfboards from the ship and again enter the water carefully. They don’t want to upset the mother dolphins. They paddle ashore. We see them walking on the beach.
Raz is such a heist hungry nerd. He remains working the entire time. He is monitoring radios and sat photos. Everyone is having a vacation except him.

SURFING MONTAGE

The SEALs hike to a nice place to surf. The paddle out and go at it. Guerrero is the master and does show it. But at the end of this montage he is talking to and teaching.

END SURFING MONTAGE

Guerrero is surfing and almost hits something in the water. It is a body. It appears to be a very small Somali man, he is floating on a very small ice chest. He is exhausted but alive.

Guerrero ditches his surfboard and brings the man ashore. Guerrero checks him for injuries. He sees none.

A helicopter is heard and seen on the horizon. The SEALs are still surfing and on the beach; they panic. They are out in the open without weapons. They race back to the yacht.

Guerrero drags the man off the beach near some rocks. He gives the man some bottled water and a protein bar. Guerrero remains with the Somali man. He opens the half dead man’s ice chest. Inside, there are some Rubbermaid food storage containers. There are the stems from grapes he’s eaten. Two containers are empty. There is a Koran in one and in the other container a Guerrero finds a (well worn) official cookbook from the “Travellers Beach Hotel - 4-star hotel”.

The commercial helicopter (harmless) lands on the island before they can reach the yacht. No one on the yacht seems too concerned. In fact, they can see the SEALs putting Brigs in a small skiff with his radio, food and a shovel.

Later...

INT. GALLEY - YACHT - DUSK

The Somali man is hydrated and looks much better.
Guerrero, Raz and Sanberg are interrogationg the man. Lajani might translate.

GUERRERO  
He’s okay. He’s just tired from being in the water.

LAJANI  
(in Arabic)  
Who are you?

The man sits up straight and smiles.

GUDAHA  
Thank you. I wasn’t sure if I could make it all the way.

The interrogators are surprised he speaks English.

GUERRERO  
Who are you?

GUDAHA  
My name is Odawaa Gudaha. I’m Somali born, but I grew up in Kenya. I am speaking English perfectly.

He doesn’t speak English perfectly but he is certainly conversant.

GUERRERO  
What were you doing in the water?

GUDAHA  
Pirates captured me off the General Delgado. They forced me to work for them. To cook, and to launder, and other things...

Lajani leaves to check the story out on the Internet.

GUERRERO  
You jumped ship?
I saw this land. What is this place?

Guerrero doesn’t respond. He contemplates.

Long beat.

Lajani returns.

LAJANI
What is the General Delgado?

GUDAHA
It’s a pirate ship now. Eighteen skiffs when I left. Sixty-one men aboard.

LAJANI
What ‘was’ the General Delgado?

GUDAHA
Fishing.

SANBERG
How do you know there are sixty one on board?

GUDAHA
I was the cook.

GUERRERO
Who was the captain when it was a fishing vessel?

GUDAHA
Abdillahi Qassim also born in Somalia.

LAJANI
Checks out.

GUERRERO
Who is the captain now that it’s a pirate ship?
GUDAH
A man they call "Big Foot".

GUERRERO
Somali?

GUDAH
Of course.

Guerrero, Raz and Sanberg motion each other they should go outside to discuss it.

GUDAH
(to Lajani)
I’m a good cook.

Outside...

RAZ
Send him packing. Leave him on the island.

GUERRERO
Why?

SANBERG
He could be a spy.

GUERRERO
I pulled him out; another hour he would have been dead.

SANBERG
What’s he going to do?

GUERRERO
Cook, laundry.

They return to the room.

LAJANI
Lajani, you need a cook?

EXT. HELICOPTER - BEREEDA SOMALIA - DUSK

The helicopter lands a mile or so West of the city. They let Brigs out with his equipment. He packs it down the
beach toward the city. In the moonlight, Brigs digs a hole in the sand. He tests the radio and buries everything including his prosthetic legs and radio. He drags himself toward the town.

EXT. SHADE - BEREEDA SOMALIA - DAY

Brigs looks perfectly homeless in Somalia, dirty and much older. He’s rolled around in the dirt. He has found some old rags and has downgraded his clothes. He mumbles and holds out his tin cup when people pass by.

Brigs observes the activity in the village and it appears one building is particularly busy. It is a meeting place and also a cache of weapons and fuel. Brigs drags himself across the hot sand to the shade of this building.

He has an advantage not being detected that he isn’t totally aware of – the occupants of the building he is watching aren’t Somali. They are Al Qaeda and from various other Islamic nations.

They walk past him showing little attention but one terrorist points a gun at Brigs and insists that he is a spy.

TEENAGE AL QAEDA
Kill him, kill him. He is a spy.

The others persuade him otherwise.

AL QAEDA LEADER
We are guests in Somalia. The might not like executing their most infirmed.

AL QAEDA #1
He is simply seeking shade.

AL QAEDA LEADER
Those needy ones who are wholly wrapped up in the cause of Allah, and who are hindered from moving about the earth in search of their livelihood especially deserve help.
The others then actually hand Brigs coins.

In the shade of a building, Brigs is listening. The conversation is in Arabic but many of the words are understood by Brigs - Bin Laden, Al Qaeda, Bereeda, napalm, Roosevelt.

AL QAEDA LEADER
The Bin Laden money has been exhausted and Al Qaeda now plans to hijack the ship and extort millions to fund the cause. I will listen to your plan.

AL QAEDA #1
No one will know the Somali pirates at Bereeda are an Al Qaeda cell posing as pirates.

AL QAEDA #2
We plan to pirate a tanker full of palm oil (one of the key ingredients of napalm). Once ignited the oil will burn for a long time and it would boil the sea around it.

AL QAEDA #1
No one will know until we ram the tanker into the Roosevelt.

AL QAEDA LEADER
I like your thinking.

EXT. WEST OF BEREEDA SOMALIA - NIGHT

Brigs drags himself to his buried food and radio. He digs up the radio and makes a connection with Guerrero.

BRIGS
GUERRERO
Okay. Bin Laden is dead. They have Napalm? How would they deliver it to the Roosevelt?

BRIGS
Skiff but I’m not sure.

GUERRERO
How would they even know the Roosevelt by name or where she was?

BRIGS
Don’t underestimate them. They have sophisticated computers and a satellite internet connection.

GUERRERO
In Somalia? You are kidding?

BRIGS
There is a great deal of paperwork.

GUERRERO
Maybe you didn’t understand.

BRIGS
It’s just English words in the middle of a bunch of Arabic.

GUERRERO
I thought they were Somali.

BRIGS
I don’t know they speak both.

GUERRERO
Okay. Thanks. Great. I’m sure it means they are up to no good. (half beat)
When they leave get their bearing if you can.

BRIGS
That is the plan, bro.
GUERRERO
You okay?

BRIGS
Yes. It’s somewhat exhilarating.

GUERRERO
It’s been a while since you suited up.

BRIGS
Yeah, it’s great.

GUERRERO
Well, talk to you tomorrow.

Brigs opens a can of peaches and it appears he is really enjoying them. He opens a second can.

Brigs then drags himself back to the house.

EXT. KILMIA – DAY

The SEALS are becoming bored. Their body language and activities point to tedium.

Guerrero studies the weather. Raz is back monitoring the radio. Garcia and Jefferson enter the bridge.

GARCIA
Raz you want to hear the greatest dance song in history?

RAZ
Sure. Let’s hear it.

Raz doesn’t look up; it’s almost an instinct to respond.

Garcia puts a CD in the player. They turn it up, but they hear nothing.

GARCIA
Raz. How do you play music?
RIZ
I don’t want you playing music in here.

JEFFERSON
No, not in here. Out on the deck?

Raz looks put out, but reluctantly turns it on out on the deck. It’s barely audible, so Jefferson cranks it up. Instantly, the entire well deck of the San Antonio is filled with the loud, rhythmic ‘disco’ music.

Garcia and Jefferson dance off the bridge.

Raz walks to the open door and closes it.

The music is fun, and very loud. Jefferson, a giant of a man, begins to dance, at first in place, and then he begins to circle Garcia like he is the prey. Garcia can’t help but laugh at the sight. But, Garcia plays the part of the female and entices with him a nasty little dance.

Seeing this, Jefferson tries to outdo Garcia, and soon the two of them are dancing like drunken sailors.

Lajani enters the deck area. Garcia’s back is to him, so he doesn’t see him come on, and he continues to gyrate to the music. Jefferson, however, spots Lajani and stops dancing. It is an awkward moment, Jefferson thinks the man is Muslim and will be offended by the music and sexualized dancing.

But Lajani does three John Travolta ‘SNF’ moves and gestures for Jefferson to continue. Jefferson laughs and begins to dance again.

Just then, Guerrero and Sanberg, followed by the four other SEALs enter the deck. Jefferson and Garcia again double their efforts. It’s a contest. Guerrero and Sanberg only dance through as they conga-line their way to the bridge.

GARCIA
Let’s go up top and see how it sounds from up there.

Garcia and Jefferson leave the deck and dance up the stairs to the upper deck. Keep in mind this is a million dollar
yacht; twenty-four Bose exterior marine speakers have turned the decks into a night club.

The music isn’t so loud on the upper deck so they dance down the stairs to the deck again.

Guerrero and Sanberg enter the bridge and stop dancing. Their heads are still bobbing as they lean over a chart. Raz shuts the door and shuts out as much of the noise as possible.

We see Raz is talking to Guerrero and Sanberg over the loud music, about possible target ships. Raz points to his radio traffic records and then to locations on the chart.

The song ends and the next song isn’t so perfect.

JEFFERSON
It don’t mean a thing if it don’t have that swing.

GARCIA
Damn, for a big man you can dance.

Both men look around. Raz (in the bridge) is the only one looking at them that disapproves. Everyone else is smiling. Garcia and Jefferson have broken up the monotony.

JEFFERSON
I haven’t seen him in the sun yet. He’s been on that radio the entire time.

GARCIA
Let’s get him.

The SEALs sneak up on Raz. They grab him and he resists, but other SEALs join in to help; they manage to take him to the side and throw him in the ocean. Raz is not amused.

GAMES MONTAGE

Recruit, with his floatation device, is out with the men swimming with the dolphins.

More surfing. Wind surfing.
There is an island out in the cove and they play the child’s game ‘King of the Mountain’

Swimming races. Short races to the island in the cove and then a longer race. They point to an island on the distant horizon.

Wrestling tournament.

Gambling on every match and race.

Gaudio is into kite surfing.

END GAMES MONTAGE

Two SEALS race to the north side of the island and back. They are running cross-country. They run over a rise and spot a group of excited Yemeni. They are armed and have a broken down truck. They are pointing in the direction of the yacht.

The two runners turn to look in the direction of the yacht.

Above the horizon is the kite. The Yamani are working up their nerve. Checking their weapons.

The two runners turn and race back to the cove.

The Yemeni islanders finally work up their nerve to attack.

The runners arrive about the same time the Yemeni begin firing on the Yacht.

Bullets land all over. The buffet explodes. A SEAL’s handheld video game is shattered. Several surfboards are pierced.

The soldiers on the yacht scramble for the weapons. They return fire and it is overwhelming. The Yemeni are shocked by the return gunfire. They retreat back to their side of the island.

The damage is slight, except the radio antennae.

EXT. BEREEDA - SOMALIA - DAY
At the same time in Bereeda, there is an exodus. The Al Qaeda loads all their weapons onto two skiffs. Brigs watches them fully fuel the boats.

They leave and Brigs pulls out his compass to estimate their path. He marks the exact time.

When they are gone, Brigs crawls into the abandoned building. It is totally empty, except for some Al Qaeda propaganda.

EXT. KILMIA – DAY

The vacation is over. The SEALs set up a perimeter. They hide in ambush, but no one approaches them.

EXT. BEREEDA AND KILMIA – NIGHT

Brigs radios his report.

BRIGS
Bereeda to Pelorus, come in.

GUERRERO
Pelorus, here go ahead.

BRIGS
Bereeda to Pelorus, come in.

GUERRERO
He can’t hear us. Transmitter isn’t working.

Richardt examines the antennae and finds it damaged by a bullet. He runs into the cabin area and retrieves a soldering kit. He repairs it.

BRIGS
Bereeda to Pelorus, come in.

GUERRERO
Pelorus, here go ahead.

BRIGS
Okay. Great. I read you.
BRIGS
Two boats heavy laden with weapons. They left at 2:30 pm on a heading of 38° NNE.

GUERRERO
Thank you.

BRIGS
Two 20 foot fishing skiffs heavy laden with weapons. They left at 2:30 pm on a heading of 38° NNE.

GUERRERO
We are going to get the cash and then come get you.

BRIGS
The place is disserted, but the people are looking at me strange.

GUERRERO
You need evac?

BRIGS
I’m going to take a boat and head your way.

GUERRERO
Okay, good luck. Same time tomorrow.

BRIGS
Out.

INT. YACHT - KILMIA - DAY

GUERRERO
Okay. He says 38°.

Guerrero goes to the charts and draws a line from Bereeda 38°.

Lajani is at the computer printing commercially available satellite photos.
LAJANI
Everyday at 6 pm I download the satellite photos. Here is today’s. Here, these tiny dots are probably the two skiffs from Bereeda.

GUERRERO
And tankers, cargo ships? Targets?

LAJANI
From the west, here, here and here. There are ships that they might intercept. From the east, here, here, here, here, here and here.

GUERRERO
That many?

LAJANI
Well this is a big ocean.

GUERRERO
Well, we can’t move until we know which ship they will board.

LAJANI
What now?

GUERRERO
We wait.
   (half beat)
   Listen to the radio.

Guerrero gestures to a marine radio scanner and Raz who is monitoring it.

EXT. BEREEDA SOMALIA - NIGHT

Brigs digs up his legs and the food. He hobbles back to the city. Brigs knocks a Somali out and steals all the gasoline in the town. He laboriously totes the gasoline cans to a skiff. Disabled but he still does a days labor in an hour or so. He leaves out at 38º. Alone in the skiff he starts out into the Sea of Aden.

EXT/INT. YACHT - KILMIA - EARLY MORNING
Guerrero is watching the dolphins again. Several SEALs are sleeping. Others are ashore with weapons watching for an attack. Sanberg has the satellite photos out at a deck chair. He is drawing lines of the possible intersections.

Raz leaves the radio room and comes out on the deck.

RAZ
You want to come in here?
Something has happened.

GUERRERO
Sure.

They move into the cabin.

RAZ
We have an incidence. Danish tanker.

GUERRERO
About right here.

Raz points to a position on the chart.

GUERRERO
What? They have control of the ship?

RAZ
Yes, last night they boarded in the night. Unopposed it sounds like.

GUERRERO
Inside job?

RAZ
Perfect target, low freeboard, somebody changed their course, and the pirates knew exactly where to strike. And someone stopped the ship, before the pirates took the bridge.

(half beat)
She was sailing with a sister ship and the reports are from her.

GUERRERO
What is the cargo?

RAZ
Palm oil. While not entirely explosive...

GUERRERO
It will burn and burn hot.

RAZ
It will boil the ocean around that ship if ignited.

Long beat.

GUERRERO
What do you think? We go?

RAZ
I don’t know. This was your plan.

GUERRERO
Get Sanberg in here.

Later...

Guerrero steps out on the deck and communicates via walky-talkies with SEALs on shore. They reveal themselves out of the camouflaged positions and run to the skiff and then arrive at the yacht. There is a SEAL by the helicopter on shore with a weapon, who remains. Another SEAL remains on a strategic mountain (high point), who would be able to spot any approaching vehicle.

EXT/INT. YACHT – KILMIA – MORNING

The other SEALs have a meeting on board the yacht. Guerrero’s confidence has waned and he wants to make it more of a democratic team project, which freaks out the SEALs. We can tell their expectations are for a military type approach.
GUERRERO
Raz learned something interesting this morning.

RAZ
A Danish ship has been boarded and we can assume there will be a ransom. The Danes have paid off 27 out of 27 times the last 10 years.

GAUDIO
How soon can we expect the payment?

GUERRERO
Good question.

WOMMACK
It’s never been shorter than 6 days. Never more than 118 days.

GUERRERO
Given the cargo, I think it might be sooner rather than later.

LEVY
Our leave is up in 12 days.

GUERRERO
Right.

HOUCHENS
So what is the situation right now?

RAZ
The Farragut is on station. Observing.

GAUDIO
Will the Danes pay?

GUERRERO
They always do.

SANBERG
What is the plan?
GUERRERO
Actually this is ideal. They are 66 miles away. We can be right there.
(half beat)
I suggest...

Sanberg gestures for Guerrero to stop.

There is a panic on the faces of the SEALs. They don’t have a leader. These men are soldiers not scholars or strategic planners or thinkers. Philosophers are automatically excluded from the SEALs.

SANBERG
Can I see you outside for a second?

They walk outside. The SEALs are nervous about the vacuum at the top of the heist.

GUERRERO
What’s up.

SANBERG
You ‘suggest’? They don’t have a leader. These men are warriors and before that they were athletes. Not scholars or strategic planners or thinkers. They are used to dealing with coaches and officers.
(half beat)
We don’t fucking do algebra man. We just follow orders. Okay?

GUERRERO
Well, yeah. I’m no officer. Actually, technically I’m the lowest ranked guy here.

SANBERG
The civilians.

GUERRERO
Yep, that is right.
SANBERG
You have this fucked up idea you are gonna run this like a democracy.

GUERRERO
No, fuck that.

SANBERG
We trust you, just tell us the plan and what we have to do.

They enter the room again. Guerrero is energized and confident.

GUERRERO
Okay, listen up we are going to sail The Pelorus as near as possible. Same plan as before.

JEFFERSON
What about the Farragut?

GUERRERO
Fuck the navy.

Long awkward beat.

GAUDIO
Dude, we are ‘in’ the navy.

Another long awkward beat.

SANBERG
We all know they aren’t allowed to do anything.

GUERRERO
How many of you have even had a Somali in your sites?

FLASHBACKS

The SEALs automatically think back to numerous hijackings they have witnessed. The SEALs are deployed and are observing. They all at one time of another have raised their weapons and site a Somali. Some of them are sited
while taunting the American ships. They lower their weapons.

END FLASHBACKS

Almost everyone raises their hands. Guerrero realizes it was a dumb question.

GUERRERO
Well what would have happened if you pulled the trigger?
(half beat)
We stay on the far side. She will see us on radar, and they might come check us out. But then they might not.
(half beat)
When the ransom is paid, and they leave with it. Well, then we do our thing.

HOUCHENS
Won’t the Farragut pursue the money?

GUERRERO
Nope, they never have.

LAJANI
If the navy kills the pirates then the next time they will just take the hostages with them back to Somalia.

GUERRERO
Which presents an entirely new problem.

GRUM
It seems to me either you pay them or you kill them.

VICSIK
Well as long as you pay then there will be more hijackings.
GUERRERO
You understand perfectly.

GARCIA
Dumb-ass Europeans.

GUERRERO
Hey don’t knock them, it’s their generous check that is making this opportunity possible.

LAJANI
You should be proud. They never take American ships.

SANBERG
That’s right American’s don’t pay.

LAJANI
Iran.

GUERRERO
Okay, Sanberg, Houchens, Grum and Wommack. Helicopter. Stay here until we call you. Take food, ammo and water for a week.

We have to fully fuel the helicopter. That will give the helo maximum range when we need her. Fortunately she burns diesel. We need to pump diesel into cans and tote them over to her. It’s gonna take about 24 trips.

Guerrero holds up a 5-gallon plastic fuel container.

LEVY
Shouldn’t we be eyes on the prize?

GUERRERO
Well, yes. But we don’t want to get there too early.

(half beat)

How about...

Guerrero stops mid-sentence and glances at Sanberg.
GUERRERO
No, we aren’t going to get there before day six. It’s day one now.

Everyone shakes their head and agrees.

They tote the fuel to the helicopter. The helicopter is on a remote distant location on the island (between two hills) and 5 gallons of diesel weighs 37.5 lbs.

Levy begins hiking the fuel.

Levy returns to the yacht and they stop the stopwatch. Raz calls out a recorded time.

RAZ
Two hours and thirteen, twenty seconds.

LEVY
What? You guys are gambling?
(half beat)
No one told me. That’s messed up.
Let me do it again.

But it is too late the next SEAL has filled up the container and departed. Raz starts the timer.

Now everyone runs their trip and there is always a time to beat.

LAJANI
They are running?

SANBERG
Competition makes it a sport.

LAJANI
I think they are anxious to fight and they see this as a way to speed things up.

GUERRERO
Maybe a little, but it’s the gambling.

5 days later…
EXT. YACHT - SEA OF ADEN - DAY

The yacht arrives at the captured ship. Al Queda looks out at the yacht suspiciously.

They pass by relatively near on purpose. The SEALs have their fishing gear out. Houchens catches a huge swordfish (400 lbs).

GUERRERO
What?

RAZ
You baited the hook?

GUERRERO
Why? It was just for show.

HOUCHENS
You said to ‘fish’.
(half beat)
Here take my picture.

Houchens hands him a cell phone/camera.

Without anything being said about five SEALs attach ropes and hoist the fish up from the upper deck. The fish is taller than Houchens by far. It is a once in a lifetime photo. They also take a photo of the five seals lifting the fish.

The Al Qaeda pirates are relived. They figured maybe the yacht was full of SEAL come to kill them, but it appears they are only harmless fishermen.

AL QUEDA LEADER
Harmless enough. Wealthy infidels with nothing better to do but fish.

Al Qaeda ignores the yacht.

Gudaha butchers and grills the swordfish. Half the SEALs watch the process in fascination. Gudaha is a master chef with the knife and the spices. He freezes part of the fish.
The other half of the SEALs man the radios, internet and binoculars. One SEAL is cleaning various weapons.

Many SEALS are in the galley eating hiding from the pirates, but a few are outside with a plate.

GUDAHA
How is it?

SANBERG
Awesome, man.

RICHARDT
Moist and flavourful.

GAUDIO
It has a slightly sweet taste.

GUERRERO
Odawaa. You even thought about enlisting.

GUDAHA
What?

GUERRERO
Joining the SEALs, you know the Navy? Us.

GUDAHA
The American Navy?

This is the highest complement Gudaha has ever had. He is beaming proud. Guerrero winks at the guys.

GUDAHA
Really? Maybe, I might. But I don’t like swimming in the ocean.

Everyone laughs.

A plane passes over. It turns and comes over a second time. The plane drops the traditional ransom - cash, shrink wrapped, between two life jackets.

GUERRERO
This is it men.
The SEALs continue to eat but they don’t take their eyes off the package as a parachute delivers it softly to the sea.

The pirates man a skiff and buzz over to retrieve the money. They signal back to their leaders on board the tanker. They take the package back to the tanker.

Everyone calmly takes their plates to the sink. They quietly “stone faced” suit up and equip themselves.

An Al Qaeda helicopter arrives from the north (Yemen). It hovers over the tanker and lands on the deck of the tanker.

Al Qaeda turn the two skiffs loose, they are empty and float near enough the yacht.

GUERRERO
They aren’t Somali. Somalia is that way? The helicopter came from Yemen.

RAZ
Who are they?

GUERRERO
Fuck if I know. But they have a helicopter.

RAZ
What are we going to do?

GUERRERO
Call the helicopter.

Raz calls the helicopter via the radio and give them the location.

RAZ
12.8759° N, 52.2380° E

By now Levy with sniper rifle is concealed on the yacht.

GUERRERO
If they take that package to the helo kill them.
LEVY
Are you sure?

GUERRERO
We need someone to be the leader and fuck that is me.

LEVY
Okay, you are right. Kill them.

Something occurs to Guerrero.

GUERRERO
No, you were right. Don’t kill them. They let the skiffs go. They will take the money off in that helo.

LEVY
And you want that to happen?

GUERRERO
If we kill that helo, then we’ll have to assault the tanker.

LEVY
So what do I do?

GUERRERO
We need to delay them until Sanberg gets here in our helo.

LEVY
Then we shot down the money and grab it.

GUERRERO
Right!

(half beat)
You can delay them?

LEVY
Tell me when to let them off.

EXT. TANKER - SEA OF ADEN - DAY
Al Qaeda forces the crew out on the deck. They are forced to wave at the destroyer. On radar, the destroyer notices the skiffs are away from the tanker. They assume the ship is free of the pirates and the destroyer turns away.

EXT. HELO - SEA OF ADEN - DAY

Sanberg, Houchens, Grum and Wommack and the pilot are hauling ass to intercept.

EXT. YACHT - SEA OF ADEN - DAY

The SEALs are all waiting impatiently.

EXT. TANKER - SEA OF ADEN - DAY

The money is brought out. Part of the clear shrink wrap is gone (where they checked the money) but has been replaced with gray duct-tape.

The Al Qaeda pilot starts up the helo engine. Levy puts a bullet through the windshield. He puts a few bullets into the side of the ship (above the deck). The terrorists who are carrying the money duck. They work up their nerve and move again toward the helo. Again Levy puts a bullet in just the right place to make them stop.

The Al Qaeda leader is yelling at them to get up and take the money to the helo. A bullet slams into the side of the ship just near the leader’s head. He ducks down and crawls to the money. The leader and the others push the money across the deck to the helo. The others get into the helo with the money.

The Al Qaeda leader remains on the tanker.

LEVIN
I’m gonna have to disable the helo.

Guerrero is standing at the radar.

GUERRERO
No, our helo is here. One minute out.

The helo coming from the island arrives.
GUERRERO
(into the radio)
The money is on the helo. It’s on the deck. Nope it is just off.
(half beat)
Looks like they are moving off North.

EXT. SEAL HELO - SEA OF ADEN - DAY

The Al Qaeda helo lifts off the deck and just comes into view of the SEALs in their helo.

HOUCHENS
We have them.

The SEALs on the helo open their doors. They are closing the gap.

HOUCHENS
Permission to fire, sir?

Guerrero is surprised about being asked permission.

GUERRERO
(to himself)
Sir?
(to the radio)
That is why you’re here.

The Al Qaeda helo comes into range and Sanberg opens up on the AQ helo with automatic fire. The bullets pepper the side of the aircraft. But it isn’t disabled. The AQ pilot looks back and begins evasive maneuvers. The door on the side of the AQ helo opens and they return fire.

The pilot of the SEAL helo is shot and killed. Without a pilot, the SEAL helo moves left right up and down out of control. Houchens takes the controls and the maneuvers are still chaotic, but improved.

The pilot of the AQ helo stops maneuvering and concentrates on speed. Houchens learns quickly to fly. He gains control and matches speed and slowly overtakes the helo.
The SEALs again fire on the AQ helo; this time it is damaged and begins to smoke. It is probably an oil line. It slows but continues toward the north.

The terrorists fire on the SEAL helo and the bullets disable the engine. The SEAL helo is going down. The helo tips over and Sanberg falls out of the helo into the water (100 feet below).

Houchens struggles to control it. He radios their location just as the helo hits the water.

**HOUCHENS**

12.9959° N, 53.2380° E

**EXT. TANKER – DAY**

During the air-battle, the hijacked crew is taken to the far side of the deck, out of view of the destroyer, but in view of the yacht. They are executed by Al Qaeda.

The tanker also begins to turn.

**EXT. YACHT – DAY**

On the yacht, the SEAL’s jaws drop and they are all incensed.

Raz is monitoring the radio.

**RAZ**

Their helo sent out an SOS.

(half beat)

They are trying to contact the helo.

(half beat)

That is Arabic.

**GUERRERO**

Are you sure it’s not Somali?

**RAZ**

I’m sure.

**GUERRERO**

They’re Al Qaeda?
RAZ
And, now, they have how many tons of palm oil.

GUERRERO
What a mess!

RAZ
The Farragut is long gone and almost off the radar. But we can always raise them on the radio.

The yacht receives the downed helo’s location. Raz writes it down and marks it on the chart.

Many of the SEALs on board look out over the horizon to the distant smoke. Other SEALs continue watching the tanker.

Arabic music comes over the radio.

GUERRERO
What is that?

RAZ
Channel 16, the international emergency channel. Whoever that is they’re going to attack someone and are trying to stop anyone from hearing any distress call.

GUERRERO
Well that does it. We’ll, board her.

RAZ
Have to.

EXT. BRIG’S SKIFF – SEA OF ADEN – DAY

Brigs over hears the radio traffic. He was headed for the yacht but turns toward the new helicopter coordinates.

EXT. SEAL HELO CRASH AREA – DAY

The helo turns and Grum has one last opportunity with his sniper rifle. He points the rifle at the AQ helo. Grum sights the helo which is moving out of range. Just before
impact with the water, Grum fires and it is as miraculous shot. There is an AQ helo engine fire; a fuel line has been hit. The AQ roters slow and it too sinks into the sea.

Neither helo impact is devastating and the both helo remains afloat for a short time.

Grum and Wommack see the AQ crash and it is also sinking slowly. Grum and Wommack sprint swim to the AQ helo. They are swimming for the money before it sinks.

Houchens makes another radio.

HOUCHENS
Both helos are down. Grum and Wommack are swimming for the other wreck. The money. We are going down. Someone come get us.

The radio sinks into the water.

HOUCHENS
(not transmitted)
We are in the water.

RAZ
(not received)
We are on the way.

EXT. YACHT – DAY

Everyone looks in the direction of the smoke on the horizon – the burning helos to the north.

The tanker has been traveling from Indonesia to Europe through Sea of Aden (east to west). The tanker turns back to the West and heads directly for the yacht and will try to ram them.

The yacht can easily dodge the tanker but as the Al Qaeda tanker passes the terrorist onboard unleash their AK-47s.

There is significant damage and Gudaha is wounded. Most significant to the story is the radio is damaged. A bullet basically explodes the electronics. The radar and other equipment is out of commission.
The yacht is dead in the water. There is some question about if they will turn and ram them, but the tanker steams off in a ENE direction (for the Persian Gulf).

Gudaha is taken into a state room and the doctor begins working on the wound. It is serious.

EXT. SEAL HELO CRASH AREA - DAY

Sanberg (who fell out of the helo) reaches the SEAL helo as it is slowly sinking. Houchen and Sanberg rescue the flotation devices and some other equipment - an emergency beacon, flares and a searchlight. They lash it all together into something like a raft - life jackets, floating seat cushions, etc.

They take off slowly swimming toward the AQ helo crash.

EXT. AQ HELO CRASH AREA - DAY

Grum and Wommack arrive just as the AQ helo is sinking. They dive for the money as the helo sinks. They fail to retrieve the money.

Anger. They scream and slap the water. The money has slipped away into very deep water.

One last attempt: Wommack makes a deep, deep dive. Fails and almost kills himself.

The men tread water. Dispair.

Sanberg and Houchen arrive with the floatation devices, emergency beacon they are about to activate the beacon when...

Suddenly the life jackets bring the money to the surface. The helo has turned in the water on its side and the package has floated out the open door. Not only is it millions in cash but also a flotation device for the two SEALs.

Now the screams of anger turn to screams of victory.

HOUCHEN
Well, I guess we don’t need this anymore.
Houchen is about to let the emergency beacon float away.

SANBERG
Don’t do that.

HOUCHEN
Why? I don’t want anybody out here ‘rescuing’ my money.

SANBERG
Well, you just hold onto that. You might change your mind.

EXT. YACHT – DUSK

The gunfire has shredded the bridge; all the electronic equipment is ruined.

Vicsik and Gaudio try to repair the throttle.

GAUDIO
It’s the throttle. The throttle assembly is shattered and the cable has slipped down. Run down there and see if you can’t push it up.

From under the bridge, Vicsik has found the cable and pushes it up.

VICSIK
Can you see it?

Gaudio grabs it with a pair of pliers.

VICSIK
Can you see it?

GAUDIO
Got it!

Guerrero and Raz go to the carts and mark a line along the path of the tanker. It appears that the tanker is headed directly toward the Persian Gulf.
GUERRERO
This tanker was headed west and now it’s going into the gulf.

RAZ
With tons of palm oil.

GUERRERO
They are going to ram someone.
(half beat)
Radio the Farragut.

RAZ
No way. Everything is shot up.
Internet, radar, radio. All out.

GUERRERO
We have to get moving.

RAZ
They finish rigging the throttle.

GUERRERO
Try it now.

The captain pulls the pliers and the yacht lurches forward.

EXT. SEA OF ADEN - NIGHT
Sanberg, Houchens, Grum and Wommack are treading water. The helicopter glass has cut them in few places. They see a shark fin break the water. There is no chatter or panic.

Only Sanberg has managed to keep his goggles. He puts them and is ready to fight.

FLASH BACK TO ENCINITAS TRAINING BASE - NIGHT
The SEAL trainees are lined up and an INSTRUCTOR is briefing them.

SEAL INSTRUCTOR
This is the land-warfare phase of your training. To pass SEAL training, there are a series of long swims that must be completed. This one is the night swim. You
are about to be flown to San Clemente Island. The waters off San Clemente are a breeding ground for great white sharks. But don’t worry if you are attacked it will probably be a tiger, reef or blue responsible. Your mission is simple; avoid being killed and eaten.

(beat)
I’m just kidding you; I can assure you that no student has ever been eaten by a shark - at least not recently and not totally consumed.

(beat)
Fight or flight? Fight. You will never outswim a shark. You stop swimming and you face them eye to eye, man to aquatic vampire. And you fight!

(beat)
Do not split the belly of the animal with your knife. Do not riddle the shark with bullets.

(beat)
Is that understood?

SEALS
Sir. Yes. Sir.

END FLASHBACK

Sanberg is eye-ballng a shark. Has his head buried under the water's surface, his eyes glued on the shark closing in on them. Protectively and certainly courageously, Sanberg cocks his arm in order to punch the shark as Houchens stays close by his side. Focused and fearless, the SEAL-like Sanberg is clearly not backing down.

Sanberg fights the shark. The shark comes at Sanberg repeatedly and is punched. The shark darts away only to return in a few seconds.

Houchens, Grum and Wommack talk nervously, while this battle of nerve takes place. They are trying not to think about it or show fear.
GRUM
So, how much did we get?

WOMMACK
Guerrero said the going rate is $5 to $6 million. But he said last year there was a Korean ship that set a new record. Nine point five million.

HOUCHENS
Nobody brings home the bacon like a pirate.

Sanberg surfaces.

HOUCHENS
Sanberg you need some help?

SANBERG
Nope. I got this.
(half beat)
Eventually he will tire and leave.

Sanberg submerges again.

INT. YACHT - STATE ROOM - NIGHT

Gudaha is under the knife and the ship lurches forward. The doctor/surgeon is under a great deal of pressure. Lajani is assisting him. The wound is grave.

Lajani runs to the bridge.

EXT. YACHT BRIDGE - NIGHT

LAJANI
The doctor says to stop the boat.

The ship is stopped. Everyone sits around nervously.

VICSIK
Thank God for cables. If this was electronic controls. We would be screwed.

Time passes...
INT. YACHT – STATE ROOM – PRE-DAWN

The bullet is removed and placed in a coffee cup. Gudaha is stitched up. The doctor and the Lajani are relieved.

EXT. SEA OF ADEN – DAWN

The SEALs in the water (Sanberg, Houchens, Grum and Wommack) are left to tread water.

Actual Somali pirates from Boqor Naahi Maydh looking for a ship to attack stumble across the SEALs in the water. The pirates circle the floating men like sharks.

The Somali gibberish becomes more and more intense, until the Somali are in a rage. The SEALs just ignore them.

A Somali stands up and points his AK at the SEALs. The SEALs appear helpless, but imagine the expression on the Somali’s faces when the SEAL raise their weapons above the water line. Most of the weapons are on top of the money out of the water but under a small towel. The SEAL gunfire is accurate and they kill or seriously wound most of the pirates.

The problem is the pirates skiff’s outboard is engaged and it carries them away from the men. The rudder is over to one side and the boat is eventually going in travel in a wider and wider circle.

Sanberg estimates where the skiff will go and takes off to intercept. He takes 200 strokes after the boat. He almost catches the skiff; his hand slips off the side. Of course it was impossible to catch a motored boat and most people wouldn’t even attempt it; even idling the outboard will carry the skiff away.

One of the Somalis are hanging half way out of the skiff perhaps dead (perhaps not), but dripping blood into the water. This will definitely draw sharks.

Sanberg returns to the group.
HOUCHENS
That boat is going to leave a huge circular trail for sharks to follow.

The men’s hope sinks. They look seriously hard at the emergency beacon, but it has a bullet hole in it.

EXT. BRIG’S SKIFF – SEA OF ADEN – DAY

Brigs hears the radio traffic. He has the only working radio. He can’t contact the yacht.

But he labors on to try to rescue the helo group.

He dutifully fills the fuel tank with fuel from the containers.

Wind and sun. He persists.

EXT. YACHT – NIGHT

The SEALs are sitting around waiting. Everyone is contemplating something.

Gudaha is out of the make-shift surgery.

LAJANI
He’s okay. Okay to move the ship.

The entire crew is relieved. It’s the money of course but also they have grow in like Gudaha.

The yacht is up and running again. All the SEALS spring into action. The waiting is over.

Guerrero puts his finger on the chart.

GUERRERO
We will follow the path of the tanker toward the Persian Gulf.

Guerrero and Raz whisper.

RAZ
(whispering)
The helos.

GUERRERO
Can’t right now.  
(half beat)  
We will have to go back for them.

RAZ
They are in the water.

GUERRERO
I know.

RAZ
Well, the dilemma is clear.

GUERRERO
We can save your team members (and  
get the money), or warn the  
carrier.

RAZ
We can’t warn the carrier. No  
radio.

GUERRERO
If we overtake and board the  
tanker, we might be implicated in  
the theft of the money.

RAZ
Military prison.

Guerrero taps the chart again, signaling ‘we follow the  
tanker’.

GUERRERO
No. We take the tanker down before  
they get an opportunity to use it.

The other SEALs don’t question the choice. They look at  
Guerrero but don’t question him. They are looking for any  
hesitation and Guerrero shows nothing but resolve.

EXT. SEA OF ADEN - DAY
Brigs appears worried. He is at or near the correct GPS coordinates but he can’t find his friends. He keeps checking the coordinates and changes directions several times. He seems to be going in circles. Straining his eyes in every direction.

Dispair. However, Brigs spots a skiff with the dead Somali hanging half out. The skiff idles past him so close that Brigs can see inside. Four more dead Somalis are revealed. Brigs smiles and takes heart; he is in the right general area.

BRIGS
(to himself)
Okay, dead bodies. I’m in the general area. That’s good.

EXT. YACHT – SEA OF ADEN – DAY

The SEALs rig a parasail from their kite surfing equipment. They put Gaudio up 100 or more feet in the air. They give him a walkie-talkie and binoculars. This conversation is conducted by walkie-talkie.

GAUDIO
Chief Gaudio to the Farragut. Come in.
(beat)
Chief Gaudio to the Farragut. Come in.
(beat)
Chief Gaudio to any radio operator. Come in.
(beat)
Chief Gaudio to any radio operator. Come in. Please.

RIZ
Okay.
(half beat)
Try again in 5 mins.

GAUDIO
What direction you think the tanker is?
RIZ
Straight ahead.

GUERRERO
(to Raz)
Might be in any direction.
(half beat)
Might have passed them in the night.

RIZ
Correct that. Any direction.

Gaudio shifts his vision in various directions.

EXT. SEA OF ADEN - DAY

The SEALs treading water are surrounded by aggressive sharks – twenty of them. Sanberg is in his defensive posture. But the others are fighting sharks as well.

Just in time, Brigs arrives. Brigs shots five sharks, which are cannibalized immediately, and picks up the SEALs in the skiff.

EXT. YACHT – SEA OF ADEN – DUSK

Gaudio has been up in the kite all day. He is weary and dehydrated. But he spots what might be a tanker, THE tanker.

GAUDIO
I have her. Straight ahead come 5 points to the port.

The SEALs gear up again. Commercially available night vision gear. They blacken their faces, necks and hands.

GUERRERO
You sure?

GAUDIO
Looks like it to me.
(beat)
AND the idiots are flying an Al Qaeda flag. Running light are on.
GUERRERO
Thank god they are stupid, huh?

RIZ
If they had half a brain we would never catch them.

GAUDIO
I need relieved.

GUERRERO
Can you maneuver that thing?

GAUDIO
A bit yeah.

GUERRERO
Tonight, we are going to put you on her deck. Secure a line and we will STS over.

GAUDIO
Ship-to-ship?

GUERRERO
Can you do it?

GAUDIO
Gonna take some balls?

GUERRERO
You got them!

GAUDIO
Not mine, yours! You guys are the ones out on a rope.

They don’t stop the yacht. It takes about eight SEALs to pull Gaudio and the parasail down to the deck.

Gaudio takes a bottle of water and chugs it and holds his hand out for another.

INT. BRIDGE - YACHT - NIGHT

Raz and Guerrero are bent over the carts table. The Captain is at the helm.
GUERRERO
We don’t want to catch them. Just hold her steady.

CAPTAIN
Okay.

GUERRERO
Keep this distance and we will pull along aside about midnight.

CAPTAIN
The tanker is speeding up and slowing down.

GUERRERO
Why would they do that?

RIZ
Timing something they are meeting or intercepting.

GUERRERO
But what?

Long beat. Guerrero slaps the charts.

GUERRERO
The Straits of Harmus.
(beat)
The Roosevelt. Briggs heard them talking about the Big Stick. And they are going to do it here.

Guerrero points to the chart.

RIZ
How do you know?

GUERRERO
I don’t but she will have less room to manoeuvre. And this is the ideal place for an attack; if successful the wreckage could halt traffic in and out of the Persian Gulf.
RIZ
At the very least it could be a major nautical obstruction.

CAPTAIN
About 20% of the world's petroleum (about 35% of the petroleum traded by sea) passes through the strait.

GUERRERO
It's all too slick, the hijacking, palm oil, the helicopter, they speak Arabic suddenly and now their heading...

INT. GALLEY - YACHT - DUSK

Bravely, Gudaha is out of his bed and in the kitchen. The SEALs are at a table out on the deck waiting for dinner.

GARCIA
I wonder what we are having tonight.

Garcia sticks his head into the kitchen. Garcia is shocked to see Gudaha, who is in pain but cooking.

GARCIA
What are we having tonight?

GUDAHA
Baked Greek Shrimp With Tomatoes and Feta, with Red pepper flakes, oregano, and mint. Go sit down, sir. Please.

Garcia returns to the table. The men are anxious to eat.

LEVY
Well?

GARCIA
You know I can’t understand what that little guy is saying something about shrimp and mints.
The SEALs are served their dinner alone out on the stern deck. The rest of the ship’s crew eats in the galley - the doctor, the two deck hands, Lajani.

As dinner is being served, the Captain maintains the same distance.

Guerrero sits in the galley but doesn’t eat.

LAJANI
What is going to happen tonight?

GUERRERO
At approximately midnight local time, we will pull this boat next to the tanker. Gaudio will use his kite contraption to establish a ship-to-ship line. And we’ll assault the ship. This boat will then pull away and maintain a position, one mile south.

LAJANI
Right.

GUERRERO
During the entire time we are off the boat, all of you will carry your side arms. We cannot let any pirates board our ship. We will use the walkie-talkies when we are returning to the ship, but I think we all can expect to have a long night. We are in the middle of nowhere; you will need to remain vigilant.

(half beat)
I’ve gone over this with the captain. But, any questions?

Guerrero leaves to eat with the SEALs.
INT. STERN DECK - YACHT - DUSK

It is obvious to everyone that the SEAL team wants to be alone.

When Guerrero arrives at the table the air is as palpable as the odor of the food.

GUERRERO
Richardt is standing watch on the top deck. If there is any sign of trouble Richardt will spot it.
(half beat)
Make sure you leave him some chow.

No one is talking. They are only eating.

Guerrero fills a full plate of food.

GUERRERO

Guerrero, grabs a piece of bread from the center of the table.

GUERRERO
This is real Greek style shrimp, and it is very good. I’m starving.

The whole table is quiet for several minutes.

Finally, Jefferson stops eating and looked directly at Guerrero.

JEFFERSON
Sir...

GUERRERO
Stop with the sir. For Christ’s sake.

JEFFERSON
Okay, sorry. About Sanberg and them... can you tell us what is going on?
GUERRERO
I’m sorry. We need to get this
done. Neutralize that ship and
then we can go get them.

The SEAL team silently goes to the kitchen, returning their
plates, coffee cups, and utensils. Raz remains at the
table.

As they get up from the table, Guerrero has a few parting
comments.

GUERRERO
They are SEALs just like you; the
water isn’t an obstacle.
(half beat)
Houchens radioed they were down
but swimming for the money.

Guerrero sees the grim seriousness on their faces.

RIZ
Money was the wrong thing to say.

GUERRERO
I’m going up. Richardt will be
down here in a minute.

Guerrero puts his half eaten plate on the deck.

Recruit (the dog) comes over and calmly cleans the plate.

GUERRERO
(to the dog)
Well, Recruit you are on your own	onight. Musims hate dogs. We have
a Muslim captain, owner and crew.

Lajani approaches Guerrero.

LAJANI
I was wondering, if I should keep
an eye on Recruit tonight?

GUERRERO
Don’t worry about him. He’ll be
fine.
LAJANI
You want me to put him in my cabin? Would that be okay with you?

GUERRERO
Thanks. But he can help stand watch. Just leave him out on the deck here.
(half beat)
You and Recruit should stay here on the stern deck. If the pirates try to board us, this is the most likely place.

The doctor arrives.

DOCTOR
I should stand watch here, too?

GUERRERO
No, you should be up on the bow deck.

Guerrero looks at their faces, they are wearing deadly serious expressions.

GUERRERO
But, I don’t expect anything to happen. We are hunting them, not the other way around.
(half beat)
There’s just one more thing. Get you some night vision. There will be no lights tonight and we must be totally quiet. Sound can carry across the water.

LAJANI
You mean we can’t have any loud disco music tonight?

Guerrero smiles.

GUERRERO
No. And wear dark clothing.
DOCTOR
My wife says I look distinguished in black.

GUERRERO
I know, this isn’t exactly your cup of tea, but it’s vital to the ship. We will be counting on you guys to cover the deck, and make them pay if somehow they manage to get aboard.

LAJANI
Not to worry. We understand completely.

Gudaha approaches Guerrero.

GUDAHA
I wish there is something more I can do.

GUERRERO
I meant to tell you that shrimp was excellent.

GUDAHA
Thank you.

GUERRERO
Where did you learn that?

GUDAHA
My mother was a cook at a hotel in Mombassa. Sir, I want to help.

GUERRERO
How about a feast, have it all laid out when the men get back.

GUDAHA
Certainly.

GUERRERO
You want to help out?
  (half beat)
What if your best dish?

GUDAHA
Nyama choma and chapati. Pilau, sukuma wiki, masala chips, kachumbari. Matoke.

GUERRERO
What is that?

GUDAHA
Beef, flat bread, rice, greens, potatoes, tomatoes and onions. And, banana stew.

GUERRERO
Wonderful. We will be back in the morning.

Guerrero climbs the stairs and spells Richardt, who comes down to eat.

GUERRERO
(to Richardt)
Go grab some chow. Dinner tonight was shrimp, and it’s really awesome.

Guerrero stands on the upper deck alone. In front of him is the tanker, barely visible on the horizon. Behind him, the sun has just set to the west.

Later...

EXT. YACHT - NIGHT

The SEALs are assembled on the stern deck with all their gear. They make a last minute check of their weapons and equipment. They have walkie-talkies and earphones.

The moon is setting and the SEALs begin their mission. The SEALs, wearing black clothing, their faces, necks, and hands covered with dark grease paint, were barely visible in the departing moon. They stand on the deck dark shadows. Eerie life forms not necessarily human. Nothing is said.
The yacht pulls beside and Gaudio tries to maneuver over the tanker. In the air and on the way down, Gaudio takes out his pistol and screws on the silencer.

It is impossible for Gaudio to maneuver down. He can only go left and right being pulled behind a yacht. So he cuts one (or more) of the parasail cords and does come down. He comes in at an odd/impossible angle, but is successful.

Gaudio, on the way down, kills the only guard on deck with a perfect headshot. He lands and is pulled across the deck until he becomes a human raffling hook. The rope tightens and pulls Gaudio against the tanker rail. The rope slackens and he is able to tie off the rope. The SEALs are ready to come over.

EXT. TANKER - NIGHT

GUERRERO
(into the radio)
Be ready with the skiff, if we have to abort.

LAJANI
(onto the radio)
Understood.

GUERRERO
Who’s got the satchel charge?

RICHARDT
I do, sir.

VICSIK
Lucky you man!

RIZ
(to Guerrero)
You’re taking a satchel charge?

GUERRERO
Just in case.

RIZ
If we get into a tight spot...
GUERRERO
... and we can’t get out, we have to blow the ship.
(half beat)
We might die, but Al Qaeda won’t have the tanker.

RIZ
Well try your best not to let that happen.

GUERRERO
Everyone ready?

In the dark, they all nod quietly.

GUERRERO
(into radio)
So long, Lajani. Stay close to your radio.

LAJANI
(into the radio)
Good luck.

GAUDIO
Hooked up.

Guerrero watches the rope tighten and go slack. The ships are going roughly the same speed but the undulating sea makes ship-to-ship transfer difficult.

GUERRERO
We are caught. Over you go.

The first SEAL to shinny across is Richardt; he goes in the drink for a few seconds. Everything goes underwater except the walkie-talkie. The captain of the yacht is doing his very best to keep things steady but it isn’t easy.

Gaudio moves to the door into the superstructure and covers it with his pistol.

The first SEAL over is Richardt and he is getting dunked as the ships are too near each other. Two terrorists come from the superstructure door. Gaudio kills them both instantly.
GAUDIO
Two down. Clear.

The first SEAL is over onto the tanker. Richardt runs to Gaudio’s side and attaches his silencer to his pistol.

Others follow. The going gets easier with less flux in the rope and the SEALs are all on the tanker. They fan out and sweep the deck looking for guards. They find no one and congregate back near Gaudio.

GARCIA
(into the radio)
The deck is clear. We’re in position.

Guerrero is the last SEAL over. He cuts the rope connecting them to the yacht.

GUERRERO
(into the radio)
We are all here. Go.

LAJANI
Understood.

The yacht peels off and holds a position away from the tanker.

Richardt and Gaudio open the door to the superstructure.

There is a long empty hall. At the end of the hall is a galley, in the galley there are four terrorists. Richardt and Gaudio run down the hall firing. The pirates are surprised to see the figures in black suddenly running down the hall. Two reach for AKs and two are frozen. Before they can raise their weapons, all four of them are dead.

GAUDIO
Four down. Clear.

Vicsik and Levy are walking their way up the stairs to the bridge. There isn’t any resistance. They wait in the stairwell, just outside the bridge.
VICSIK
We are ready for the bridge. We need some more guns up here.

Vicsik and Levy are joined by Richardt and Gaudio. Garcia and Hernandez arrive. Vicsik signals they are opening the door.

Vicsik goes inside first, followed by Richardt. The six of them move through the door to the bridge. There are four pirates, standing around the captain’s chair. When all six SEALs are on the bridge, they began to fire. The four men are killed instantly.

VICSIK
Four more down.

GAUDIO
How many is that?

RIZ
Gambling on this?

INT. ENGINE ROOM – TANKER – NIGHT

Jefferson has a break entry axe. One side is a spike and the other a blade.

Raz and Jefferson peak in the engine room and there are three terrorists. There isn’t any easy sneaking up on them.

Raz and Jefferson just charge down the stairs into the engine room. There is a brief gun battle. One of the three terrorists has an AK and there is a short gun battle. But when they run out of ammunition, the terrorists lock themselves in a tool room.

Jefferson is about to use the axe on the door. But he spots a container. It appears to be gasoline or a solvent to clean tools. He take a whiff. He uses the spike on the axe to put a one-inch hole in door. He pours the liquid in through the vents on the door. The terrorists cough a few times and open the door. They pitch out a granade.

Jefferson tackles Raz and pushes him down to the floor. But the grenade is too close and it explodes. Jefferson is
struck by shrapnel in several places on the right side of his body.

Raz pushes the whale of a man off him. Jefferson rolls over onto his back.

Jefferson is bleeding in about eight places. Face, hands, arms, legs and hip. His armoured jacket has protected his torso. But he is clearly down and out of action.

RIZ
(onto radio)
Man down. Engine room.

INT. HALLWAYS OF TANKER – NIGHT

Guerrero is about to reach the bridge when he hears Raz’s broadcast.

Guerrero turns the runs down the stairs and then toward the stern.

He is running to the engine room but it is a maze of hallways. Several terrorists emerge from rooms where they were sleeping. Guerrero shots several in front of him. Hernandez shots several behind him.

GUERRERO
(to the radio)
Send the skiff. Tell the doc, a man is injured.

LAJANI
(to the radio)
What are the injuries?

RAZ
(to radio)
Shrapnel.

INT. ENGINE ROOM – TANKER – NIGHT

Raz kneels over Jefferson who is on his back.

JEFFERSON
Raz, I’m hit.
RIZ
Can you hear me?

JEFFERSON
Yeah.

RIZ
How many fingers do you see?

JEFFERSON
Four.

RIZ
Okay you’ll live.

JEFFERSON
You can’t tell that from fingers.

RIZ
Yes, I can. I know. I went to school for this shit.

Raz pulls out his knife and cuts Jefferson’s uniform open in several places. The wounds are not life threatening.

The terrorists cough more from the tool room. Raz notices some of the liquid escaping under the door. There is a Dutch tobacco pipe there in the engine room and a lighter. Raz sets the liquid on fire. The flames rush into the tool room and ignite other chemicals. The terrorist scream and are of course burned to death.

JEFFERSON
Atta boy. I’d have done the same thing.

Raz pulls out his medical kit and wraps the wounds with heavy gauze tape.

RIZ
I don’t see any bad bleeding, so none of your arteries are hit. Can you move?

JEFFERSON
Let’s try.
Jefferson holds up his hand, and Raz (a smaller guy) pulls the hulk Jefferson to his feet.

JEFFERSON
I’m feeling a little light headed.

RIZ
I don’t want to give you anything until we get back on the yacht. You’re going to have to deal with the pain.

JEFFERSON
Can you hand me my rifle?

Smoke is beginning to bellow out of the tool room.

RIZ
Let’s move out.

INT. YACHT – NIGHT

The captain speeds the yacht toward tanker. The doctor and Lajani man the skiff and start over.

INT. SLEEPING COMPARTMENTS – NIGHT

The SEALs are breaching every sleeping compartment on the ship. Three times they breach a door and a terrorists inside are shot. A fourth door contains the Danish captain. He is tied and the door is locked; the SEALs are so wired up, he is almost shot.

DANISH CAPTAIN
Who are you?

LEVY
U.S. Navy SEALs, sir.

DANISH CAPTAIN
Oh, thank, God. (half beat) I think my crew was killed.

LEVY
That is affirmative, sir. (half beat)
We need to get you on deck and out of here.

Jefferson and the Captain are taken up to the deck. A lone ‘kamikaze’ terrorist emerges from a dark recess firing wildly and the Danish Captain jumps in front of the immobile Jefferson. A bullet enters Danish Captain’s heart. He dies almost immediately. The kamikaze is shot about twelve times.

Jefferson is lowered to the skiff from the yacht.

INT. TANKER – EARLY MORNING

Guerrero returns to the bridge. The SEALs distribute themselves all about the tanker. Everyone is still searching for the terrorists.

The yacht has pulled very near. The skiff, carrying Jefferson, the doctor and Lajani is returning to the yacht.

INT. TANKER – NIGHT

More fighting aboard the tanker.

INT. TANKER – EARLY MORNING

Once on the bridge Guerrero and Raz find a satellite phone. They look at the log of calls made.

RAZ
Calls made to Denmark (well of course), Dubai, Yemen, but London and Paris? Alexandria?

GUERRERO
Egypt?

RAZ
Virginia.

Guerrero hears a beep. It is the tanker’s radar. There is a huge dot on the radar screen and directly in front of them. The sun is just coming up. Guerrero can hardly make it out. But as they progress, he can see it is an aircraft carrier. Panic. The tanker is in the wrong place at the
wrong time - headed directly for the Roosevelt in the Strait of Hormuz. It is suicide.

Guerrero turns the wheel hard to starboard away from the yacht. But the ship takes seemingly forever to turn.

GUERRERO
(to the radio)
Everyone on deck. Now!

The SEALs gather on the deck.

A second target on the tanker’s radar appears. Guerrero has turned the ship away from the Roosevelt but directly into another ship. It is closing the distance fast.

GUERRERO
Set the satchel charge and abandon ship. Port side.

RICHARDT
Understood.

GUERRERO
Abandon ship.
(half beat)
Swim for the yacht. Leave your equipment.

The yacht is on the port side of the ship. On the starboard side of the tanker we can see the ship is approaching at flank speed.

Raz and Guerrero can see it is the Farragut. The Farragut is coming directly at them and at a rapid pace.

At just the moment that Raz puts down the satellite phone, the Farragut fires a harpoon missile at that tanker.

The SEALs have striped down and they dive into the water.

Raz and Guerrero exit the bridge to a port side bridge deck. They can see the yacht waiting for them. They can see the SEALs swimming in that direction.

The ship-to-ship missile from the Farragut slams into the tanker. Raz and Guerrero are violently thrown into rails
and then to the floor. Miraculously, the cargo doesn’t immediately burn or explode. Raz and Guerrero are shaken up badly. Smoke is beginning to fill the air.

EXT. DESTROYER - DAY

The missile doesn’t immediately ignite the palm oil. The impact cracks the hull however and the oil begins to spill out into the ocean.

The missile also catches the Al Qaeda flag on fire. The surface of the ocean is soon covered with the burning oil. The seals are racing to the yacht. The burning flag falls into the oil and begins to burn.

The missile from the destroyer has impacted on the superstructure. Guerrero and Raz have made it to the yacht side of the burning superstructure.

The SEALS are racing from the spreading oil and flames.

It threatens to overtake the SEALS swimming away.

Eventually they lose the race and must dive under the oil and swim without breathing for a terribly long period.

Just after the black flag falls off the pole into the oil, Raz and Guerrero take a huge dive into the water. By the time they impact the water it is covered with flames.

The fire spreads as far as the yacht. The yacht is slightly burned and must move away from the tanker. The doctor and the millionaire are aiming fire extinguishers over the side at the fire burning along the waterline of the yacht.

For a moment the burning oil reaches the yacht and catches it on fire. The Captain moves the yacht a hundred yards away from the flames. But the boat is still on fire at the waterline.

Brigs arrives at the Yacht with Sanberg, Houchens, Grum and Wommack (with the money). The captain pitches the fire extinguisher down to the skiff. The SEALS put the fire out. Brigs drops off Sanberg, Houchens Grum and Wommack and they board the yacht. These seals go under the deck with the money and emerge with fifty caliber machine guns. They are set up and ready to fire.
The flames are spreading outward away from the tanker; Brigs motors toward the burning tanker and the sea of flames.

It appears that the SEALs from the tanker might have drowned or burned to death. But Brigs goes out to the edge of the flames.

Long beat.

But the SEALs emerge from the flames. They have traveled underwater to escape.

Richardt, Gaudio, Vicsik, Levy, Garcia, Hernandez, Raz survive.

As they climb into the skiff, Brigs radios the names.

    BRIGS
    Richardt made it.
    (beat)
    I have Gaudio.
    (beat)
    Vicsik
    (beat)
    Levy
    (beat)
    Garcia
    (beat)
    Hernandez
    (long beat)
    Raz is here.

    SANBERG
    What about Guerrero?

Very long beat. Guerrero is the last to climb into the skiff.

    BRIGS
    Guerrero. Guerrero is out.

Sanberg, Houchens, Grum, Wommack are accounting for everyone. And they slap high fives when all the SEALs escape.
GUERRERO
I’m the last one?

BRIGS
Yes.

GUERRERO
Get going. We’ve got men in the water.

BRIGS
I picked them up. They’re on the yacht.

GUERRERO
You did? Excellent.

The destroyer arrives on the scene, but the smoke from the fire obscures the skiff and the yacht seems to slip away.

INT. DESTROYER - DAY

The navy is however aware of the yacht by radar.

OFFICER
Target that radar contact.

The yacht is targeted with missiles.

The tanker is slowly sinking. Eventually the yacht comes from behind the burning tanker, out of the smoke, into view.

The destroyer can see the American flag on the yacht, but little else.

RADIO OPERATOR
This is the USS Farragut. You are in a restricted military area. Identify yourself.

However, the navy thinks the flag is a ruse and demand radio contact and identification. But the yacht radio has been destroyed.
RADIO OPERATOR
We are about to fire? Respond. Respond.

There is a mad race for the radio on the skiff still.

Lajani takes the radio out of the skiff to the deck. The millionaire tries to persuade the destroyer not to fire on the yacht, but he has an Arabic accent.

A Navy officer watching through binoculars, flames and smoke, sees a Arabic man dressed in black with a portable radio.

OFFICER
Captain, that is a pirate. Middle eastern man, dressed in black.

RADIO OPERATOR
This is the USS Farragut. You are in a restricted military area. Identify your self.
(half beat)
We are about to fire? Respond. Respond.

Lajani is a naturalized American but has a thick Arabic accent.

LAJANI
Hello. This is Bahadur Lajani. I’m the owner of this boat.

RADIO OPERATOR
Sir, you are flying an American flag.

LAJANI
Yes, the ship is registered in the United States. I live in Los Angeles.

RADIO OPERATOR
But you are not an American. Is that correct?
L AJANI
Yes, I was naturalized in 1976 when I left Iran.

The destroyer’s officers and crew are biased and scoff. They would like to see another missile fly.

R A D I O  O P E R A T O R
Sir, you are in a restricted military area. If you can not identify yourself we will open fire.

G U E R R E R O
Give me that.

Guerrero takes the radio.

G U E R R E R O
This is Danny Guerrero. I’m a SEAL. I live in Coronado, California.
(half beat)
Do not fire.
(half beat)
There are 14 SEALs on board. We have been on leave, surfing, fishing.
(half beat)
We are headed to Dubai.

R A D I O  O P E R A T O R
Danny is that you?

G U E R R E R O
Been surfin’.
(half beat)
No one but frogmen over here. Don’t kill us.

R A D I O  O P E R A T O R
The only easy day was yesterday?

G U E R R E R O
Actually, yes.
CAPTAIN
Anyone have eyes on this?

There is a break in the smoke and the Navy spotter sees Guerrero.

OBSERVER
It’s Guerrero alright, sir.

INT. DUBAI BANK – DAY

Lajani with more than a few SEALs walk into a bank with a very large ice chest. Lajani has banking friends. There is rather a lot of paper work that exchanges hands. It seems clear that the money is deposited in various accounts without too many questions.

EXT. DUBAI – DAY

The yacht is moored to the dock. It isn’t the pristine luxury boat anymore. It is riddled with bullet holes, has smoke and fire damage. Half the surfboards are broken and in halves; others have bullet holes.

All of the SEALs have injuries but mostly “sports” injuries. Several have burns but might be written off as serious sunburns. Everyone is resting in the shade. They each have a beer. Jefferson has been brought out to the deck and is reclining in a deck chair. He has some serious bandages on the various wound.

Lajani and the SEALs return from the bank and board the yacht. The SEALs that remained on board are given account information (papers). Hernandez read his paper.

HERNANDEZ
Euros?

LAJANI
Yes. What is the problem?

HERNANDEZ
Okay, fine but, Euros?

RAZ
They are worth more than dollars.
GRUM
What? How is that?

The SEAL commander and the junior officers get off a bus that has brought them from the airport. The Farragut is there. The SEAL commander looks at both ships. He picks out the yacht and makes a bee-line for it. The junior officers make for the destroyer walking as-fast-as-possible.

RAZ
You want to hear a pirate story? The Russian navy retook a hijacked ship and sent ten pirates back to sea in an inflatable without navigation equipment or water, 300 miles from Somalia. When asked, the Russian Captain said: “I expect they died.” And then he added, “Why should Russia feed pirates?”

Just then the SEAL Commander appears on the deck of the yacht. Clearly he heard at least the last of Raz’s story. He looks around he is apparently pissed. The men scramble to their feet. Even Jefferson rises painfully.

Lajani is on the bridge working with his new computer. Online, he donates 601,672 Euros to the Commanders’ daughter’s fund.

SEAL Commander reviews the SEALs as the stand on the deck.

COMMANDER
What happened to you?

LEVY
Sunburn, sir.

COMMANDER
(to Jefferson)
And you?

GARCIA
Reef burn, sir.

COMMANDER
You?
VICSIK
Surfing accident, sir.

COMMANDER
You, you are holding your gut.

GAUDIO
Parasailing, sir. Crashed from 100 feet. Survived.

COMMANDER
Right. You clowns.

The Commander doesn’t actually search but walks through the entire yacht, which is relatively empty of weapons. However he finds a bullet casing.

COMMANDER
What is this?

GUERRERO
We were attacked, sir.

The Commander finds a surfboard semi-hidden under a bed. It is only half a board, but it is riddled with bullet holes.

COMMANDER
And this?

GUERRERO
Pirates, sir.

COMMANDER
They killed your surfboard?

GUERRERO
They are very bad aim, sir.

COMMANDER
Cell phone.

The Commander holds out his hand.

Guerrero hands his phone over. The Commander flips through the photos on the phone. Surfing, more surfing, hiking, wind surfing, a whale breaching, swimming with dolphins, a
photo of a shark, the huge swordfish bleeding out on the
deck. All relatively innocent pictures.

The Commander is about to leave but spots a tourniquet under a bed.

COMMANDER
Happened here?

GUERRERO
It’s a tourniquet, sir.

COMMANDER
What happened?

GUERRERO
Sharks, sir.

COMMANDER
Who was bitten by a shark?

GUERRERO
No one, sir.

Beat. The commander waits for more explanation.

GUERRERO
SEALs stop swimming and fight, sir.

EXT. DESTROYER – DAY

The junior officers on the destroyer as they peak around a
corner at the yacht. The captain comes up behind them.

CAPTAIN
What are you two girls doing?

They jump three inches in fright.

JR OFFICERS
Nothing, sir.

RUIZ
Happy to be back aboard, sir.
The captain glances at the yacht. We can see the SEAL commander on the deck now lecturing the SEALs.

CAPTAIN
Don’t tell me, you were several thousand miles away at the time.

RUIZ
Well, yes sir. As a matter of fact.

The captain looks at the half destroyed yacht again. He shakes his head in disbelief.

EXT. YACHT – DAY

Everyone is on the deck. SEALs and Commander. The Commander is mad as hell.

Gudaha is in the kitchen. He has locked the door and sits frightened of the Commander.

The Commander is examining each SEAL for missing limbs. He is still holding the tourniquet.

COMMANDER
You think you are expendable? Surfing? What horse shit! The U.S. government has spent about half a million dollars each on your training and you risk it playing Ocean’s Eleven!

GUERRERO
Who? Sir, What?

COMMANDER
Guerrero, your enlistment is about up. I don’t know why but I expect you to re-up.

GUERRERO
Of course sir. Never thought about not.

The Commander’s phone rings.
COMMANDER
Hi Honey. I just got here.
(beat)
Dealing with stuff. Any news?
(beat)
What? 600 what?
(beat)
Really. Where did it come from?
(beat)
Online?
(beat)
I don’t know any Iranian billionaires. No.

Long beat. The Commander looks at all 14 SEALs, trying to judge their character and determine their level of involvement.

COMMANDER
No. I have no idea.
(beat)
Okay, love you too. Bye.

Long beat. The Commander looks at the group. He glances down at his cell phone. The Commander gives them one more long penetrating look. He figures they are responsible for his daughter’s cancer donation.

COMMANDER
I would let you all go, but the next group will be probably more messed up than you.

Guerrero smiles and gives the Commander the thumbs up. Big smiles with the SEALs.

SANBERG
Right, sir. We are all on board.

GUERRERO
No worries.

COMMANDER
Two more days, and you are all due back on the Farragut.