SIFU'S WAY

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. JAPANESE POND - MORNING

A simple handmade TOY BOAT is floating on the calm surface. There is no wind. It just sits there.

SUPER: "JAPAN - 1956"

A STICK gently nudges it from shore, trying to get it to move. XIU LI, an asian girl about 8, holds the stick.

Up ahead, her FATHER is sitting at the top of the path among some water and rocks. He is in meditation posture, and SHINING with the WHITE LIGHT.

Xiu Li casually looks over to MOTHER, tending her pottery.

She then notices a SLIGHT TREMOR on the surface of the water. The toy boat begins to wobble. Mother also looks up, sensing something coming up the path.

And there, silhouetted against the morning light, appears a YOUNGER SIFU.

The toy boat CAPSIZES and begins to SINK.

INT. CAR - MORNING

SUPER: "BRAZIL - 2028"

JULIANA is waking up from a dream in the back of Dad's small car. Her dreadlocks are considerably longer.

They are at SAO PAULO AIRPORT in Brazil.

MOM

Juliana honey, wake up! We're late!

EXT. SAO PAULO AIRPORT - MORNING

They are all hurrying, clearly late. Masato is having some trouble with the wheels on his suitcase.

INT. SAO PAULO AIRPORT - MORNING

Juliana, Mom, Dad, and Masato are rushing through the airport, trying to figure out where to go.

Masato's suitcase finally tips over and POPS OPEN, his clothes and a few comic books spilling out.

Juliana looks back in stress and disbelief.

INT. SECURITY GATE - MORNING

They have reached the correct gate. Everyone is saying a hurried goodbye to Mom.

Juliana is first. She and Mom EMBRACE warmly, but Juliana chooses to be brave, and not give in to tears. Juliana leaves to go through security.

Next is Masato. Mom KISSES him on the forehead. Juliana looks back and sees that Mom is saying something to Masato, but she cannot hear.

Last is Dad. Juliana and Masato are already prepping to go through the metal detectors. Juliana looks back awkwardly, and sees Mom and Dad share a PASSIONATE KISS.

JULIANA

Let's go already! We're gonna miss the Tournament!

EXT. AIRPORT - MORNING

The plane takes off. The sky looks perfect for flying.

INT. PLANE - NIGHT

The lights are dimmed. Dad and Masato are deep asleep.

Juliana however is not. She sits awake next to Masato, flipping channels on the little SCREEN in front of her;

- Hollywood big-budget pro-war action propaganda
- News of various civil unrest, protests, police brutality
- Documentary about Hiroshima/Nagasaki
- Japanese game show
- Japanese anime

She turns it off, bored, her mind unable to stop. Then she notices that Masato is softly glowing with some sparkles of the White Light as he sleeps. No one else seems to notice.

This calms Juliana down, and she tries again to sleep.

INT. JAPANESE AIRPORT - DAY

Juliana, Dad, and Masato are exiting the plane. Immediately they recognize and are greeted by BOSS TANAKA, from their previous tournament in Brazil. He is flanked by a BODYGUARD.

JULIANA

Hey, I know you!

BOSS TANAKA

Yes, welcome to Japan! Please come with me, I will help you through customs much faster.

INT. AIRPORT VIP HALLWAY - DAY

They are all walking together, Boss Tanaka leading.

BOSS TANAKA

Forgive me if I startled you. Is everyone OK if I speak English?

All eyes on Dad.

DAD

Please. I need the practice.

BOSS TANAKA

I was afraid you might not have been able to avoid what is awaiting you.

JULIANA

Avoid?

He stops.

BOSS TANAKA

You have become a celebrity here in Japan. Everyone is talking about you. And the Light.

They approach a large one-way-mirror; as they walk past they can see a large CROWD behind it. Among them are numerous PAPARAZZI and many ARMED SECURITY GUARDS.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D)

That crowd is for you.

Masato does not understand. But indeed upon second inspection they see several images of Masato, his mask, and various toys and gizmos caricaturing him and the White Light.

MASATO

Me?

Boss Tanaka gestures towards a LIMOUSINE, their luggage already being loaded into the back.

BOSS TANAKA

Please.

INT. LIMOUSINE - DAY

Boss Tanaka shows them a TABLET DEVICE, playing various recent MEDIA CLIPS ABOUT MASATO;

- Clips of his fights in Brazil - clips of various TV discussions about him - anime homages/caricatures - daytime variety-show comedy spoofs.

BOSS TANAKA

Not everyone believes it. Some accuse us of fakery. Others are becoming almost religious about it! Some even speak of prophecy. But whatever their opinion...

He smiles.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D) They cannot wait to see you fight again!

INT. LIMOUSINE - LATER

They pull up to a 5-star HOTEL.

BOSS TANAKA

We must now attend a short Press Conference. Stay close to me, it will be my honor to help you.

The BODYGUARD opens the limo door. Outside are more groups of hysterical FANS and PHOTOGRAPHERS, and ARMED SECURITY.

There is also an AMERICAN FIGHTER, posing for the media.

JULTANA

I think we're underdressed.

INT. HOTEL BATHROOM - EVENING

Juliana is wearing a hotel robe, brushing her teeth. She is having trouble operating the modern Japanese sink technology.

A RED LIGHT keeps blinking. The water keeps running.

JULIANA

How the heck do you turn this off?

MASATO

(from outside) Juliana! It's ON!

The sink turns off by itself. Juliana is a bit tripped out.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

Masato is at the TV, turning up the volume of the Press Conference filmed a few hours ago. Dad is sitting by the bedside, trying unsuccessfully to use a phone card.

JULIANA

Hey Dad, you connect with Mom yet?

Dad shakes his head 'no', and holds up the phone for her to hear the ELEVATOR MUSIC.

They all look at the TV:

INT. TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE -- AFTERNOON

Boss Tanaka stands at a podium in the center, orchestrating the questions. Masato is seated to his right, Juliana and Dad squished in folding chairs behind him.

The other 7 TOURNAMENT FIGHTERS are also seated at the table, including the powerful-looking AMERICAN FIGHTER with coaches.

ENGLISH REPORTER

A question for the boss please; Do you think its wise to allow Masato to be using this White Light, considering it hasn't been scientifically studied yet? What do you say to those who suggest that until we understand exactly what it is, that it should be banned?

This gets a polarized response from the room, many taking offense to the comment, others in vehement agreement.

A MALE TRANSLATOR repeats the question back into Japanese.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

JULIANA

Aw, we missed like half of it! Is this clock wrong? What time is it?

INT. TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE - AFTERNOON

BOSS TANAKA

There have been no requests of banning that I'm aware of. Next question.

AMERICAN FIGHTER

Yo, are there any questions that AREN'T about this joke of a nerd here? You all KNOW I'm the favorite to win this whole thing!

Juliana sees that Masato has no reply, so she GRABS the mic.

JULIANA

Wait your turn, roid-boy! If you're the favorite, how come my boy Mas here is getting all the questions?

The crowd loves her, and erupts in laughter as her response is translated back into Japanese. The American Fighter is furious, but his coaches calm him down.

REPORTER 3

Masato! Do you think this is a new era of martial arts? Do you think we will see more new extreme styles like yours in the near future?

For once, the crowd silences down. Masato is thoughtful about the question, and after a few moments he leans into the microphone to answer. But Boss Tanaka INTERRUPTS;

BOSS TANAKA

I think we can all expect to see much change in the future. This is only the beginning. Ladies and gentlemen that will conclude the questions for today. Thank you for coming tonight.

INT. HOTEL ROOM -- EVENING

The footage of the Press Conference ends.

JULIANA

You should have stuck up for yourself more, Mas. You're too shy! These people like some trash talk! That American dude was pissed.

Juliana looks over to Dad, still on the phone.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Any luck yet?

Dad holds up the receiver, still playing the elevator music.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Juliana, Masato, and Dad are asleep. Juliana's eyelids TWITCH.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - DAY

Juliana is FLYING. Below, she sees images of herself as Xiu Li playing happily with her Mother and Father. Ahead, Juliana sees the COAST OF BRAZIL.

JULIANA

Mom?

She flies towards her TOWN, over the hills and rooftops.

MOM'S VOICE

Juliana? I'm here! Find me!!

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

Juliana wakes up.

EXT. SHINTO SHRINE - DAY

Juliana, Masato, and Dad are visiting a Shinto shrine. The mood is quiet and serene.

Dad appears especially nostalgic, in deep thought at his surroundings. Masato appears almost indifferent, his hand resting on a stone statue of a fox.

Juliana just watches them both in silence.

INT. HOTEL POOL - EVENING

The pool is empty, aside from Masato, who is doing some relaxed laps on his back. Juliana watches him from above through a window. The light reflecting off the water looks just like the White Light.

Dad enters.

DAD

It's time.

INT. SPORTS DOME - EVENING

The place is packed. The anticipation in the air is ripe.

PLAY-BY-PLAY

Welcome Ladies and Gentleman to what will surely be nothing short of an historic night in the history of our beloved sport of Mixed Martial Arts: The Quarter-Final Round of the Final Tournament, of the First International PRIDE REVIVAL King of Kings Global Open Weight Grand Prix!!

COLOR COMMENTATOR

That's right Stephen, there are absolutely no words to describe the atmosphere here right now... don't remember any tournament ever with this level of buzz about it.

Promotional video footage flashes across the screen.

PLAY-BY-PLAY

14 months in the making; we've had 8-man tournaments in 8 different countries around the world: Japan, Brazil, The North American Union, Russia, the UK, European Union, South Korea and China. And the winners of each tournament... are all here tonight.

COLOR COMMENTATOR

That's right Stephen. The favorite to win it all is clearly the American Fighter, but there's something else about this tournament that has people buzzing...

(MORE)

COLOR COMMENTATOR (CONT'D)

Who is this kid they call Masato?? Does he really use magic powers in the ring? Are we witnessing a new era in human martial arts, or have we all been duped by some stretch of the imagination?

PLAY-BY-PLAY

I don't know Scott... That's why we're here tonight. Will he do it again? What does it mean?

INT. LOWER LEVELS BACKSTAGE -- NIGHT

The RUMBLE above shakes everything below.

Boss Tanaka walks hurriedly toward Masato's dressing room.

There is an unusual amount of SECURITY all over. Juliana watches some APPREHEND a TEENAGE BOY, but then let him go as he holds up a plastic 'White Light-Maker' NOVELTY TOY.

BOSS TANAKA

Would somebody tell me where all this extra security came from???

INT. BELOW THE STAGE - NIGHT

Masato is getting on some kind of MECHANICAL ELEVATOR that will lift him up to the stage for the Opening Ceremonies. His orange MASK is on his head but not yet pulled over his face. The CROWD ABOVE is deafening.

He and Dad are doing a sort of relaxation technique, eyes closed, the White Light GLOWING between them.

DAD

You have to see your opponent as another point of light...

Boss Tanaka stands quietly in awe.

JULIANA

Yeah that's good, but if you DO get a chance to put some tattoos on him, I say take it; Bam-Bam-BOOM!

She mimes a 1-2-Uppercut combination. Dad gives a disapproving look. Masato smiles. Juliana smiles back.

All of a sudden a LAWYER, accompanied by SEVERAL ARMED POLICE approach. Boss Tanaka and his Bodyguard intercept.

The Lawyer hands Boss Tanaka some DOCUMENTS, and they banter uncomfortably in Japanese.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

What's going on?

Suddenly they start TUSSLING, a fight almost breaking out.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Mas, what's going on?? What are they saying?

MASATO

He says... that if... if I can't...

The Lawyer leaves Boss Tanaka with the papers, getting the last word. Boss Tanaka stands looking at them, dumbfounded.

BOSS TANAKA

He said that if Masato uses the White Light, he will be arrested.

JULTANA

What!?? Arrested??

STAGE MANAGER

On the platform! Up in 30 SECONDS!!

BOSS TANAKA

They made a new Law somehow... its illegal for him to use it.

DAD

He can't use the White Light?

BOSS TANAKA

He cannot even make it.

JULIANA

How is he supposed to fight?

Masato's elevator-platform safety cage doors LOCK into place.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Wait!

The lights go out. The crowd above ROARS. Boss Tanaka tries to assure Dad and Juliana, but he is clearly shaken.

BOSS TANAKA

Don't worry. I will get this solved.

INT. SPORTS DOME -- NIGHT

The arena is completely blacked out, save for a single SPOTLIGHT on a traditional Japanese TZUZUMI DRUMMER.

From Masato's platform, even in the dark, he can see the other FIGHTERS also lined up waiting for their reveal. They all look quite intimidating. The American Fighter is eyeing Masato from the shadows. Masato puts on his Mask.

The Tzuzumi performance ends with a BOOM, and all the lights go out. The crowd cheers wildly. FIREWORKS break the darkness, and the lights come on again in a blaze of glory.

A full ORCHESTRA begins playing the PRIDE REVIVAL theme song, accompanied by an army of TYCO DRUMMERS. Spotlights, lasers and graphics are projected everywhere. A Japanese Announcer's VOICE screams over everything, beginning the INTRODUCTIONS.

INT. BELOW THE STAGE -- NIGHT

Juliana sees the first fighter's ELEVATOR start to RISE as they begin the introductions. A huge spotlight hits each fighter as they are named and raised to the stage. The crowd cheers in turn for their favorites.

Suddenly Juliana notices that Dad does not look so well. He is holding his head and leans over against a wall.

JULIANA

Dad? Are you OK?

Masato's platform begins to rise.

ANNOUNCER

Y000-SHII-HIIII-R00000000... MASATO!!!!!!!!!

Dad suddenly looks worse.

JULIANA

Dad! What is it??

She touches him, and receives a SHOCK of Dad's VISION MEMORY;

- Scenes from their previous life in Japan, too fast for Juliana to comprehend.

She takes her hands off him, and snaps back to reality.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Oh, God.

INT. SPORTS DOME -- NIGHT

Masato's elevator reaches the top, and he is suddenly on a stage before 30,000 people. The crowd goes nuts. The spotlights are so bright he can barely see.

MASATO

Wow...

His eyes begin to adjust.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Wow!!

He takes off his Mask, and looks up at this breathtaking juxtaposition of the light-show and live orchestral spectacle of sports entertainment. It is almost psychedelic.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Wow.

INT. BELOW THE STAGE -- NIGHT

Juliana is holding Dad, who is half-slumped against a post.

JULIANA

Dad!! What's wrong??

He is glowing with the White Light, but isn't responding to Juliana. Boss Tanaka rushes back.

BOSS TANAKA

Stop making the Light, please! They are serious!

He covers Dad's White Light with his coat, and looks around nervously. There are ARMED POLICE at every corner.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D)

Don't you understand? These police will arrest you if they see it!

JULIANA

He's having Vision-Memories!

But Dad only GLOWS BRIGHTER, unresponsive. Juliana looks up to see the encroaching Police, Security, the Lawyer, and several other Authoritarian-looking figures coming.

BOSS TANAKA

Juliana, please make him stop!!!

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Boss Tanaka thinks quickly, finding a retractable GATE between them and the approaching Authorities. He fumbles with the latch and hauls it shut, JUST IN TIME.

INT. SPORTS DOME - NIGHT

Masato is looking out into the crowd as the Opening Ceremonies continue. He can see hundreds of fans holding WHITE GLOW STICKS. But when he looks again, he thinks he can see some fans that are ACTUALLY SHINING WITH THE WHITE LIGHT.

Masato is taken aback. He looks again;

Indeed, there are people scattered all throughout, even among the orchestra, who appear to be actually glowing with the White Light! As he looks again, Masato can see several of these people being ARRESTED and ESCORTED OUT.

Masato looks down at his own hands, also gleaming with the White Light. He then HEARS Juliana YELLING at him;

JULTANA

MAS-A-TO!!!

Masato looks down.

BOSS TANAKA

Come down! Now!!!

Masato takes one last look; Police and Security are locking the arena down, blocking exits and arresting people in mass. Fans are screaming, and the opening ceremonies turn to CHAOS.

Masato shimmies down the elevator mechanism.

MASATO

Did you SEE that??

BOSS TANAKA

Follow me!

But Dad is still paralyzed in his vision, the White Light glowing from his chest. Masato touches heads with him, trying to wake him up. Dad looks to Masato, waking up. He gets up and RUNS with them, all following Boss Tanaka.

INT. SPORTS DOME BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

BOSS TANAKA

This way!!

The stadium is in pandemonium. People are running everywhere, even the cops and security seem confused.

Boss Tanaka is navigating Juliana, Masato, and Dad to safety. They see clusters of fans that appear to be illuminated with the White Light. Cops are trying to arrest them, but they too become infected with the White Light upon contact.

JULIANA

What's going on??

Boss Tanaka gestures towards a NARROW CORRIDOR. Masato lets Juliana and Dad go first. But before Masato can follow, he is JUMPED by the AMERICAN FIGHTER;

AMERICAN FIGHTER

I gotcha now, you little twerp!

He immediately starts PUNCHING and KICKING Masato, KNEEING and SMASHING him against the wall.

AMERICAN FIGHTER (CONT'D)

I don't know what's going on, but you're not escaping me! In the ring or on the street, I'm gonna PROVE that you ain't shit!!

JULIANA

Masato!

The American Fighter unloads on Masato, who COVERS UP hopelessly. Juliana is first to run to his aide, followed by Dad and the Bodyguard who already has his GUN drawn.

But just before they can act, Masato opens his eyes and looks to Juliana with a smile, generating the White Light brightly.

The American Fighter continues to strike with lethal intent, but they are all being ABSORBED by the White Light. Juliana, Dad, and the Bodyquard all watch in amazement.

Masato stands up straight, shining brighter with the White Light, and the American Fighter is overcome, confused. stops striking. Masato puts his hands on the American Fighter's forehead, and the American Fighter becomes ENGULFED in the White Light, losing all aggressiveness.

Juliana laughs with genuine attraction for Masato, as the American Fighter falls to the floor, docile as a kitten.

> BOSS TANAKA Can we go now, please??

INT. UNDERGROUND PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Boss Tanaka leads them all to a LIMOUSINE.

BOSS TANAKA

Get in!

MASATO

Whoa, groovy limo, man!!

He looks to Juliana as they get in. His face is quite bruised from the American Fighter. He doesn't seem to care.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Did I say that right?

INT. LIMOUSINE - NIGHT

The Bodyquard is behind the wheel, whipping through the underground parking expertly. Dad keels over again, overtaken by another sudden Vision-Memory. Juliana knows the symptoms all too well; his eyes go glassy, like in a trance.

JULTANA

Dad!! Stay awake!

They approach the exit ramp, but it is BLOCKED by several POLICE CARS and a squad of RIOT COPS; They are trapped.

The Bodyguard stops the car, and gets out, SHOOTING. He is soon SHOT. Boss Tanaka slides over into the driver's seat, slams the door and ACCELERATES the limousine.

BULLETS hit the Limousine, but the vehicle SMASHES through the blockade. Some cops get hit and go down.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad, can you hear me?

She risks touching him again, but receives no shocks of Vision-Memories this time. Relieved, she holds him.

DAD

Water!

JUTITANA

You want water?

MASATO

Where are we going?

JULIANA

Water! Do we have any water??

BOSS TANAKA

No!! Quiet please!!

Everyone shuts up. Boss Tanaka checks his rear view mirror. They seem to have gotten away.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D)

We need to get to a safe place. Understand, we are now all fugitives.

JULIANA

We need to get home!!

BOSS TANAKA

Home? How? You think you can board a plane now as a wanted criminal? For this new law, Masato here is public enemy number one!

JULTANA

But what about Mom??

Outside, they see more clusters of White Light, and violent clashes between the public and the police, tear gas. Even some military presence is present.

BOSS TANAKA

I will take you to my apartment.

JULIANA

No way! They'll be looking for us there! There's probably cops all over the place right now!

She turns to Masato.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Masato, you lived here before, didn't you? You must know some safe places!

Masato shakes his head, with a GUILTY look.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Relatives? Friends?

Masato shamefully nods his head 'no'.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

... Treeforts?

Masato bites his lip.

DAD

The water!!

BOSS TANAKA

I told you, I don't have any water!

DAD

No!

He comes out of his trance a bit. His eyes are still glassy, but he struggles to maintain enough lucidity to communicate.

DAD (CONT'D)

We need to go to water! Take us to the water!

Juliana looks to Masato, confused. Masato thinks he understands;

MASATO

Can you get us to a boat?

EXT. BOAT HARBOR - NIGHT

They are hastily untying a beautiful BLACK YACHT, in the darkness.

BOSS TANAKA

This is my own private craft. You say you know how to sail?

Masato is trying unsuccessfully to untie one of the knots.

MASATO

Hey Juliana, this is just like the boat you worked on in Brazil!

Juliana takes the knot from Masato's hands and yanks it loose with a tug. She starts prepping it for sail immediately, showing her experience. She turns on a LIGHT.

BOSS TANAKA

No! No lights! Keep everything as dark as you can!

She turns it off. Dad is still quite dazed and GLOWING slightly with the White Light. Boss Tanaka looks up the street. HEADLIGHTS can be seen about.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D)

You should go.

But Juliana just stays, staring at him, curiously.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D)

Go! I will keep you covered here from the dock.

Juliana is suddenly overwhelmed, and looks right through him for the first time, as if recognizing something;

JULIANA

...Bjorn?

Boss Tanaka sheds a TEAR. Juliana actually sees him for a moment as she recalls his PREVIOUS INCARNATION as BJORN(from Part 1: Julie and the Light).

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Bjorn, is that you?

She touches his face. They recall the mutiny of the Commune. Bjorn TACKLING Sifu off the cliff, saving her and Mom;

JULIANA (CONT'D)

You saved us.

Juliana thinks for a moment.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Is that why you've been helping Masato?

Boss Tanaka holds back tears.

BOSS TANAKA

When I saw the White Light around him, that day in Brazil... I started to remember. So it was real then..? You remember too?

JULIANA

Yeah. I remember thinking you had a crush on my Mom.

Boss Tanaka smiles.

BOSS TANAKA

I wouldn't dare.

Boss Tanaka looks up the street. HEADLIGHTS are coming. POLICE LIGHTS start flashing.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D)

Get on the boat!

But Juliana is hesitant to leave him behind.

BOSS TANAKA (CONT'D)

Get on the boat!!

They can now see POLICE CARS, almost here.

MASATO

Juliana!

BOSS TANAKA

Go!!

Juliana JUMPS on board, and unties the last knots. Boss Tanaka KICKS the boat away, freeing the craft.

MASATO

Hey, what are you doing? Aren't you coming with us?

But Boss Tanaka does not. He draws his GUN.

JULIANA

Bjorn!!!

Juliana, Masato and Dad float away into the darkness. Boss Tanaka, however STAYS BEHIND. There is a SHOOTOUT. It is difficult to see, but it seems everyone has been shot.

There is no movement.

EXT. SAILBOAT - NIGHT

JULIANA

This is crazy!!

Dad holds his head, clearly still not well, barely conscious.

DAD

It was too crazy there... too crazy. Had to get out. Had to clear our heads. The water is good...

He breathes deeply.

DAD (CONT'D)

Water is good. Must get to the farm.

JULIANA

Farm? What farm?? Masato, he's not making any sense!

DAD

Just let me sleep... the water is good. I can see it, so close now...

Juliana and Masato share a look of concern.

MASATO

Why don't you take him down to rest, I can drive the boat. Remember you showed me that time?

JULIANA

Yeah remember we almost crashed that time?

DAD

We're so close ... I can feel it.

Juliana looks around. The city is now but a speckle of lights on the coastline. Some fires and smoke trails can be seen rising here and there, among pockets of White Light.

MASATO

I am feeling great, Juliana. don't know why. Did you see? There was White Light everywhere...! The waters are calm, there's no problem!

JULIANA

No problem? No problem?? Wake up! We have a HUGE problem!! We're stuck half way around the world, Dad's all messed up, our friend just got killed in a shootout, and we've got the New World friggin' Order hunting everyone down with the White Light! I'd say that's a pretty big problem!

But Masato says nothing. Juliana holds back some tears.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I just wanna go home.

There is a silence. Indeed, the waters are calm.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Masato, take Dad below. Do some of your White Light mojo on him. I'll try to keep us out of sight till morning. Maybe hide behind one of those smaller islands...

MASATO

Aye Aye, Captain.

Masato helps Dad below deck. When Dad and Masato are out of sight, she looks down to her hand, which she has been discreetly hiding for some time, clenched in a fist.

She tries to open it; there are small flashes of the RED ENERGY inside. She takes a deep breath, trying to summon the White Light. She succeeds, and the Red Energy disappears.

Masato pops his head back up on deck, just late enough to not see it. Juliana takes the wheel.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Your Dad has a message for you; He says to stay close to shore until morning. And DON'T try to sail us back to Brazil!

Masato KISSES her, appreciating the still night sky above.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Second star to the right, and up up and away!!

Juliana cannot help but let out a short laugh, incredulous at his unbreakable optimism.

MASATO (CONT'D)

- Did I say that right?

EXT. BOAT - LATER

Juliana is on deck, alone, trying to figure out her directions. She keeps looking at the coastline, stars, and compass, but it is not making sense to her. She gives up, and looks out to the ocean. It is still remarkably calm, the boat like floating on a mirror.

Juliana begins to get dreamy. She begins to see landscapes in the surface of the water, as if from above. And before she knows it, a Dream-Vision has overtaken her;

JULIANA

Mom?

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

In the Dream-Vision, Juliana is flying over BRAZIL.

Up ahead, there is a small COMMUNITY among the trees and hills. There is a GATHERING OF PEOPLE in a picturesque clearing, and THEY ARE GLOWING WITH THE WHITE LIGHT.

MOM'S VOICE

I'm here, Little One!

Juliana finds Mom there, yet still all in a dream-like state.

JULIANA

Mom, what's happening?

MOM

The White Light is growing! People everywhere are starting to see!

JULIANA

Dad's not well...

MOM

Your father is fine! He is only rediscovering it again! Oh Juliana, it's wonderful!

Mom looks right into Juliana's dream-eyes.

MOM (CONT'D)

Listen to your father - Trust him! Follow him!! I will see you soon...

The Dream-Vision begins to fade away.

EXT. BOAT - MORNING

Juliana wakes up on the deck. The sun is rising.

MASATO

What happened, Kemosabe? I thought you were driving the boat!

Masato is at the wheel. He looks pretty good there. Julie realizes she has been asleep.

Good morning sweetheart.

He looks well. She is happy to see him and HUGS his warmly.

There is a thick FOG blanketing all around them, the coastline barely visible. Small concentrations of the White Light can be seen in neat little rows along the shoreline.

JULTANA

What are those? Looks like Christmas lights.

Dad and Masato say nothing. Juliana looks again.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Its not part of the electric grid. Look, most of the lights are all off. It looks more organic...

She squints her eyes.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

They're people!

She looks to Dad.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

The White Light?

And indeed, she can begin to make it out; hundreds of HUMAN BEINGS, all sitting in a LOTUS POSTURE along the coastline, each one brightly generating the White Light. Like a huge string of Christmas lights, they form an organic line continuing up the coast as far as Juliana can see.

They continue watching the passing coastline. Beyond, they see many buildings DESTROYED, amidst smoldering destruction. It looks as though the whole area has been BOMBED.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

What... what happened?

Masato remains the course. Dad is silent.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Can someone tell me what we're doing here? Look, I know Mom said to trust you, but...

DAD

You talked to Mom?

Juliana does not know how to answer. They watch the last few human figures along the shore generating the White Light; motionless, almost transparent.

MASATO

They're beautiful...

But Juliana also sees the DESTRUCTION surrounding them, evidence of the cities having been BOMBED.

JULTANA

What, the White Light? OK, I see it! Yes, it's pretty! But I also see a whole city that looks like it just got trashed by Godzilla! So what if those guys are glowing with the White light? That doesn't mean we have to all lose our minds and go on some apocalyptic trip to godknows-where!!

GUNFIRE is heard echoing from somewhere in the distance.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

We go back. This is insane. What are we gonna eat, did you think of that?? We got water on board? Oh, maybe we can just go to that shopping mall over there and buy some! Oh that's right, we can't because: A) We don't have any money, and B) Cause IT'S BEEN BLOWN TO BITS!!!

She continues;

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Look, we go back to the hotel, call Mom... maybe even turn ourselves in! How bad could it be? We find some of those fight bosses, they'll take care of us! Hire some lawyers, I bet this whole thing will blow over! We haven't done anything wrong! Except running over those security guys, but that wasn't me driving!

She gets a better idea;

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Or maybe I COULD sail this thing back to Brazil! Its not really an ocean-worthy craft, but maybe I could figure it out... maybe I could-

DAD

(interrupting)

-Have you learned nothing these past lives Juliana?!?

Juliana is startled, and shuts up.

DAD (CONT'D)

The White Light is guiding us! Can't you see?? Tell me about your dream with Mom. You talked to her again, didn't you?

But before Juliana can answer, the boat is suddenly BUMPED by something hard they did not see through the fog.

And in a flash, Dad, Masato and Juliana find themselves being BOARDED by ARMED JAPANESE MILITARY.

JULIANA

What the fff-

They BOARD the boat with ruthless efficiency, SHOUTING in Japanese and waving GUNS in their faces.

DAD

OK, OK!! It's OK!!

JULIANA

This is our boat! Get off our boat!!

DAD

Juliana, please!

They APPREHEND Juliana, Dad, and Masato with ruthless efficiency, forcing them all to kneel, hands bound in front. Juliana resists just enough to keep her dignity.

DAD (CONT'D)

Juliana, no. Please don't fight...

Masato is PUSHED FACE DOWN into the deck, as they begin interrogating him in Japanese. Juliana is having a PANIC ATTACK, the situation too intense. Her bound hands are GLOWING slightly with the Red Energy.

Dad SEES the Red Energy in her hands. Masato is still face down, seeing nothing.

JULIANA

I can use it, Dad! I can save us!

But she is suddenly hit with a flash Vision-Memory from her PREVIOUS INCARNATION;

> DAD'S VOICE FROM 'JULIE AND THE LIGHT' Don't fight, little one...

She snaps back to reality, and is pulsing more intensely with the Red Energy now, unable to control it. One of the Officers moves in naively to investigate.

He goes to take it from her as if it was a weapon, and Juliana flashes a sharp BURST of Red Energy out in reaction.

The Officer SNAPS BACK in pain as though he received an electric shock. The whole squad erupts with tension, all SHOUTING in Japanese, their guns all cocked on Juliana.

MASATO

Juliana, what's going on?

DAD

No! No fighting! We'll sit! See? Masato, tell them we won't fight!

Dad looks to Juliana, pleading with her to cooperate.

DAD (CONT'D)

We'll cooperate. Look? See... no fight. No fight.

Juliana remembers Mom's WORDS from her last Dream-Vision;

MOM'S WORDS

Listen to your father - Trust him!!

DAD

Please Juliana. You have to trust me. It'll be OK.

They bring Masato to them, his hands still bound, and force them all down facing the wall together.

JULIANA

(to Masato)

What's a matter ninja boy? Batmobile broken? Out of spidey-webs?

MASATO

Your Dad said no fighting!

Shhh! Before you get us all killed.

The Officers begin to BLINDFOLD them.

JULIANA

Oh great. Lovin' this guys.

Yet Juliana's blindfold is not fitting right, and she can still see slightly out of one eye. She watches as Masato is CRACKED in the temple with the blunt end of a gun.

He goes down hard. Masato is KNOCKED OUT.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

You bastards!!!

They KICK Juliana in the back, YELLING more in Japanese.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

We gotta fight 'em, Dad!

DAD

Juliana! No!! Please!

Juliana shakes the blindfold off her eyes. She can see the Red Energy generating again in her hands.

DAD (CONT'D)

Remember where that came from!

Juliana generates more Red Energy with sudden flashing Vision-Memories of SIFU, and it BREAKS through the zip-ties that bind her wrists. The Red Energy begins to FLOW SMOOTHLY within and around her.

JULIANA

Sorry Dad. I gotta do this.

But just as she turns to strike her first blow, the Officer is STRUCK IN THE NECK with a SHURIKEN. He clutches the gaping wound and FALLS DOWN DEAD.

DAD

Juliana?

Another Officer is also HIT IN THE FACE by a tiny feathered DART. He too falls down. The remaining Officers duck for cover - they are being ATTACKED from the shoreline!

CHT! CHT! - 3 more PROJECTILE WEAPONS embed themselves into the Officers' foreheads and necks.

DAD (CONT'D)

Juliana! What's happening?

Suddenly a MISFIT GANG of WARRIORS, MARTIAL ARTISTS, and FIGHTERS of a deadly stock board the boat. They effortlessly clean out the rest of the crew, save for one Officer who JUMPS over the side of the boat, a sobbing mess.

Juliana just watches, dumbfounded. The Red Energy FADES.

DAD (CONT'D)

Juliana?

When all is clear, a CLAN BRETHREN boards the craft. (note; he looks JUST like FOX BRETHREN in Human form, from 'MASATO AND THE MASK)

He carries the aura of the leader here. He orders his companions FREE them. He eyes Juliana with great curiosity. Masato is still knocked out.

CLAN BRETHREN

You speak Japanese?

But Juliana and Dad don't understand.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

English?

JULIANA AND DAD

Yes! We speak English.

The Clan Brethren EYES them up. He and Dad LOCK EYES for a moment. Clan Brethren looks away first.

CLAN BRETHREN

The cities are overtaken. We have a camp in the mountains.

DAD

The mountains?

CLAN BRETHREN

We have food there, safe shelter. You may come with us, or take your chances here. Choose now.

Juliana and Dad share a look. Dad nods 'yes'.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

Then come. Wake your friend. It will be dark soon.

He makes a gesture and call to the gang members to prepare to leave. Masato begins to wake up, his blindfold falling off his face. He looks up, groggily, and wipes his nose.

MASATO

Did I miss anything?

EXT. MOUNTAIN FOREST TRAIL - EVENING

Juliana, Masato, and Dad are following the Clan Brethren and his gang along a thin trail into the Japanese forests and mountains. Behind them, more of the Clan Brethren's gang take up the rear of the line.

The pace of the hike is hypnotizing, and Juliana sees Dad fall into a trance. He stops walking altogether, staring off toward the rising MOON.

Juliana helps him, her touch waking him up again. He smiles, and gathers himself once more. They continue walking.

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - NIGHT

The Clan Brethren leads Juliana, Masato, and Dad into a MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP. There are big tents and little tents, camp-stoves, and all sorts of supplies lying about. While minimalist and rugged, they have everything needed to survive out here in the wilderness, at least for a while.

There are several CLAN MEMBERS around the camp, of a variety of ages, but all look fierce. Several of them are women, including a curiously attractive FEMALE MARTIAL ARTIST. (note; she looks JUST like Fox Brethren's Human WIFE, from 'MASATO AND THE MASK')

Juliana sees some HORSES tied up, admiring them.

JULIANA

You have horses? Why the hell have we been walking the past 6 hours?

CLAN BRETHREN

You ride horses?

JULIANA

Oh well, once or twice when I was a kid. How hard could it be?

The Clan Brethren smiles.

CLAN BRETHREN

This is our camp for the night. You may stay with us as our guests. We will give you food and shelter.

DAD

Thank you.

CLAN BRETHREN

But first, please come with me. There is something you must see.

JULIANA

My Dad... He needs rest.

DAD

No Juliana... it's OK.

Dad indeed looks weak, but he picks himself up, and they agree to go with the Clan Brethren.

EXT. CLIFF TOP - NIGHT

The Clan Brethren has taken Juliana, Dad and Masato to the top of a cliff where they can look down over a VALLEY.

It is COVERED in the White Light.

CLAN BRETHREN

It is growing. Enveloping the land. We do not yet know how to fight it.

Dad, Juliana, and Masato are all stunned. Dad gives Masato and Juliana a gesture to keep their mouths shut.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

We have lost many friends to it already. It is dormant now, not likely to move again until morning. The authorities in Japan have tried to stop its spread with weapons, but have been unsuccessful.

JULIANA

We saw that city, it looked like it had been bombed...

CLAN BRETHREN

Yes. And as long as the White Light continues to grow, they may still unleash yet more attacks.

They look down at the slowly expanding White Light.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

We do not know yet which is the greater threat.

The Female Martial Artist emerges from the trees.

FEMALE MARTIAL ARTIST

The dinner is ready.

She looks at Juliana but looks away, bows, and leaves.

Masato WATCHES her leave, and back to the Clan Brethren.

CLAN BRETHREN

Come. Eat. Drink. Its been a long day.

INT. FOOD TENT -- NIGHT

Everyone is enjoying a WARM MEAL of a hearty soup, bread, meats and vegetables, water, and even some wine.

Masato is absolutely enjoying it. Juliana fills another cup of wine. Dad is sitting next to her, not eating much.

At the head of the table is an ELDERLY JAPANESE MARTIAL ARTS MASTER. The Clan Brethren steals glances of Juliana, clearly interested in her. Masato is oblivious to it. The Female Martial Artist however, is not.

CLAN BRETHREN

(to Dad)

Did you say you used to live here?

Dad looks toward the view outside falling into another sort of trance, not answering. The Clan Brethren looks to Juliana as if to ask if Dad is crazy.

ELDERLY MARTIAL ARTS MASTER

So please tell me, what brings travelers like yourselves to us at this strange time?

The Clan Brethren TRANSLATES to English.

Juliana sees that Dad's fingers are beginning to generate the White Light. She tries to nudge him to stop but Dad is not too coherent. She pulls Dad's hands under the table, hoping nobody saw. Masato continues eating.

JULIANA

We came for a martial arts tournament.

This captures the Clan Brethren's ATTENTION. A few others who understand English sit up with curiosity. They quickly translate to their peers, looking to them. Juliana reluctantly gestures towards Masato.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Not me. Him.

They look to Masato, in mid-slurp from his bowl. MIXED REACTIONS, some LAUGHING, some INTERESTED.

Juliana sees that Dad has lifted his hand again, and it is STILL GLOWING with the White Light. She NUDGES him more sharply this time, trying to get him to stop.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Psst! Dad - stop it!

But nobody notices. A few jokes are made about Masato's stature, but Masato swallows the humiliation.

Dad's hands are still GLOWING. Juliana throws a scarf over them, COVERING the White Light just in time.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

But he never got to fight! The whole city went crazy! Cops everywhere, the army! We escaped on a boat. Our friend got shot.

She pauses for a moment, recalling the memory. Many have stopped eating, QUIET, interested in what she has to say.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

This morning we saw a whole city in ruins. Like it had been bombed.

The Elderly Martial Arts Master REPLIES. Clan Brethren TRANSLATES;

ELDERLY MARTIAL ARTS MASTER

The elites of this world always destroy, what they cannot control. But now, perhaps they are finally right.

The Clan Brethren TRANSLATES to English.

JULIANA

They want to destroy the White Light?

FIGHTER

Of course! It is attacking life itself! A disease to all mankind!

CLAN BRETHREN

Even we have not found a way yet to defend ourselves from it. (MORE)

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

Every day, it gets closer. We are surrounded.

Juliana sees that Dad's hands are free again and are GLOWING EVEN BRIGHTER with the White Light. It is amazing no one has noticed yet. She grabs Dad's sleeves and pulls them swiftly under the table again, this time pinning them down.

JULIANA

I don't understand... You think this is a disease? Maybe its just something else that you don't understand! Maybe you-

But the Elderly Japanese Martial Arts Master SMASHES his FIST down on the table, blurting something out in Japanese, shutting everyone up. Everyone stops eating.

Juliana whispers to the Clan Brethren;

JULIANA (CONT'D)

What did he say?

CLAN BRETHREN

He says the Light must be defeated.

Dad somehow gets a hand free, and REACHES for his water. Juliana re-arranges some items on the table to HIDE his hands from anyone's view. She NUDGES him again hard in the ribs.

Dad wakes up a bit, remembering his surroundings. He goes to rub his eyes, EXPOSING the White Light. Juliana tries in vain again to cover it up, but the cat is out of the bag.

The Female Martial Artist is the first to see it, but soon everyone else sees it too, JUMPING back, drawing their WEAPONS in a panic.

Juliana rolls her eyes, grabs Dad, and they BOLT out of the tent. The Elderly Japanese Martial Arts Master yells an ATTACK order, and everyone gives CHASE.

Masato takes a moment to realize what's happening, and manages to take one last bite of food before he runs to help.

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - NIGHT

TORCHES illuminate the camp. Juliana and Dad are quickly SURROUNDED. Many have sharp or bladed WEAPONS.

Masato runs to her side, but no one pays attention to him, not considering him a threat. Dad is still GLOWING with the White Light, still struggling with his Vision-Memories.

JULIANA

Wait!!

The Clan Brethren gestures for the men to stand down.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

We don't come here to hurt anyone. We don't come to infect anyone. We're just trying to get home. The White Light isn't what you think...

DAD

The farm! The mountaintop! Home!

Dad suddenly looks far off in a very specific direction.

DAD (CONT'D)

It's that way!!

JULIANA

Uh, Dad, we got other worries right now, OK? A little attention please?

CLAN BRETHREN

Enough! My bowmen will shoot on my command!

They suddenly notice several ARCHERS aiming at them.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

I rescued you this morning in good conscience. I thought there was honor in you, something familiar...

His mind trails off for a moment.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

But it appears you have not been telling us the whole truth.

Suddenly Juliana has a flash Vision-Memory: The torchlight of the camp reminds her of Sifu's COMMUNE.

It soon fades.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

Look at your father! He's infected!

MASATO

No, he's not! Look!

Masato turns the White Light ON and OFF in his hands. The Clan Members GASP.

MASATO (CONT'D)

We can teach you about it. Help you understand it...

But Juliana is having more difficulty keeping her head together than she thought. More Vision-Memories FLASH before her eyes. She looks to Dad in desperation, but he seems just as disoriented.

Juliana sees once again Vision-Memories of SIFU'S COMMUNE, from 'JULIE and the LIGHT'; The FENCE along the cliff's edge; the GATE at the river's shore, locking them inside. She sees SIFU in her mind's eye. The Vision-Memory ends. The Clan Brethren approaches.

CLAN BRETHREN

You will stay with us. For now.

Yet Juliana's Vision-Memory from her previous life continues:

Sifu is battling with Mom, Young Julie and the Defecting Fighters. He executes a lightning attack, sharp and powerful. It goes right past Young Julie, and hits MOM, knocking her HARD to the ground. The Defecting Fighters BACK UP.

SIFU

But she stays!

The Vision-Memory ends, and Juliana returns to reality.

The Red Energy IGNITES again in her hands, but no one sees.

CLAN BRETHREN

But if we ever see the White Light on any of you again...

He shouts instructions loudly to his men in Japanese.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

My fighters now have permission to kill you all. Do you understand?

The archers pull back their ARROWS. Juliana has another Vision-Memory;

Sifu GRABBING Young Julie hard by the arm, as if taking her PRTSONER.

The Clan Brethren yells more orders in Japanese, and men approach carrying SHACKLES. This FREAKS JULIANA OUT.

JULIANA

I'm sorry Dad. I can't do it your way anymore.

MASATO

Dad? What is she doing?

DAD

Masato?

MASATO

Yes?

DAD

Get back.

And as the Men approach to SHACKLE them up, Juliana lets out a STRIKE of the Red Energy, KNOCKING them off their feet.

Everyone is shocked. One of the stronger Fighters lets out a BATTLE CRY and jumps forward, wielding a large BLADED WEAPON.

But as soon as he gets near, Juliana LASHES out at him with the Red Energy and he goes down hard.

The Archers fire ARROWS, but the Red Energy DEFLECTS THEM.

5 more fighters jump forward, all holding various weapons. Juliana STRIKES all of them hard, breaking one's TEETH.

The Elderly Japanese Martial Arts Master steps forward attempting to take control of the situation. Juliana however has her back turned and does not see him. She whips around instinctively, STRIKING him too. He GOES DOWN, his mouth bloody. Several of the fighters rush to his aide.

Julie flashes a look of guilt, but is raging too hard with the Red Energy, her heart rate sky-high.

Suddenly there is a DESPERATE YELL from over the ridge.

FEMALE MARTIAL ARTIST

Come! Ouick!!

The men rush over to see, abandoning the fight. The Clan Brethren gives one last look to Juliana, then runs to assist.

DAD

What's happening?

MASATO

The White Light!

Suddenly they see it; a HUGE SWELL of the White Light is indeed moving steadily up the ridge, ENVELOPING everything in its way. It is nearly at the Camp. The fighters begin untying the horses, and scramble to save whatever equipment and rations they can in retreat.

Some of the men attempt to fight it off with their weapons, but they become DROWSY, and are PULLED INTO IT. Their friends do everything to save them, and lament in grief as their comrades are ENVELOPED into the White Light.

Juliana, still charged intensely with the Red Energy, realizes their chance for escape.

JULIANA

Grab those supplies! Get the horse!

But the horse runs away. Masato is dumbstruck. Dad grabs some nearby CANTEENS and PACKS. Juliana looks down at her hands, still throbbing with the Red Energy. She WINCES.

DAD

This way!!

The Clan Brethren sees them escaping, but does not follow.

EXT. JAPANESE FOREST MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

Dad, Masato, and Juliana are RUNNING through the forest.

DAD

This way! I know this place!

But Juliana is weakened by the use of the Red Energy.

MASATO

Dad!

Dad looks back. Juliana VOMITS on the ground.

MASATO (CONT'D)

She's not well.

Dad comes back, concerned. Juliana is looking quite ILL.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Dad, what's happening to her?

DAD

She's overwhelmed herself. She was not ready to use this power again.

MASATO

Again?

Juliana goes into a kind of SEIZURE, PULSING with Red Energy.

DAD

We must calm her down.

Dad kneels at her side, generating the White Light.

DAD (CONT'D)

Help me, Masato!

Masato kneels down as well, and tries his best to generate the White Light amidst his fear.

DAD (CONT'D)

Calm her. Remind her of the Light.

Masato closes his eyes, trying his very best.

DAD (CONT'D)

Oh my wife, where are you?

Juliana VOMITS again, which actually WAKES HER UP a bit. She looks up at Dad, frightened.

DAD (CONT'D)

You've been waiting a long time to do that haven't you? Now you see why I tried to teach you not to.

Juliana looks a bit better, but is completely delirious. The sky RUMBLES overhead.

DAD (CONT'D)

There is a shelter not too far from here. I am sure of it. Come.

Dad picks her up.

MASATO

She's shivering!

DAD

Come!

INT. SMALL ABANDONED SHINTO SHRINE - NIGHT

Dad has led them to an old abandoned shrine. It is overgrown and not in good shape, but adequate shelter for the night. (note; the shrine looks JUST like the shrine in 'MASATO AND THE MASK')

Juliana is laying down on some BLANKETS they stole from the camp. Masato looks through the rest of the PACKS and BAGS. Dad is trying to make a fire, but cannot get it going.

MASATO

Some maps, a compass... I don't see any more matches.

Dad tries again to light the fire but it goes out.

DAD

Damn!

MASATO

Hey, here's some money!

Juliana COUGHS. Masato attends to her.

JULIANA

Where are we?

Masato looks to Dad, who is still trying to light the fire. He gives up for a moment, and looks outward.

DAD

Not far now... maybe tomorrow.

The weather doesn't look so bad. Even a few STARS come out.

Juliana falls ASLEEP. Masato looks to Dad, concerned.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

Father and Xiu Li are on a RAFT, being carried down the current of a RIVER. Father is STANDING at the front, Xiu Li SITTING behind him, HOLDING ON tight;

XIU LI

How did you get me into this??

FATHER

Do not resist the flow of the river's path... FEEL it! BECOME it! Be one with it and nothing will be able to disturb your balance!

Indeed, Father remains perfectly balanced standing at the edge of the raft, using the White Light to steady himself effortlessly as they cruise down the light rapids.

Xiu Li however is having a hard time.

 $XIU\ LI$

I'm not so good at this ..!

The raft hits a particularly sharp bit of whitewater, and Xiu Li FALLS OFF, splashing into the water.

Father laughs, and guides the raft to shore. Xiu Li washes up to shore, wet and sputtering, but never in any danger.

FATHER

You still don't trust it!

Xiu Li looks up.

FATHER (CONT'D)

You see, we need not MAKE things happen... just LET them happen!

Mother arrives, helping Xiu Li up. Yet as soon as Mother touches her, the Dreamscape CHANGES;

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - DAY

Juliana is now thrown to a scene of RURAL BRAZIL:

A group of PROTESTERS, surrounded by more ARMED POLICE and MILITARY. Some of the Protesters GLOW with the White Light.

Mom is with them.

JULTANA

Mom!

INT. SHELTER - MORNING

MASATO

Hey, wake up!

Juliana begins to wake up, slowly.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Your Dad's gone.

She jumps awake.

JULIANA

What?

EXT. MOUNTAINS OF JAPAN - MORNING

Juliana and Masato are hurrying down a path.

MASATO

Juliana, where are you going?

Juliana stops, looking around as far as she can. Masato catches up, catching his breath.

MASATO (CONT'D)

How do you know he went this way?

JUTITANA

Because I think I remember this place.

Masato looks around.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Don't you?

They continue, Juliana still quite concerned, but Masato is smiling. The scenery is quite gorgeous.

MASATO

This is so cool. We can pretend like we're on some crazy wild adventure, like in the old tales!

Juliana is annoyed at his optimism.

JULIANA

Pretend!? We don't need to pretend! Masato, look around! We ARE on some crazy wild adventure!

Masato laughs, puffs his chest, and continues along the path.

EXT. PRISTINE LAKE - MORNING

Juliana and Masato come over a crest, and they see someone sitting below in the sunshine by a small pristine lake. same lake that she had just dreamed of.

JULIANA

There he is! Dad!

They approach him. He is smiling widely. A BIRD swoops down to CATCH A FISH right in front of him, SPLASHING his skin.

DAD

Ha! The water's not cold!! Maybe I'll go swimming too!

JULIANA

Dad! You can't just take off on us like that!

DAD

Isn't this lake wonderful? I used to take your mother for picnics here sometimes. Come!

Dad gets up, and swiftly continues in a specific direction.

DAD (CONT'D)

Your mother will be waiting for us!

Juliana and Masato are left behind again.

JULIANA

You just had to sign up for that stupid tournament, didn't you?

EXT. ROCKY HILLS - AFTERNOON

DAD

It's just beyond this ridge! Oh, I can't believe it! It's really real!! We've found it!!

As they ascend the crest, they look down at the view below.

At first, they all think they see the valley as they remember; where their farm used to be; Mom's pottery studio, the pond where Xiu Li used to play with her boat.

But as the clouds fade, and they refocus their eyes, Juliana soon realizes it was but an illusion.

Instead, the view shifts to present day reality, where a SMALL INDUSTRIALIZED JAPANESE TOWN has evolved. Whatever trace of their old home has been choked out by modern development. Their house is no more.

DAD (CONT'D)

This is not the past, is it?

JULIANA

That's what I've been No, Dad. trying to tell you.

DAD

It was right there...

EXT. NARROW TOWN STREET - LATE AFTERNOON

Dad, Juliana, and Masato are walking through the town. They eventually settle on a narrow STOREFRONT, with trinkets and wares in the window.

DAD

Here. Our home was right here.

INT. TRINKET SHOP - LATE AFTERNOON

JULTANA

My room was here. No?

Her and Dad envision together.

DAD

Yes. And over there was where your Mother made her pottery.

He ENVISIONS her simple workshop; a wheel, shelves.

But then something strange happens; a piece of Mom's pottery in his mind's eye suddenly MATCHES something they are actually seeing in the trinket shop. Dad goes straight to it. And indeed, there is a PIECE OF POTTERY in the store that strongly resembles Mom's style.

The STOREKEEPER keeps an eye on them, grumpily.

JULIANA

Could it be?

Masato! Ask him about this piece!

Masato starts to talk with the Storekeeper in Japanese.

JULIANA

It looks all cracked...

DAD

You're right, its been broken and put back together, look:

Dad is right; the piece has been broken and RE-ASSEMBLED.

MASATO

He says its from post-war time. Made by a potter that used to live around here.

Dad and Juliana GASP. But Dad DROPS it in his excitement.

JULIANA

No!

It falls and SMASHES to the floor, breaking again into pieces. The Storekeeper is furious, yelling at them. He starts HITTING them with a BROOM, continuing to scream obscenities at them in Japanese.

Dad and Juliana scramble to pick up the pieces while the Storekeeper KICKS THEM OUT with the broom.

Masato fumbles for the MONEY he found the previous night and offers to pay the Storekeeper, but the Storekeeper doesn't care and keeps SWATTING at them to get out.

Juliana manages to pick up one single SHARD of the broken pottery before they LEAVE.

EXT. NARROW TOWN STREET - EVENING

They all appear tired. Juliana looks at the SHARD OF POTTERY.

JULIANA

Hey Mas, how much cash we got?

Masato digs in his pockets for the cash, and starts counting.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Enough for a room somewhere? I could use a rest. Maybe we can find a phone! Try to talk to Mom.

Dad NODS.

INT. QUAINT JAPANESE INN - NIGHT

Juliana and Masato are sitting in the lounge/bar area of the inn. Dad is not with them. Sounds of CLINKING GLASSES and PUB BANTER fill the room. But Juliana and Masato are not so merry. Their meals are unfinished.

JULIANA

You sure Dad's OK up there?

MASATO

Juliana, I checked twice already. He's sleeping like a baby. Did you try to call your Mom?

JULIANA

Yes. I couldn't get through.

She is visibly distraught. Masato comes closer.

MASATO

Hey. You OK?

She snaps away.

JULIANA

No, I'm not OK! What kind of question is that?? Take a look around, Mas! Am I the only one still same here?

Juliana has to check her volume, several PATRONS are looking at her. She tries to lower her voice.

MASATO

It's OK, Juliana, you're just -

JULIANA

Just what? Can't you see? You and Dad following this White Light craziness to God-knows-where...!

MASATO

Craziness? The only time you've been hurt so far is when you stopped trusting it, and used that awful Red Energy!

JULIANA

Hey, it was that awful Red Energy that got us OUT of that mess! If we followed your way we'd still be tied up like animals! Or worse.

She checks her volume again.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Didn't you hear them say the White Light is a disease?? You and Dad are getting lost in it!! Where do you think we are, Masato?? We're a million miles away from home, and I'm not even sure if we're awake or dreaming sometimes! Alive or dead!!

Some of the patrons in the bar show their disapproval. Juliana quiets down, but her emotions are welling up.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I don't understand how you can be so calm through all this. Its like we're from 2 different worlds sometimes.

Masato says nothing.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

You and Dad are so devoted to it that you can't see straight anymore! You don't see me anymore.

Masato can see this hurts. Juliana retrieves the shard of Mom's pottery she stole, and TOUCHES it fondly.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

And neither of you seem to even think at all about Mom.

MASATO

Juliana...

JULIANA

I wanna go home, Mas.

She begins to CRY. Masato HOLDS her.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

What's happening to us? Is any of this real anymore?

MASATO

I don't know Juliana. But I do know this;

He holds her face, and looks into her eyes.

MASATO (CONT'D)

I know everything's been so crazy, but somehow, I've been starting to remember things... Something right is happening here too! With you, your father, me...

Juliana tries to believe him.

MASATO (CONT'D)

Can't you see it all coming together?

JULIANA

Coming together?

He looks at her lovingly. She LOOKS AWAY.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I can't, Mas. I'm not like you. I'm not like Dad.

There is a long pause. Masato finishes his drink, pays the bartender a tip, and goes to leave.

MASATO

Yes you are. I still believe in you Juliana. I always have. Here, I found something for you.

He takes out a small CORD from his pocket, and retrieves the shard of Mom's Pottery, still in Juliana's hand. He strings it through, creating a simple NECKLACE. Juliana is stunned. He gives it to her, but she does not put it on.

Masato KISSES her on the forehead.

MASATO (CONT'D)

I'll go check on your father.

Juliana makes no reply, and cannot return his gaze. Masato leaves. Juliana sits alone in the bar, the only one without company. A few of the YOUNGER MEN are checking her out.

She holds the necklace in her fingers. Suddenly Juliana is hit by a strong, sharp Vision of her Mom; - in danger?

JULTANA

Mom?

She snaps back to the bar. Then again, an even sharper:

MOM'S VOICE

Juliana! HELP!!

EXT. INN ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Juliana CRASHES out the side door to get some air, her head is still hit with WAVES OF PSYCHIC CONNECTION with Mom;

Juliana thinks she can see Mom in Brazil, FIGHTING with Police. Are they hitting her?

JULIANA

Mom!!!

She snaps back to reality, some FOLKS looking at her oddly.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Oh, Mom...

She looks down at her fingers; they are GLOWING with some Red Energy. She looks around desperately, then sees a few STARS in the sky through some holes in the clouds. She calms herself down, takes a few deep breaths, closes her eyes, and tries to focus;

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

JULIANA

Mom?

And to her surprise, she is instantly transported to Mom through the Dreamscape again. Mom is at the center of a CONFLICT among Protesters and Military. The White Light is present, and GROWING, Military trying to stop it.

MOM

Juliana! Help! The White Light isn't what it seems! Don't fall to it! You must keep your Father awake!!

EXT. INN ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Juliana snaps back out of the Vision, suddenly aware again of her surroundings. She notices several PEOPLE running in a PANIC. She peeks around the corner of the alleyway; indeed there is some commotion going on. More people scramble towards her, SCREAMING as if running from a monster.

But then she sees it; a HUGE CONCENTRATION of the White Light, slowly making its way up the streets. Juliana witnesses several people become ENGULFED by it as it slowly EXPANDS. People run for their lives.

Juliana turns back toward the Inn.

JULIANA

Dad... Masato!

INT. INN - NIGHT

Juliana swoops into the Inn and runs as fast as she can up to the room. The door is LOCKED. She POUNDS on it.

JULIANA

Masato!! Dad???

She POUNDS some more. Masato OPENS it, brushing his teeth.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

We have to get out of here!!

She runs inside.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad!! Wake up! Oh please wake up!!

She SHAKES him violently. He wakes up.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

We have to go now. Please Dad. Trust me.

EXT. NARROW TOWN STREET - NIGHT

Juliana, Dad, and Masato are all running out of the inn, and join the FLEEING TOWNSPEOPLE as the White Light APPROACHES.

JULIANA

Dad! Come on!!

MASATO

They're running towards the lake!

Indeed, they can see the SMALL LAKE in the distance.

JULIANA

Water!

EXT. LAKE EDGE - NIGHT

Juliana, Dad, and Masato hurry with the fleeing Townspeople towards the LAKE. They look back, only to see most of the town, including the Inn, get SWALLOWED UP by the White Light.

JULIANA

We'll be safe by the water, right Dad?

But then as if to answer her question, not a moment later the White Light TOUCHES the water's shore. It immediately absorbs across the ENTIRE SURFACE of the lake, COVERING it entirely in a few seconds.

DAD

It's beautiful!

Masato likewise lets out a LAUGH. Suddenly Juliana gets hit HARD with another Vision;

JULIANA

Oh no, not now..!

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - EVENING

She is instantly transported back to rural Brazil, where the conflict is getting more intense, as is the White Light.

Mom is right in the center of it, and is being ARRESTED by a mass of Military. Several ARMORED SOLDIERS manage to restrain her, but the White Light continues to GROW.

It begins to ENVELOP the Soldiers, spreading from person to person. Their weapons and shields are useless against it.

It's too strong...

Then for a second, the conflict pauses. Juliana sees JETS coming in from the distance. Military jets.

MOM (CONT'D)

No, not again...

JULIANA

Again? What not again? Mom?

She looks to Juliana with the deepest love in her eyes.

MOM

Oh Juliana, my love, my Little One... be brave! Go help your Father! Keep him awake! Don't lose him to the White Light! There's more he still needs to do!

JULIANA

Do? What does he need to do? Mom??

In the Vision, Juliana hears the sounds of BOMBS DROPPING.

MOM

I love you all!!

The bombs IMPACT, destroying everything in a blinding light.

EXT. LAKE EDGE - NIGHT

Juliana is returned to the present, the White Light now enormous, and continuing to EXPAND.

It's beautiful!

JULIANA

What? No - Run!!

She GRABS him and pulls him along towards a ROCKY INCLINE, where some STEEP STAIRS offer escape to higher ground.

But Dad is not running so fast, and stops completely, turning around to LOOK at the encroaching White Light some more.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad, please!

She begins TUGGING on his arm, but he is conflicted, MESMERIZED at the White Light before him.

Juliana sees Masato helping some ELDERLY TOWNSPEOPLE up the steep STAIRS. The White Light is coming closer. In a few seconds it will envelop them. Dad REACHES OUT to touch it.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad, no! We can't!

DAD

Why not?

JULIANA

I got a message from Mom...

This gets Dad's attention.

DAD

Mom? Is she OK?

Juliana swallows a lump in her throat.

JULIANA

She says you have to stay awake. She says for you to stay out of the Light.

Dad looks back at the White Light again, so tempted.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad...

He manages to look at her for a moment.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I can't follow you in there.

The Light is getting closer. Dad sees Masato coming towards them in haste, as the fleeing crowd reaches the top. Dad looks again to his daughter, and makes a choice within.

DAD

OK. Let's go then.

Masato reaches them just as they begin to run away. Masato is confused but changes direction again and runs with them. Juliana is relieved. Dad looks strong.

They hurry up onto the stairs just in time, first Masato, then Juliana, then Dad.

But as the White Light begins to engulf the stairs, the old wood BREAKS, and Juliana FALLS.

Dad CATCHES her, and HOISTS her back up to safety, but puts himself in a bad position by doing so. The beams continue to CRACK beneath him. He looks for a way to climb back up but there is nothing solid to grab on to. The wood continues to BREAK. He is STUCK, as the White Light continues to EXPAND.

JULIANA

Dad!!

Dad is trying to climb back up but is not going to make it.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Oh Masato, what do I do??

The White Light ENVELOPS him.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad!!!!

MASATO

I'll go in after him.

JULIANA

What?

MASATO

I can do this, trust me.

JULIANA

I'm so sorry for those things I said... I didn't mean-

She has a sudden VISION MEMORY, from 'MASATO AND THE MASK':

Masato, in his Fox-form, and the Girl RACE across the slope of the mountain, HOPPING and JUMPING off the rocks and among the wild foliage.

Masato KISSES Juliana, ENDING the Vision-Memory.

MASATO

I told you... it's an adventure! I'm remembering, Juliana. Trust me. I'll find him, bring him back! Wait for me!

JULIANA

But -

Juliana has ANOTHER VISION MEMORY:

Ins the abandoned Shrine, the Girl REMOVES a PEACH-COLORED THREAD from her clothes, and TIES IT around Masato's PAW.

The Vision-Memory ENDS. Masato KISSES her again, and JUMPS down INTO THE WHITE LIGHT. Both are now out of Juliana's sight. The whole area becomes significantly brighter.

Juliana CLIMBS, as the White Light continues to RISE.

She reaches the top. The Townspeople have all FLED, but Juliana does not follow. Alone, she watches nervously as the White Light continues to RISE, steadily approaching her.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

OK Dad... OK Masato...

She is extremely nervous, breathing rapidly. She holds the NECKLACE Masato made for her, and puts it around her neck.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I'm coming.

And then, as the White Light approaches, she ENTERS it.

INT. WHITE LIGHT - DAY

While outside the White Light was night, inside it is bright, everything shining with the White Light.

There is no sign of the city or modern development in sight, just the pristine landscape she remembers from her previous incarnation. Things appear more SPIRIT, than Physical.

She spots Dad several hundred meters further down, already seated, motionless like the others. She cannot see Masato.

Juliana tries to move towards Dad, but is getting more dreary by the second, and soon cannot help but sit on the ground as well. She becomes quickly lost in a dreamy mix of memories and images, nearly impossible to stay lucid. She hears BIRDS CHIRPING, which only lulls her deeper.

She looks down and actually sees ROOTS of White Light beginning to grow around her. She is helpless to stop them.

Then, with perhaps her last bit of awareness, she notices the ground vibrating in a pulsing RHYTHM. She hears HORSE HOOVES galloping to the same rhythm. She manages to look over, barely lucid, and indeed there is someone on a HORSE galloping straight towards her.

It is SIFU. He is GLOWING Red Energy.

Sifu GRABS Juliana from his horse, RIPPING her free from the White Light roots, and rides as fast as he can back towards the EDGE of the White Light.

EXT. EDGE OF THE WHITE LIGHT - NIGHT

Sifu charges out of the White Light and BREAKS FREE, carrying a weakened Juliana awkwardly on his hip. The White Light continues to close in on them, but they have a slight lead. He stops hastily where ANOTHER HORSE is waiting, tied to a tree. Sifu tries to put Juliana onto its back, but Juliana is STILL DROWSY from the White Light.

SIFU

Get on! Julie!

Juliana wakes up a bit.

SIFU (CONT'D)

You're too big, I cannot carry you! You need to ride!

JULIANA

Ride?

Sifu tightens a few straps for her feet and UNTIES the horse.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I don't know how to ride!

SIFU

We will not escape alive on foot.

Juliana looks again; the whole valley is indeed being consumed by the White Light. It is everywhere, getting closer. Juliana's horse is flailing about, clearly nervous.

JULIANA

I can't do this! Sifu! I don't know how to ride a horse!

STFU

Use what I taught you!

Sifu WHIPS the horse and takes the lead. Juliana's horse FOLLOWS, and she hangs on for dear life.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Ride!

JUTTANA

I don't know how! I'm gonna fall!!

Sifu slows just a bit to ride closer alongside her.

SIFU

USE it!!!

Vision-Memory FLASHBACKS of her TRAINING in Sifu's Commune in her previous life; She indeed was once a good student.

When the Vision-Memory clears, she finds herself riding the horse with some degree of strength. She is GLOWING again with the Red Energy, only slightly.

SIFU (CONT'D)

That narrow gap ahead is our only way of escape.

Juliana looks ahead.

JULIANA

We'll never make it!!

Sifu looks at her directly.

SIFU

Don't just LET things happen... MAKE them happen!!

He FIRES UP with the Red Energy, even brighter.

SIFU (CONT'D)

DO it!! NOW! GO!!!!

Sifu explodes with the Red Energy and TAKES OFF ahead of her, qunning for that narrow sliver of an opening through which they can escape the White Light.

Juliana takes a breath, looking at the Red Energy in her hands, remembering it's power. She looks ahead again at her goal, and focuses with INTENT. She IGNITES with a BURST of the Red Energy, and her horse's speed INCREASES.

It is almost as if she is putting the Red Energy INTO the horse, making it go faster. She is CATCHING UP to Sifu. She lets the Red Energy take is full strength, and her horse begins to OVERTAKE Sifu.

At first he is concerned, but then grins with satisfaction. Juliana cannot help but grin back.

Juliana breaks through the opening easily, free of the encroaching White Light. Sifu narrowly escapes behind her, as they cruise together across the untouched landscape.

EXT. SIFU'S RETREAT - NIGHT

A humble and very remote log cabin, atop a cliff. Sifu and Juliana tie up the horses. Juliana looks exhausted.

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT BATHROOM - NIGHT

Juliana, half asleep, washes her face and hands with a bowl of warm water.

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT BEDROOM - NIGHT

Juliana is in a bed. Sifu turns out the lantern.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

Juliana is deep asleep, recalling a PREVIOUS LIFETIME;

EXT. REMAINS OF SIFU'S COMMUNE - SUNRISE

Julie lays on the cold ground, bleeding from the GUNSHOT WOUND in her chest.

SIFU

Julie, you've got to fight it!!

Sifu pours his Red Energy into her, TRYING TO REVIVE her. But Julie's body is not taking it, and it is of no use.

Sifu begins to CRY OPENLY.

SIFU (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry, Julie, I didn't see!

Sifu holds her hands in his.

SIFU (CONT'D)

You should hate me...

But Julie just smiles at him, and begins to fade off.

SIFU (CONT'D)

No, you can't leave me again! You have to fight it!

But Julie does not, a calm enlightened look in her eye.

SIFU (CONT'D)

FIGHT!!!!!!!

JULIE

No...

She closes her eyes, her muscles finally giving in. She squeezes Sifu's hands one last time.

JULIE (CONT'D)

...Don't fight.

Julie DIES. Sifu breaks down in TEARS.

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT BEDROOM - MORNING

Juliana wakes up. She is in a small room in the simple logcabin-type structure, similar to those in Sifu's Commune.

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT HALLWAY - MORNING

A rather cozy place, mostly wood, with many ANTIQUES and ARTWORKS all around. Juliana moves slowly, taking the time to examine the many FRAMED PHOTOS on the wall, and the POTTERY along the floor. This tiny cabin is a treasure trove of antiques from around the world.

More PHOTOS on the wall; Sifu standing with various people (is that him with Bruce Lee?). -Some very interesting shots.

Then Juliana spots a photo of Sifu's Commune. Then she spots another. There's ZHAN. BJORN. Then she sees a photo of Dad, from his previous lifetime. It is a photo of him winning the MMA tournament in Brazil, holding a large TROPHY above his head, a CUT above his left eye.

Juliana has a sudden Vision-Memory of Dad bringing home that same trophy to the Commune when she was only 5.

And then, as she nears the end of the hallway, she sees a photo of HERSELF at the same age. Juliana is astounded. She takes it off the wall and HOLDS it in her hands.

From here, Juliana can see into a small cabin-style KITCHEN. And beyond that, through some dirty glass, a BALCONY.

On the balcony Juliana can see a FIGURE, his back to Juliana.

Even from behind, she is certain it is Sifu.

EXT. SIFU'S RETREAT BALCONY - MORNING

Juliana softly steps outside. The sun is shining, the VIEW astounding. Sifu's retreat is built on the side of a gnarly rocky face. She can see over almost the whole valley, much of it covered in a sea of the White Light.

Sifu is drinking TEA.

JULIANA

What is this place?

SIFU

When fleeing danger, wars, or empires, it has long been tradition for the wise to move upwards, to more inhospitable ground.

Sifu hands Juliana a MUG OF TEA. At first Juliana is hesitant to accept, but then;

SIFU (CONT'D)

This mug was made by your mother, a lifetime ago.

Juliana TAKES the tea, and smells it. Its a great mug.

SIFU (CONT'D)

I have some more of her work inside if you like. Here, look. This mug I am drinking from was also made by her as well, only 2 lifetimes ago. They are amazingly similar, don't you think? I don't have any of her recent work yet however. I should have come and bought some when I was last in Brazil, but...

He smiles.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Well, I don't think I would have been welcome.

Juliana then finds a SKETCHBOOK on a table. She picks it up. There are DRAWINGS of her. Of Damien. Of Sifu's Commune. They are quite good.

JULTANA

You drew these?

She flips the page, revealing a sketch of Mom and Young Julie. She sips her tea.

STFU

Do you see now why the Red Energy must be preserved?

Juliana doesn't follow.

SIFU (CONT'D)

The Red Energy, Julie, is what makes us Human! It's how we function in this Physical World! All Human decisions, aspirations, art, achievements in science, breakthroughs - IDEAS! Where do you think it all comes from? Sitting around listening to the birds?

Juliana suddenly remembers her experience inside the White Light, hearing the BIRDS CHIRPING, and the hypnotizing effect it had, lulling her nearly asleep.

She returns to the present, and sees some WEAPONS.

JULTANA

But isn't it also what drives people to make war, or try to rule empires... or keep people locked up in Communes, isn't it?

She picks up one of the weapons; a short SWORD. She holds it up to Sifu's NECK, not realizing she suddenly has his life in her hands. They both FREEZE.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Is preserving the Red Energy so important that you had to kill my parents? Twice?

Sifu has a look of surprise at the word 'twice'.

SIFU

You don't know as much as you think you know. Would you like me to finally tell you the truth?

JULIANA

I wouldn't believe you if you did.

They both share a moment of understanding.

Juliana lowers the sword. An uncomfortable silence. puts it back where she found it.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

So. What's a girl gotta do around here to get some breakfast?

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT KITCHEN - MORNING

EGGS crack into a SIZZLING PAN. Juliana SITS at the tiny bar. Sifu serves her up plate of EGGS, BACON, and TOAST.

JULIANA

Very Canadian of you.

STFU

I thought you'd like it.

A Vision-Memory flashes from 'JULIE AND THE LIGHT': Julie sitting in the HIGHWAY DINER, and the breakfast she ordered but never got to eat.

Juliana EATS. Sifu begins to wash up. It doesn't take long before Juliana finishes her meal.

Then suddenly, she RUNS OUT OF THE CABIN.

EXT. SIFU'S RETREAT - MORNING

Sifu FOLLOWS her outside, putting on his coat.

SIFU

What are you doing?

Juliana is trying to untie the HORSE she rode in on last night, but she can't get the knots undone. Sifu approaches.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Where would you go?

As Sifu comes within striking range, Juliana abandons the ropes and decides to RUN AWAY from him on foot.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Must we chase each other through more lifetimes!?? You are here!! Now! Can't you see I was right?

Juliana begins to run down the STEEP ROCKY TRAIL, but thinks she can go faster by JUMPING straight down the steeper face. Sifu unties his horse, and gives CHASE.

Juliana starts to generate the Red Energy, and it helps her move faster, take greater LEAPS. Sifu FOLLOWS on horseback.

Juliana sees him coming, and makes the Red Energy stronger. Now she can take GREAT leaps, thrusting and ricocheting off the rocks with power and accuracy. Sifu stops his horse so that he can watch. He is amazed.

EXT. BOTTOM OF CLIFF - MORNING

Juliana has reached the bottom of the rocks, facing the EDGE of the White Light. She stares into it. It is not advancing as it was last night; it seems to be 'asleep'.

Juliana gathers her courage, and ENTERS.

INT. WHITE LIGHT - DAY

The sensations are immediately intense, and Juliana sees again all the currents of energy of everything around her.

She immediately becomes DROWSY, and cannot help but SIT DOWN again. The light grows over her like vines, and she quickly begins to lose her self-identity. She tries to fight it, but it is not easy. Birds CHIRP.

Then out of panic, she IGNITES THE RED ENERGY in her palms. It gives her a little more strength, but it is not enough. She uncontrollably forms herself into a LOTUS POSTURE on the ground, and is beginning to GROW ROOTS again, her thoughts and sense of identity FADING.

Sifu APPEARS on his horse, GLOWING BRIGHTLY with Red Energy.

EXT. BOTTOM OF CLIFF - MORNING

Sifu PULLS Juliana out of the White Light again, and DUMPS her on the rocks. Juliana is wasted, but regains herself after a few breaths.

She sees Sifu nursing the arm he pulled her out with, as if the White Light had burned him.

SIFU

I can't do that all day you know.

Juliana looks back at the White Light.

SIFU (CONT'D)

What is in there that you seek?

Juliana's eyes begin to well up, but she swallows it down.

I can teach you how to go in there, without turning into a tree.

Juliana's curiosity is piqued.

SIFU (CONT'D)

I swore to my Master that I would find an Apprentice to pass on what I have been given. I KNOW that you are this Apprentice, yet you have eluded me for three lifetimes. I am exhausted. Will you finally let me finish your training, so that I can break free of this curse?

JULIANA

Curse?

SIFU

My Master's Energy is attached to me. Until I find someone capable of learning it completely...

He looks away.

SIFU (CONT'D)

I cannot die.

She looks at his face, withered and aged.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Let me finish it. You are so close. Master the Red Energy once and for all, let me be free of it, and you will be able to go in there for what you seek.

JULIANA

If I do, will you promise to leave me alone forever?

STFU

If that be your wish.

JULIANA

And Masato too, and my Mom?

SIFU

Yes.

JULIANA

And my Dad?

Sifu wants to say yes but somehow he cannot. They endure the pause. Juliana looks again towards the White Light.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

How long will it take?

The White Light BEGINS TO MOVE again, slowly. They step back.

SIFU

It appears we don't have the luxury to choose. We must start immediately.

He grabs the REIGNS of his horse.

SIFU (CONT'D)

let's see how well you can Now... come back up!

He WHIPS his horse and TAKES OFF up the trail, leaving Juliana in his dust.

Juliana FIRES UP the Red Energy.

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT - NIGHT

Sifu is ceremoniously SHAVING Juliana's HAIR. Juliana has short Vision-Memory FLASHBACKS of receiving the same ritual in her previous life as a child in Sifu's Commune.

Juliana return to the present, seeing herself in a MIRROR, as her DREADLOCKS fall away.

EXT. TRAINING MONTAGE - DAY

Juliana is in TRAINING;

A scene of her moving the Red Energy under Sifu's guidance.

A scene of her sparring empty-handed. Sifu holds a STAFF.

A scene of Juliana punching trees and splitting them apart with the Red Energy.

A scene of Juliana using the Red Energy to run up a MOUNTAIN PEAK. Sifu comes up behind on his horse.

A scene of Juliana and Sifu sitting atop the rocky peak, charged with the Red Energy, looking down at the valleys below, covered in the White Light.

TNT. STFU'S RETREAT BATHROOM - EVENING

Juliana is unwrapping her hands in the sink. Knuckles quite ripped up, bleeding and swollen.

Juliana looks at herself in the mirror. Despite being bruised and exhausted, she looks stronger than she can ever remember.

EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT

Sifu has made a brilliant FIRE, and they sit comfortably at its side. Juliana has a BLANKET wrapped around her. Sifu hands her a hot MUG OF TEA.

JULIANA

Thanks.

They sit, sipping peacefully, watching the flames.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Look, just because you're being nice now doesn't mean I forgot you murdered my parents. Twice.

SIFU

You keep saying twice. I don't know why you say that.

JULIANA

Because it's true! Here in Japan, and then again in that stupid Commune you built!

A sharp Vision-Memory hits Juliana from her previous lifetime, within the walls of Sifu's Commune;

For a moment, Mom and Young Julie appear to be free, but then the TREE that was damaged begins to TOPPLE.

YOUNG JULIE

Mom, look out!

The huge tree FALLS. Mom is too weak or aware to move out of the way in time. The tree FALLS ON TOP of Mom, CRUSHING HER.

YOUNG JULIE (CONT'D)

Mom!

Young Julie loses all mental capacity at the sight of it, utterly TRAUMATIZED just like Mom was at Dad's death.

The Vision-Memory ends. Juliana returns to Sifu's company.

STFU

You know that your Mother's death was not my doing. I grieved with you that day.

JULIANA

She died, protecting me from you!

SIFU

But I did not kill her! That was never my intention. And her other death, you were not even there! There is much you don't know.

JULIANA

I can't believe I'm just sitting here with you.

SIFU

Your confusion proves that you don't really know the whole story. Did you never ask your parents what happened? Or did you just assume?

Juliana stares at him for a moment, then kicks her feet up, getting more comfortable. She sips her tea.

JULIANA

OK wiseguy. Tell me the story then. Let's have it out.

Sifu is surprised. He sips his tea as well.

SIFU

OK. Where do I begin? You already know the story of how my Master rescued me as a child, correct?

They ENVISION his story in the SMOKE and FLAMES of the fire.

SIFU (CONT'D)

And how my Master trained me to learn the Red Energy...

Scenes of a YOUNGER SIFU going with his Master around the world. Scenes of them TRAINING, and COMPETING abroad.

SIFU (CONT'D)

And how just before my Master left me, at the end of the war...

Juliana is listening.

I was told that I must find the next Apprentice, to keep the teachings alive. And that when I did, my Master would come back to me again. So, I began my search.

Scenes of a Younger Sifu ADVENTURING, in search of various martial artists. Sifu stokes the fire.

SIFU (CONT'D)

But none I could find impressed me. I heard rumors however that a man in Japan was mastering a new style. Naturally, I sought him out.

JULIANA

I remember that day.

Vision Memories of Xiu Li playing with her TOY BOAT on the water, Dad meditating. A Younger Sifu appears on the path.

SIFU

He was everything they said he was. I was overcome. I felt like I had found what I was searching for, an intense and sudden familiarity. I wished greatly for him to be my student, somehow knowing that our fates were to be intertwined.

Then Sifu becomes saddened.

SIFU (CONT'D)

But I failed to win his favor.

JULIANA

You mean you killed him.

SIFU

No I did NOT kill him. Not that time. NOR your mother. And you don't know the truth about his other death either. You have decided much about me without warrant, young one.

Shared Memories and Images of the burning house.

SIFU (CONT'D)

I was deeply saddened by that loss, believe me. I was alone again.

Sifu refills Juliana's tea.

Then I considered; my Master taught me when I was just a child, so perhaps I should also seek my Apprentice in a similar way.

Scenes of Sifu traveling abroad, with some STREETKIDS.

SIFU (CONT'D)

And so, I looked to the orphans of the world, like me, searching.

Scenes of Sifu traveling through BHUTAN.

SIFU (CONT'D)

I'd already rescued one boy, suspecting he might have potential. Zahn. Do you remember Zahn?

Juliana RECOGNIZES him in the FLAMES.

SIFU (CONT'D)

One particular orphanage I visited had a frightful reputation. When I arrived, I saw an ORPHAN BOY being bullied by a host of other bigger boys. They had taken a toy from him, and were teasing him with it.

Scene of Sifu visiting a FIRST NATIONS RESERVATION in BC, Canada. Present are some ELITES, alongside some creepy ROYAL-LOOKING FIGURES.

Juliana watches the story in the flames of the campfire; She sees her Dad as a boy, FIGHTING the gang of bullies.

SIFU (CONT'D)

His courage was tremendous! I only needed to look at him once, to recognize a familiarity that I would not understand until later...

Juliana is enthralled, WATCHING in the flames.

SIFU (CONT'D)

The boy immediately sensed my Master's power, and his little hands lit up! I was amazed!

The tale continues, animated before them;

SIFU (CONT'D)

But then he did something I did not expect.

(MORE)

The toy he was fighting for was not for him. He wanted to give it to another child, a young girl.

Juliana watches the Orphan Boy give back the toy to a YOUNG GIRL, who is dressed in fancy clothes; she is with the Elites and Royals. Yet she does not look happy.

The Orphan Boy gives her the home-made TOY BOAT. She SMILES.

SIFU (CONT'D)

I vowed to rescue him from that terrible place to be my student. However, he insisted on one condition;

ORPHAN BOY

I'll only go if she comes too.

The Orphan Boy holds the Young Girl's hand, determined. Elites and Royals hurry to interfere, but the Young Girl HIDES behind the Orphan Boy, clearly TERRIFIED of them.

SIFU

I reluctantly agreed.

- Scenes of Sifu taking the children, BATTLING the Elites.
- Scenes of Sifu taking them to his COMMUNE in the forest.

SIFU (CONT'D)

He grew up to be my best student. I took him to fight abroad. But on one trip, during the last match...

- Scenes from a story Dad had told Juliana in her past life;

JULIANA

He remembered the White Light.

Dad, in desperate trouble in the match, IGNITES with the White Light, and ESCAPES as light as a feather, and begins using it to DEFLECT his opponent with ease.

STFU

It was at that moment I realized that he was in fact your Father from your previous life, and that our fates were linked more deeply than I'd thought.

Juliana watches the vision, ringside, as Dad puts on a show.

It wasn't long after, that your Father also began to remember. And when he did ...

Sifu's face grows cold.

SIFU (CONT'D)

...he tried to kill ME.

Scene of Dad ATTACKING Sifu at night in the forest by the river, using the Red Energy;

SIFU (CONT'D)

And he almost did.

Scene of Dad, almost stronger than Sifu with the Red Energy. Dad has Sifu on the verge of being killed, but Sifu manages ONE LAST DESPERATE MOVE in self defense that FINISHES Dad.

Juliana recalls the rest in an INTENSE VISION-MEMORY:

EXT. SIFU'S COMMUNE -- NIGHT

MOM heads through the gate and scrambles down the rocky path towards the River. The Fighters are crossing towards them. A BODY is slung across one of their shoulders. It doesn't take long for Young Julie to recognize the face; It is DAD.

EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT

The Vision-Memory ends, and Juliana returns to the campfire.

STFU

But, you wouldn't believe my stories if I told you, right?

Juliana eats those words. A long moment of silence.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Yet, through it all, it was always you. Not your father, nor any other that I tried to teach in vain.

Scenes of Sifu training the MAN IN STRAW HAT, and DEMIAN.

SIFU (CONT'D)

No. It was always you. And I knew you'd return. Just as in your last life, and just as you've done now.

Juliana is silent.

How do you think I knew you were coming? How do you think I could see you from afar? Those of the Red Energy can see their own kind, and find each other, even through death.

Sifu gets up.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Please put out the fire and bring in your things when you are done. And don't stay up too late. We have a full day tomorrow.

Sifu retires to his cabin, then turns back.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Oh, I have something here for you.

He reaches under his chair and pulls out a FOLDED PIECE OF CLOTHING. He gives it to Juliana, who UNFOLDS it.

It takes Juliana a few moments to realize, then;

JULIANA

My Lucky Sweater .. ?

Indeed, it is her LUCKY HOODED SWEATER from her previous life; riddled with PUNK PATCHES and SAFETY PINS.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

You kept it?

She immediately tries it on, but it is clearly too small.

As she feeds her arms through the sleeves, barely hanging by a few threads and safety pins, they TEAR OFF. At first Juliana is upset, but soon realizes that without the sleeves, it actually FITS her quite nicely as a VEST.

Sifu retreats to his cabin, Juliana staying at the fire.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

There's one thing I don't get.

Sifu stops.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Why didn't you just have kids of your own? You could've taught them. SIFU

I can't.

He continues, somberly.

SIFU (CONT'D)

There was one woman, once upon a time. I was ready to give up everything for her, even abandon my Master's wishes. But I could not give her children.

JULIANA

What happened to her?

SIFU

She died.

Sifu goes INSIDE. Juliana is speechless, the fire FLICKERING.

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT BEDROOM - NIGHT

Juliana is ASLEEP, tossing and turning.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

Juliana is FLYING through the dreamscape.

JULIANA

Mom?

She flies over Brazil but it is mostly dark.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Where are you?

Then she sees Dad, SITTING, BATHED in the White Light. He is turning into a tree; ROOTS growing thick, STRANGLING his body. He begins to grow BARK on his skin. It looks painful.

INT. SIFU'S RETREAT BEDROOM - NIGHT

Juliana awakens in a cold sweat from the nightmare. She touches the SHARD of POTTERY around her neck.

EXT. SIFU'S RETREAT BALCONY - NIGHT

Unable to sleep, Juliana walks out to the balcony, putting on her lucky VEST. Sifu is already there. The White Light has grown considerably closer already.

JULIANA

It's almost here!

SIFU

Yes. It will overtake the mountain soon. We are no longer safe here.

He looks to Juliana.

SIFU (CONT'D)

We must leave.

JULIANA

What, now?

EXT. SIFU'S RETREAT - NIGHT

Sifu and Juliana are packing up the HORSES.

JULIANA

Where are we going?

SIFU

We have little choice. The White Light has taken most of the island. We must retreat to higher elevations.

JULIANA

But your house! All that artwork -My Mom's pottery!

She clutches her NECKLACE.

STFU

Quick! It's coming!

EXT. JAPANESE MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

Juliana and Sifu are RIDING away on horseback. They look back, and witness Sifu's CABIN ENGULFED in the White Light.

EXT. JAPANESE FORESTS - NIGHT

Juliana and Sifu are riding casually, having escaped the White Light for now.

JULIANA

I thought you said the Red Energy can defeat it! I saw you do it. I actually did it myself, a bit.

STFU

Yes, but how long can you maintain it? Inside, even the Red Energy will eventually become exhausted. If we are to find a way to defend, we must find safe ground to prepare, or there may be no stopping it.

They hear a NOISE far off in the distance. They see 2 small lights; AIRCRAFT, flying over the White Light. The aircraft release some BOMBS, and they witness the EXPLOSIONS from afar. Nearer, they see the White Light, still ADVANCING.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Come.

EXT. JAPANESE MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

JULIANA

Would you tell me where we're going??

SIFU

Up.

Juliana surveys the view behind them below; the White Light over the whole valley, nearly surrounding them. She and Sifu are moving upwards to what looks to be the only safe ground left. A MOUNTAINTOP looms beyond.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Just over this ridge, there is a place we can possibly rest, at least for tonight.

They climb a little higher.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Unfortunately, it's occupied.

JULIANA

Occupied?

They come up over the forested ridge, where they see a CAMP; the same MARTIAL ARTS CLAN.

SIFU

Oh, and I must warn you... I don't have exactly the best reputation with these guys...

JULIANA

Neither do I.

SIFU

Hm? You've encountered this gang before?

JULIANA

I broke a few of their teeth.

Sifu is stunned, then LAUGHS. Sifu begins the charge.

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - EARLY MORNING

Sifu and Juliana ride openly towards the Camp. DAWN is breaking. They are immediately engaged by the Clan, threatening them in Japanese and pointing their WEAPONS.

And as if on cue, the Clan Brethren emerges to the front.

CLAN BRETHREN

So our paths cross again. What is your business here? Speak!

STFU

What other business is there at this time? Obviously, we seek to escape the White Light! My own home has been taken.

They weigh each other for a moment.

CLAN BRETHREN

Yes. The entire island is engulfed. It climbs by the hour.

A collective moment of fear and despair.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

And we still haven't found a way to defeat it.

SIFU

Which is why I bring you a gift.

Sifu nods to Juliana. It takes her a second to understand.

JULIANA

What, me?

The Female Martial Artist quietly steps CLOSER.

SIFU

She is a Master of the White Light, and understands this foe better than anyone you could hope for.

Sifu nods again to Juliana, and Juliana GENERATES the White Light in her left hand. The camp REACTS in shock and fear.

FIGHTER

Then she's a danger to us!! Just like you, old man! Your history in these parts has not been forgotten!

But Sifu interrupts;

STFU

She is ALSO a Master of my style.

Juliana FIRES UP the Red Energy in her right hand. The image of her with these 2 forces in either palm is striking.

SIFU (CONT'D)

With which, we have hope.

The Clan steps back, impressed. A grumbling of opinions.

FIGHTER

But she broke my teeth!!

MARTIAL ARTIST

And my arm!

CLAN MEMBER

She stole our rations!

COOK

She struck down our Master!!

CROWD

Kill her!!

Several members of the Clan ADVANCE toward Juliana, but she is already a step ahead; from her horse, she KICKS them with the Red Energy, knocking them back several meters. Juliana gets off her horse, as two of them recover and CHARGE her again with vicious intent.

But as soon as they come within range, Juliana turns to the White Light style, using it to SUBDUE their attack and THROW them to the rocks. They stay down, terrified. Sifu is proud.

STFU

We know how to resist the White Light! My Red Wind Style can do it. I have done it myself!

The camp CONSIDERS. The Female Martial Artist looks at Juliana and Dad, suspiciously.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Let us be allies in this time of danger! Let us teach you this power! Together, it may be our only survival!

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - EARLY MORNING

Juliana and Clan Brethren are looking outward at the VIEW, where they can monitor the White Light. Behind them, the Clan is preparing for training.

CLAN BRETHREN

Tell me; what are you doing with that old man?

JULIANA

Oh ... we go way back. What do you know of him? Why you guys hate him so much?

CLAN BRETHREN

He is said to have been seen around these lands since before most of these men were born. He's had plenty of time to offend.

He comes closer to her.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

But why are you with him now? What happened to your Father? The boy?

Juliana is embarrassed at the word 'boy'.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

Where are they?

Juliana looks out towards the White Light.

JULIANA

In there.

They share a silence.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Where is that old man from your group? The one who sat at the end of the table? The one I kicked the other night. I didn't mean to.

CLAN BRETHREN

He was my father. He is dead.

Juliana is overcome that she might have killed him.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

But not because of you. He was taken by the White Light. Like your father and your friend.

Juliana is relieved, yet shares his grief.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

It's remarkable what you can do. I heard tales of magic, and fighting powers. I always wanted to believe them. But now I see it with my own eyes. In you.

His becomes lost in thought, then looks at Juliana fondly.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

Can it really defend us from the White Light?

They look down again, the White Light slowly COMING CLOSER.

JULIANA

It's going to have to.

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - MORNING

The whole clan has come to attend Sifu and Juliana's morning training session. Some show up with skepticism or defiance, others with curiosity or even eagerness.

SIFU

OK. The first thing you need to learn is to breathe...

The Clan Brethren TRANSLATES.

JULIANA

You teach too slow.

SIFU

Excuse me?

JULIANA

Next you'll be giving everyone haircuts. It'll take 'em months the way you teach.

She looks to the fighters in the camp. Strong. Trained well their whole lives. Ready to face their death if need be. Many of their heads already SHAVED.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

The Red Energy is already in them.

She walks up to a FIGHTER. Sifu is dumbfounded.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Show me a punch.

The Fighter doesn't understand.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Show me how you punch!

The Clan Brethren TRANSLATES into Japanese.

Juliana demonstrates, settling into a nice horse-stance, coiling her fists. The student reluctantly follows, and prepares to show Juliana his form.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Now. Think of putting all your intention into the strike. All your mind. Eliminate doubt, your mind is the sharpest blade.

The Clan Brethren continues TRANSLATING.

Juliana circles BEHIND the Fighter, and generates the Red Energy, holding it steady near the base of his SPINE.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

When you are ready, gimme your biggest Ki-Yai!

The Clan Brethren continues translating. The Fighter prepares, breathing in.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Feel it...

She prepares the Red Energy, letting it ABSORB INTO the Fighter's body. Sifu's eyes WIDEN.

The Fighter PUNCHES into the air wit a YELL. But as he does, Juliana transfers MORE of the Red Energy into the base of his spine, and it SURGES through the Fighter as he punches.

The Red Energy BLASTS through his punch, and the Fighter feels its immense power. Even after the punch, the Fighter is still CHARGED with the Red Energy for a few seconds.

Everyone is impressed. Sifu is overcome.

EXT. TRAINING AREA - MORNING

Everyone is in rows, doing Red Energy-charged KATAS. is moving from student to student, transferring Red Energy into their lower backs.

EXT. TRAINING AREA - DAY

JUTTANA

OK, now we will use it to defend against the White Light.

The Clan Brethren translates.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Sifu's done this, I've seen him do it. He rescued me from inside it.

Finally, a hint of gratitude.

SIFU

The White Light will try to steal your will! It will make you want to join with your surroundings and you will forget your own self. It sounds terrifying, but you will be tempted. Our Red Energy can shield you from that.

She steps forward, inviting the Female Martial Artist to come forward. She hesitates, but agrees, cautiously.

Juliana takes a deep breath and begins to GLOW with the White Light before her. Everyone is nervous at the sight of it none more then the Female Martial Artist. But she continues.

JULIANA

I want you to try to hit me. Use the Red Energy.

Suddenly the Female Martial Artist changes her demeanor. A wave of anger overcomes her, and she looks to Dad for an instance, with malice. Dad is confused.

The Female Martial Artist CHARGES in, YELLING, unleashing an ONSLAUGHT of her new Red Energy skills.

Juliana uses the White Light to DEFLECT her and TOPPLE her over. The Female Martial Artist is stunned, and has LOST the Red Energy. Juliana dims the White Light, and brings the Red Energy to her palm, and RE-CHARGES her with it.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Again! USE it! You WILL hit me!

She shines again with the White Light, and the Female Martial Artist CHARGES again, this time more furiously. Her Red Energy is BRIGHTER, and she is not so easily beaten.

Juliana DEFLECTS and RE-DIRECTS, trying hard to remain calm in the White-Light, but the Female Martial Artist is relentless, and manages to break through with the Red Energy, STRIKING Juliana across the temple.

The spar ENDS. Juliana lets the White Light go, checking her head; a slight CUT. The Female Martial Artist is still pumped with the Red Energy. She looks again to Dad, scowling.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Good. You did it. See?

Juliana grits her teeth, and CHARGES UP the White Light.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Who's next?

EXT. TRAINING AREA - AFTERNOON

MONTAGE of Juliana training the Camp;

Juliana is using the White Light to calm, deflect, and throw her attackers. Her attackers, sometimes even 2 or 3 at a time, some with STICKS or STAFFS, try to penetrate the White Light and STRIKE at Juliana's body.

Juliana is good, but they are succeeding. Juliana is receiving several BLOWS. Her cheeks are BRUISED and CUT, yet with every strike she allows the White Light to soften the pain so she may continue.

She takes one more HARD HIT in the ribs with a STICK. Juliana visibly WINCES in pain.

SIFU

Stop! That's enough.

But some of the students do not stop, throwing MORE STRIKES, all penetrating whatever White Light Juliana still has.

CLAN BRETHREN

Enough!

They stop The session is over. Some of the fighters give one more KICK to Juliana's ribs. She is done.

EXT. CAMPFIRE CIRCLE - EVENING

The lessons continue by the FIRESIDE. Clan Brethren TRANSLATES;

SIFU

OK, so you know how to pierce it. Yet if the White Light takes you, you cannot punch forever.

Juliana, seated in a meditative-type posture, begins to GLOW with the White Light.

SIFU (CONT'D)

You now must learn to use the Red Energy to shield your mind! To protect your consciousness, to ensure you don't fall asleep to it!

He picks a FIERCE FIGHTER out of the bunch.

SIFU (CONT'D)

You! Come, sit here, before her. Create the Red Energy.

The Fierce Fighter sits, facing Juliana, and BEGINS TO GLOW with the Red Energy as instructed. Juliana's White Light starts to EXPAND towards him.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Use the Red Energy. Not to strike just THINK of it. Think of who you are. Where you came from. Your dreams, your memories. What would you fight for? Who are YOU!?

The Fierce Fighter glows BRIGHTER with the Red Energy.

SIFU (CONT'D)

The White Light will try to take that from you. Don't let it!!

Juliana's White Light begins to expand into the Fierce Fighter's immediate space. He FEELS it, and a sway of drowsiness WOBBLES him.

SIFU (CONT'D)

YOU are the master of your own existence! No one can put that out! You are HERE! You are ALIVE!!!

The Fierce Fighter's Red Energy INCREASES, becoming sharper, brighter. MORE IMPRESSIVE than the other students so far. Even Sifu is surprised.

It begins to REPEL the White Light. The Fierce Fighter catches a glimpse of Sifu, and immediately BLASTS the Red Energy outwards with great force, sending Juliana CRASHING to the ground. Everyone GASPS.

CLAN FIGHTER

It works! We can defeat it!!

A CHEER of new hope. Juliana picks herself up, exhausted.

The Fierce Fighter looks at Juliana, oddly.

INT. JULIANA'S TENT - NIGHT

Juliana tends her wounds, before sleep. Sifu is with her.

STFU

I cannot believe that in all my years of trying to teach this... that I never conceived of the methods that you used today. You have taught these people in one day what took me more than a lifetime.

JULIANA

But these are trained fighters already! I was just a little kid. Obviously they already have the-

SIFU

You don't understand!!

He is visibly moved.

SIFU (CONT'D)

You are truly my Master's Student. The one for whom I've been seeking.

The Clan Brethren ENTERS, nervously.

CLAN BRETHREN

Excuse me...

JULIANA

What's wrong?

He looks at Juliana with affection and fear.

CLAN BRETHREN

The camp has decided they don't need you anymore. They know how to defeat you. They are discussing your fate.

JULIANA

But we helped them! We showed them how to beat the White Light!

CLAN BRETHREN

They don't trust you.

He gestures to Sifu.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

They don't trust him.

JULIANA

Don't trust him with what?

Suddenly they see a RED GLOW through the fabric of the tent, surrounding them.

FIERCE FIGHTER

You are surrounded! Come out!

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - NIGHT

The Clan all SURROUND the tent, all glowing with the Red Energy. The Clan Brethren, Juliana, and Sifu step out.

FIERCE FIGHTER

We have learned what we need, there is no use to allow you to remain.

He is SUPER-CHARGED with the Red Energy, and it suits him well. He looks terrifying, a perfect fighting machine. He walks up to Juliana and Sifu.

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

You were never part of this Clan.

You cannot be trusted.

JULTANA

Trusted with what?

The Fierce Fighter then turns to the Clan Brethren.

FIERCE FIGHTER

And you! 'Gracious Leader'. We have seen the way you look at the girl. Don't think your betrayal of the Clan has not been noticed.

The Female Martial Artist stands in agreement.

The Fierce Fighter gives the signal, and Clan Members APPREHEND the Clan Brethren with their new Red Energy powers. Juliana tries to interfere, but is quickly KNOCKED to the ground by Red Energy ATTACKS. The Fierce Fighter stands over her. His eyes are LIT with the Red Energy.

Juliana gets up and attempts to fight him back, but the Fierce Fighter STRIKES her with more force than Juliana has ever felt, KNOCKING her again to the ground.

Sifu ignites his own Red Energy and comes to her defense, but the Fierce Fighter WRECKS him too. Juliana and Sifu are APPREHENDED by this new RED ENERGY ARMY.

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

You will remain here until we decide your fate.

He pauses menacingly, and then focuses his gaze on Sifu.

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

And to keep you from trying anything stupid...

He BREAKS Sifu's leg. Sifu YELLS as he COLLAPSES in pain.

JULIANA

No!!

FIERCE FIGHTER

Tie them both up! Separate tents! Guard shifts all night!

They haul Sifu away, his leg BROKEN and clearly in pain. They likewise DRAG Juliana back into the tent, roughly.

JULIANA

Sifu - I'm sorry!

The Fierce Fighter STRIKES her again, KNOCKING HER OUT.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

Juliana is FLYING over the Japanese mountains, the White Light covering the valleys like a blanket below.

JULIANA

Mom? Oh Mom, where are you??

But she cannot find her. Juliana remembers Sifu's WORDS:

SIFU'S WORDS

How do you think I knew you were coming? How do you think I could watch you from afar? Those of the Red Energy can see their own kind, and find each other, even through death.

Juliana, still flying in her dream, generates the Red Energy. It creates a WARM GLOW around her, and is comforting.

JULIANA

Mom??

MOM'S VOICE

(distant)

Juliana?

JULIANA

Mom! You're alive?

MOM'S VOICE

No, little one. I don't think so.

Then Juliana thinks she can see her, appearing ghost-like as her various incarnations.

JULIANA

Oh Mom, everything is crazy! I've lost Dad, and Masato! Sifu is hurt!

The image of Mom becomes more clear.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Mom, I need to know everything ... I need to know what happened! Sifu says he didn't do it! Oh Mom I'm so confused!!

In the dream, Juliana takes the form of YOUNG JULIE from her previous life. Mom takes the corresponding form, and HOLDS her daughter lovingly.

MOM'S SPIRIT

Oh little one... I will tell you.

The Dreamscape changes, and Juliana is suddenly reminded of times when they would share tea together:

EXT. DREAMSCAPE -- NIGHT

Juliana and Mom are on their back PORCH in Brazil. Juliana is seated. Mom brings the tea.

MOM

Here. It's warm.

INT. DREAMSCAPE -- NIGHT

Young Julie and Mom are in their tiny CABIN in Sifu's Commune. Mom brings 2 mugs of tea to the table.

MOM

Here. Its warm.

EXT. JAPAN, 1946 - DAY

MOM'S SPIRIT

I met your Father just after the bombs fell, at the end of the war.

Scenes of Japanese communities RE-BUILDING after bombings.

MOM'S SPIRIT (CONT'D)

I had lost everything I knew, and had nowhere to go, lost. So much suffering...

Juliana watches Mom as a young woman walking around the ruins of the neighborhoods, reliving the memory. A horrific time.

MOM'S SPIRIT (CONT'D)

But then I felt something ...

She sees tiny SPARKLES of the White Light, like fireflies in the sky, LEADING HER delicately in a particular direction.

MOM'S SPIRIT (CONT'D)

And it led me to him.

She sees FATHER, helping a group of PEOPLE re-build from the destruction. Amidst the devastation, he is positive, full of life. He makes CHILDREN laugh, and makes the ELDERLY smile, encouraging others to be their best.

Juliana watches him help load up carts, and clean up the rubble. Someone brings him some WATER. Father drinks, the water SPARKLING in the sunshine like the White Light.

> MOM'S SPIRIT (CONT'D) I loved him from that very moment.

Father sees her, and she comes to help. There is an INSTANT ATTRACTION. The children also like her right away.

> MOM'S SPIRIT (CONT'D) Soon we couldn't be apart.

EXT. MOUNTAINS OF JAPAN - MORNING

They FLY further through the Dreamscape to their previous life in Japan. Juliana watches a scene of Mother doing POTTERY in her studio, PREGNANT. Father is building a new corner of their humble HOME.

EXT. JAPANESE KARATE DOJO - NIGHT

MOM'S SPIRIT In the evenings, he practiced Martial Arts with his friends...

Juliana watches scenes of Father TRAINING with some LOCAL KARATEKAS in a familiar dojo.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

MOM'S SPIRIT

Then we had you. Life was grand. It wasn't long after that your Father discovered the White Light for the first time. Do you remember the day you went hiking with him? You had found some peach trees, and brought some back for us.

Suddenly Juliana is taken back, the memory clear in her mind:

EXT. JAPANESE LANDSCAPE - AFTERNOON

 $XIU\ LI$

Mom! Peaches! Look how much we found! I got the best ones.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - CONTINUOUS

JULIANA

That was the day? Those peaches were the best I ever tasted.

MOM'S SPIRIT

That was the day. From then on, the White Light grew in him. He said he felt he was on the verge of a great discovery! Like finding a door to a whole new World!

EXT. JAPANESE POND - MORNING

Juliana watches Father MEDITATING in the White Light. The White Light is SHINING EXCEPTIONALLY BRIGHT.

MOM'S SPIRIT

But a few years later, just as he was beginning to understand it ...

JULIANA

Sifu.

They both witness the familiar scene of Sifu's arrival.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I remember. Sifu wanted to challenge him. But Dad wouldn't fight. I hated him for that.

Juliana becomes angry at the memory.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

And that's when Sifu KILLED YOU.

MOM'S SPIRIT

No, little one!

JULIANA

No?

MOM'S SPIRIT

Oh, I should have told you ...

INT. JAPANESE HOME - EVENING

Juliana watches the tale; Sifu BULLYING her Father in their own home. Father REFUSES TO FIGHT him.

MOM'S SPIRIT

Your father thought that resisting Sifu's challenge was part of understanding of the White Light. A test of his vow to never fight again. And he was passing it...

JULIANA

What happened?

She sees Mom shed a tear. They WATCH and HEAR Xiu Li's FINAL WORDS TO HER FATHER;

 $XTUT_{i}T$

FIGHT HIM BACK!!!!! You COWARD!!!

Xiu Li SLAMS the door of their house, leaving Father, Mother, and Sifu inside. Father's eyes are heartbroken.

MOM'S SPIRIT

You didn't see... but your Father was crushed.

Dad sheds some tears, then turns to Sifu in RAGE.

FATHER

You have turned my own daughter against me? I tried to teach her patience, I tried to teach her goodness... but now my own child has hatred in her heart! Do you realize what you have done?

Sifu's eyes show a glimmer of guilt.

FATHER (CONT'D)

So I will fight you. For what you have done, and to rid you from our lives. I will fight you.

Father takes a FIGHTING STANCE. Sifu raises an eyebrow.

MOM'S SPIRIT

I'd never seen him so angry.

Father ATTACKS Sifu with the White Light and raw physical fighting prowess. Sifu ENGAGES him, ENTHRALLED.

But Father is strong. Sifu backs up, but is able to defend Father's attacks. He is surprised at Father's aggression.

Then Sifu begins to fight in a way that allows some of his Red Energy to PASS INTO FATHER. Father is unaware, yet is SUDDENLY WIELDING the Red Energy too.

STFU

Yes!! See?? I knew it! Look how it runs through you!! I KNEW it!!!

Sifu is overwhelmed with satisfaction. Father is suddenly aware that he is indeed CHARGED with the Red Energy. Mother sees it, and is HORRIFIED.

MOTHER

No!! What have you done to him??

Now Mother is also ENRAGED, and immediately SHE TOO becomes CHARGED WITH THE RED ENERGY.

Father sees the Red Energy PULSING through Mother's tiny clenched fists, and is heartbroken for a second time. He scowls at Sifu, more tears welling in his eyes.

FATHER

Now you've poisoned her too?? I'll kill you!!!

Father STRIKES RECKLESSLY with powerful concentrations of the Red Energy at Sifu inside the house.

Sifu is overwhelmed at Father's sudden ability. Father lets out a YELL, and throws a MASSIVE STRIKE at Sifu. Sifu uses the Red Energy to block, but it still KNOCKS him across the room, SMASHING some of Mother's pottery.

The force of the strike also SMASHES A SUPPORTING BEAM OF THE HOUSE, causing the ROOF to COLLAPSE. Lanterns CRASH to the floor and break, IGNITING the whole place on FIRE.

A heavy SUPPORTING BEAM of the house falls on Father, TRAPPING him. Another part of the ROOF falls on top of Mother, KNOCKING HER OUT. Sifu tries with all his power to free Father, but CANNOT. He turns to Mother, badly trapped.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Leave her alone!!

STFU

I can get her out!

Mom's Spirit continues telling the tale;

MOM'S SPIRIT

Sifu tried to pull me out of the house - he was trying to save me! But your Father grabbed my hand.

FATHER

You will not take her!

STFU

This fire will take us all!

Father looks into Sifu's eyes with deep malice;

FATHER

You will not take her. If we are to die now, she will die by MY side! Not with you. Not with your poison.

Father looks deeper into Sifu's eyes.

FATHER (CONT'D)

And if we may meet in the next life, I vow right here and now, revenge for what you have done.

At that moment, the White Light in Father's eyes FADES, replaced with a more human gaze: haunted by anger and regret.

Another piece of the burning house COLLAPSES on top of BOTH Mother and Father, but Father HOLDS ON to Mother with all his remaining strength. Sifu has no choice but to ESCAPE the burning building on his own, leaving them inside.

Juliana watches the Dreamscape in horrible realization.

EXT. JAPANESE HOME - EVENING

Sifu ESCAPES, the house consumed in FLAMES. He looks back in horror at the BURNING HOUSE, trembling uncontrollably.

EXT. DREAMSCAPE - NIGHT

The Dreamscape settles, Juliana finally knowing the truth. She blinks her eyes, then thinks a little further...

JULIANA

What about before that?

MOM'S SPIRIT

Before what, little one?

JULIANA

Before you met Dad.

She looks at Mom.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

How far back do our lives go??

MOM'S SPIRIT

There is nothing before that...

JULIANA

But where did you come from? A life before that! There must be! Before you met Dad.

MOM'S SPIRIT

Before?

Images of Allied BOMBERS from WWII fly overhead.

MOM'S SPIRIT (CONT'D)

Oh my.

JULIANA

What? What are you remembering?

MOM'S SPIRIT

Oh my... how could I have forgotten?

JULIANA

Forgotten what??

Suddenly Mom becomes extremely anxious.

MOM'S SPIRIT

Oh, Juliana! Go find your Father!!! Bring him to Sifu!! Bring them to the mountain!!

JULIANA

What mountain??

MOM'S SPIRIT

Find him Little One! Find your Father, he will know the spot! I will meet you there!!!

JULIANA

Meet us where?? What spot? How? What's going on??

MOM'S SPIRIT

The mountaintop! Go!! Masato will help you!! I will meet you there!!

The Dreamscape becomes fuzzy - Juliana is waking up.

JULTANA

Mom!! Tell me more!!!

INT. TENT - NIGHT

Juliana AWAKENS, seemingly alone in the tent. Mysteriously, her binds have loosened. It takes her a moment to notice the Clan Brethren, SETTING HER FREE.

JULIANA

You! What are you doing?

CLAN BRETHREN

Shh. Come.

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - NIGHT

JULIANA

Where is everyone? What's going on?

Juliana looks and sees some COMMOTION on the other side of the camp, the Red Energy FLASHING about.

CLAN BRETHREN

They've begun to fight amongst themselves. Arguing who's style makes the Red Energy best!

Juliana looks closer. Indeed, some of them have actually begin to FIGHT amongst themselves, lost in a cloud of egos and unbridled Red Energy. She can hear the Fierce Fighter LAUGHING wickedly.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

Come. A small path through the Light has been found. But it is closing quickly, we must be fast.

JULIANA

We get Sifu first.

CLAN BRETHREN

What?

Juliana remembers again the WORDS of her teacher, and CONCENTRATES using the Red Energy;

SIFU'S WORDS

Those of the Red Energy can see their own kind, and find each other...

Instantly she knows which tent Sifu is in.

JULIANA

That one.

INT. SIFU'S TENT - NIGHT

There is only one GUARD. Juliana KNOCKS HIM OUT swiftly with the Red Energy, and RUSHES to Sifu, UNTYING him.

JULIANA

Sifu... Get up, we're leaving.

CLAN BRETHREN

I can carry him.

But when he tries to lift him, Sifu lets out a horrible YELL of PAIN. They lay Sifu back down. He looks terrible.

SIFU

It's over for me, my Apprentice.

JULIANA

No, you're strong! Use your power!

SIFU

I have passed it to you now. My job is done. After so long, I can finally rest...

JULTANA

No! Come with me!

Sifu manages a grin.

SIFU

Maybe this is what my Master meant when he said he would return. Greet me in death!

More COMMOTION is heard outside.

CLAN BRETHREN

Juliana, we need to go, now.

SIFU

Go. Find your family. I am sorry for all the damage I caused. Though you may not believe me... I loved you all from the start.

He closes his eyes, drifting off.

JULIANA

Sifu!

CLAN BRETHREN

Juliana! There will be no time!

EXT. ROCKY RIDGE - NIGHT

The Clan Brethren has brought Juliana to a secret vantage point, showing her a way through the White Light.

CLAN BRETHREN

There! That narrow passage through the rocks. The White Light has not yet entered it. Perhaps it can lead to the ocean.

Juliana sees it. It is narrow indeed. The Clan Brethren looks at Juliana PASSIONATELY.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

You are the most amazing woman I have ever met. Come with me...

He takes her HANDS. Juliana PULLS AWAY.

JULIANA

I'm... I'm about to be married.

Clan Brethren is shocked. She has no engagement ring.

CLAN BRETHREN

Married?

JULIANA

The 'boy'.

CLAN BRETHREN

Him? He looked so young...

The Clan Brethren is deeply embarrassed.

CLAN BRETHREN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I didn't see it.

Juliana looks towards the White Light below. She holds the NECKLACE Masato made for her.

JULTANA

Neither did I.

She turns to the Clan Brethren.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

I love him. My Dad is in there too.

I have to find them.

CLAN BRETHREN

Find them? You mean...

JULTANA

Take care of Sifu, if you can. Tell him to wait for me. Thank you.

Then she JUMPS down the ridge, using the Red Energy to LEAP down the rocks toward the White Light. The Clan Brethren is left behind, ASTOUNDED.

EXT. EDGE OF THE WHITE LIGHT. - NIGHT

Juliana is at the edge of the White Light, once again.

JULIANA

Okay Sifu...

She creates a SHIELD OF THE RED ENERGY around her.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

This better work.

She STEPS INSIDE.

INT. WHITE LIGHT - DAY

Everything is bathed in White Light. Juliana's Red Energy seems to be working; no signs of being overtaken like before. She ventures deeper.

Along the way she can see SEATED HUMAN FIGURES scattered about, all motionless in meditation posture, with ROOTS of White Light firmly attaching them to the ground.

TNT. WHITE LIGHT - DAY

Juliana walks by a RIVERSIDE, still protected by the Red Energy.

She sees more seated figures along her way. She looks in their eyes. They are vacant, perhaps a hint of bliss at best. It creeps her out. She continues.

Eventually, Juliana thinks she sees/hears SOMETHING IN THE BUSHES on the far side of the river.

JULIANA

Who is it? Who's there?

And then she sees it; a FOX.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Masato?

The Fox comes out of the bushes, and almost FLOATS closer to Juliana, tentatively. It appears to be some kind of SPIRIT, glowing with the White Light, but begins TRANSFORMING into FAMILIAR INCARNATIONS of Masato;

- As a mysterious little boy in Japan with his paper mask
- As KID in Canada (from 'JULIE AND THE LIGHT')
- Then his most recent incarnation, as Juliana knows best

MASATO

What happened to your hair??

JULIANA

Oh Masato it IS you!!

They KISS, passionately.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

How are you awake here, when all these other guys are asleep?

MASATO

Juliana, this is where I'm from!

Masato smiles, puts his mask back on, and begins to FLY AROUND, the White Light SPARKLING wherever he goes.

MASATO (CONT'D)

I remember now!

Juliana suddenly sees A HOST OF LITTLE FOX MASKS everywhere, peeking from behind the trees and foliage. Masato smiles.

MASATO (CONT'D)

When your Dad discovered the White Light, he opened a door to the Spirit World. My world! Most humans never see us... I was curious.

They both visualize Father sitting on top of the mountain, meditating with the White Light, a look of bliss in his eye as he expands the White Light around him.

MASATO (CONT'D)

I came to help him!

Masato looks into Juliana's eyes, mesmerized.

MASATO (CONT'D)

But then I saw you.

They suddenly see a VISION-MEMORY from 'MASATO AND THE MASK':

The Girl HUGS Masato, nestling in the fur of his neck. They STARE into each other's eyes, BATHED in the WHITE LIGHT.

GIRL

If you were a Human, we could have our own house someday, somewhere warm, by a beach! We could have our own little family!

Suddenly, they are both FLOODED with a powerful VISION:

- A young HUMAN COUPLE, on a tropical beach. The Husband MASATO, and the Wife JULIANA. A TODDLER sits upon Masato's shoulders.

The VISION ENDS.

JULIANA

That's why you lied about your family... You had none.

MASATO

Not in your world, except you. Your Mom, your Dad.

JULIANA

Dad. Masato, where's Dad? Did you find him?

MASATO

Yes.

A tear falls from his eye.

MASATO (CONT'D)

But I couldn't help him.

JULIANA

What do you mean? Where is he?

MASATO

Not far. Down the valley. I've been here watching him.

Juliana looks again, and thinks she can see the old farm and pottery studio in the distance, just like in her memories.

MASATO (CONT'D)

But he's frozen. He doesn't see me! I don't know how to help him. He needs YOU, Juliana.

JULIANA

No. He needs this.

Juliana intensifies the Red Energy in her hands. She KISSES Masato again, then RUNS off down the path. Masato smiles.

MASATO

What's the matter, can't you fly?

He puts his mask back on, and FLIES up ahead of her with the White Light, laughing, still very spirit-like in nature.

MASATO (CONT'D)

You forget, you're in my world now!

Juliana sees him FLY overhead. She allows a bit of his White Light to enter her, and she begins to LIFT off the ground ...

INT. WHITE LIGHT - DAY

Juliana and Masato are BOTH FLYING down into the mountain valley. They see their old Japanese HOME below.

JULIANA

But Masato! I thought this place had become a town! We saw it!

MASATO

In here, only pure things remain. The trees, the river... Most of this I think is your Father's memory. We must beware. Come.

They see a SEATED FIGURE on a rock by the river.

JULIANA

Dad!

But Dad just SITS, eyes barely open. Juliana circles around him, looking for a sign of recognition.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad, it's me! Your daughter!

But Dad is FROZEN like all the other White Light victims, the White Light already forming thick ROOTS around his body.

MASATO

I told you. He's stuck.

Dad smiles for a moment, but then his eyes GLAZE OVER again. The roots GROW STRONGER around him.

JULIANA

Mas, what do I do?

She turns back to Dad, desperate.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad, Masato's here with me. We need your help. Mom needs your help! Oh Dad, snap out of it!! you stay here you're gonna turn into a tree!

But no response.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Mom says you need go to the mountaintop. here it all began...

Then;

DAD

Go wash up, little one. Your Mother will have dinner ready soon.

Juliana is confused. Masato is amazed he responded.

JULIANA

Dad? Where do you think you are?

DAD

Where else? The most special place in the world! Soon your Mother will call us.

JULIANA

Is that what you're waiting for?

Dad shows a glimpse of CONFUSION, a crack in his trance. Juliana capitalizes;

JULIANA (CONT'D)

You're waiting for Mom?

A tear falls from Dad's eye. She asks again;

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad - where do you think we are?

This WAKES HIM UP A BIT.

DAD

Juliana? Where is your Mother?

Juliana sits closer, holding her grief.

JULIANA

Mom's not here, Dad.

And then, for a moment, the REAL WORLD becomes slightly visible through the White Light, like looking through a VEIL.

DAD

Not here? Where am I? Where is my wife? My daughter??

All of a sudden Dad STANDS UP, panicked. He is disoriented, still not seeing Juliana or Masato clearly. Juliana and Masato step back and give him space, as he is shaking some of the roots off and waking up.

DAD (CONT'D)

Where is my daughter?? Julie!

JULIANA

I'm right here Dad!

What? You?? This brown skin? No, my daughter is a lovely Japanese girl! Like her Mother.

Juliana is crushed. But upon seeing her tears, Dad looks deeper, and finally RECOGNIZES her;

DAD (CONT'D)

Juliana?

They EMBRACE.

DAD (CONT'D)

Juliana! I'm sorry.

As they embrace, the White Light ROOTS begin again to WRAP around Dad's legs. He shakes them off but they KEEP COMING BACK. Dad begins to get DROWSY again.

DAD (CONT'D)

I don't know how to ... I can't ...

Juliana creates a concentration of the Red Energy.

JULIANA

Here.

But Dad reacts in horror.

What?? Never!! That's HIS light!

JULIANA

Yes, and you need it if you want to get out of here! (MORE)

JULIANA (CONT'D)

If you want to go to the mountaintop. Mom says you have to go to the mountaintop...

DAD

You talked to Mom?

JULIANA

Yeah Dad. Sifu's up there. Now.

DAD

Sifu?

JULIANA

He's hurt. He saved me. He needs us, Dad.

Dad tries to understand. He gathers his courage, trusting her, but the ROOTS take hold of him again, PULLING him back into the White Light. His eyes start to GLAZE OVER again.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad, you have to fight it! The White Light is great, but sometimes we have to fight!!

The White Light roots react and become stronger, pulling Dad back down, and putting him back to SLEEP.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Dad! You have to fight it! Do it for Mom! Do it for yourself! Do it for ME! Oh, please!!

Dad fights hard.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

FIIIIIGHT!!!!!!

As soon as Dad breaks partly free, Juliana TRANSFERS the Red Energy to him, and it rejuvenates him to such a degree that he actually becomes younger, stronger.

He stands up and BREATHES in deeply, generating more strength. His Red Energy becomes BRIGHTER, and the White Light roots FALL AWAY. Dad is AWAKE, the Red Energy protecting him. He sees Juliana clearly now, then Masato.

MASATO

Dad, meet my Fox friend.

Masato BOWS to him. Dad HUGS him, then HUGS Juliana.

Juliana points towards the MOUNTAINTOP.

JULIANA

There.

EXT. EDGE OF THE WHITE LIGHT. - NIGHT

Juliana, Masato and Dad exit the White Light.

JULIANA

This way.

Dad and Masato follow.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Oh yeah, one thing I forgot to mention; Me and Sifu sorta created an army of vicious Red Energy fighters. They're up there now holding Sifu, waiting to kill us. Thought ya might like to know.

Dad and Masato look to each other, dumbfounded.

EXT. EDGE OF MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - EARLY MORNING

The sun is almost up. Juliana, Masato, and Dad APPROACH the camp, stealthily.

DAD

Is this the same gang from before?

JULIANA

Yep.

They hear something RUSTLING in the bushes.

DAD

There's someone here! He's hurt!

They all rush over. The Clan Brethren is LYING BROKEN on some ROCKS at the bottom of a steep cliff. The Female Martial Artist is with him, IN TEARS.

JULIANA

He's a friend, Dad.

Masato comes, standing tall. The Clan Brethren LOOKS at him. They RECOGNIZE EACH OTHER, from 'MASATO AND THE MASK';

CLAN BRETHREN

...Kid?

MASATO

...Brethren.

Dad kneels over him with compassion, and they too are suddenly reminded of a FAMILIAR MEMORY, 2 incarnations ago, from 'JULIANA AND MASATO';

EXT. JAPANESE FORESTS - EVENING

Father executes a huge White-Light infused THROW on the KARATE BRETHREN.

The Karate Brethren is HURLED into a THICK TREE, his body BREAKING with the impact, the tree almost broken completely. The Karate Brethren's New WIFE SCREAMS in horror.

The Karate Brethren looks into Father's eyes, HELPLESS. His New Wife GRASPS his HAND. The Karate Brethren DIES.

EXT. EDGE OF MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - EARLY MORNING

Dad GRASPS his HAND, and begins to generate the Red Energy. He PASSES some to the Clan Brethren, and STRENGTHENS HIM.

The Female Martial Artist cries TEARS OF JOY.

DAD

Get up.

EXT. MARTIAL ARTS CLAN CAMP - EARLY MORNING

Juliana is first to reach the camp. She looks for cover, but soon realizes the camp appears vacant. There is evidence of bloody fighting everywhere; much of the camp broken or smashed about, several DEAD CLAN MEMBERS, and SMOKING RUINS.

Then she sees Sifu who has been STRUNG UP on a post. He looks dead. Juliana RUSHES to him.

DAD

No, Juliana! Wait!

But Dad's warning was right; it's a trap! The remaining Clan Members ATTACK, most with DEADLY WEAPONS.

JULIANA

FIGHT!!!

The battle begins, and the fighters are even better at the Red Energy than Juliana remembered; faster, more direct, more powerful. She is indeed a great teacher.

But Juliana and Masato are worthy opponents;

Masato is finally using the White Light to his greatest potential. A whole new technique and style is coming through him, SWEEPING through handfuls of armed opponents.

Juliana is using BOTH the White Light AND the Red Energy as if they were 2 ends of 1 weapon, SWITCHING back and forth to create amazing COMBOS and FLOWS of defense and attacks.

Dad too is fighting beautifully, using his own combination of White Light AND Red Energy mastery.

But then the Fierce Fighter appears, glowing brighter with the Red Energy than anyone. He holds a LARGE KNIFE. His presence causes the fighting to TEMPORARILY CEASE.

He looks at Juliana with malice. Then he turns to Sifu.

FIERCE FIGHTER

Do you not remember me, old man?

He walks up to Sifu, then looks towards Juliana.

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

When I saw your Red Energy not 2 nights ago, I was amazed. Something about it was familiar. Too familiar.

He continues, everyone frozen, LISTENING to his speech.

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

But when I felt it in me again....

He ENJOYS the sensations of the Red Energy through his limbs.

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

I remembered everything.

He holds the KNIFE to Sifu's THROAT.

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

Do you not remember me, old man?

Suddenly Sifu, and Juliana have flash Vision-Memories of SIFU'S NEW APPRENTICE, aka MAN IN STRAW HAT from their shared previous lifetime (Part 1; Julie and the Light);

SIFU

You?

FIERCE FIGHTER

I was loyal to you! And you threw me away, for this GIRL, who never even wanted you!

He looks back to Sifu with deep passion in his eyes;

FIERCE FIGHTER (CONT'D)

I should have been your Apprentice. Not her. I have proven here to be stronger, better than her.

SIFU

Stronger, perhaps. Better, no.

He gets closer to Sifu, HATING him.

FIERCE FIGHTER

I am even more powerful than you.

DAD

Leave him alone!

The Fierce Fighter looks at Dad with scorn. But the Fierce Fighter does not care about Dad. He generates a HUGE SURGE of the Red Energy, RAISES his knife, and LUNGES to KILL SIFU.

FIERCE FIGHTER

It should have been me!!

Then Dad does something amazing;

He flashes with the White Light AND Red Energy so brightly that he actually BECOMES the White Light and Red Energy for a split second, allowing him to TRANSPORT himself in the blink of an eye to BLOCK the Fierce Warrior's strike.

JULIANA

Dad!!!

The momentum causes both Dad and the Fierce Fighter to go TUMBLING over the rocks, OUT OF SIGHT. For a moment it appears that both Dad and the Fierce Fighter may have fallen down the mountain, as there is no movement.

But then Dad begins to RISE. He is glowing with both the Red Energy and the White Light at the same time, the Red Energy concentrated in his Spinal cord and head, the White Light in his chest and extremities.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

He holds the Fierce Fighter's KNIFE, then THROWS IT AWAY.

STFU

You risked yourself... for me? After all I've done?

Suddenly no one seems to want to fight anymore. Many fighters suddenly look ashamed. The Female Martial Artist helps Clan Brethren to the scene.

Juliana RUSHES to Sifu. She and Dad gently UNTIE him.

CLAN FIGHTER

Look! The White Light!!

He POINTS. Indeed, the White Light has begun to CREEP UP INTO THE CAMP. Dad helps Sifu to his feet, painfully.

CLAN FIGHTER (CONT'D)

There's nowhere to go!

DAD

Yes there is.

He looks UPWARDS, the TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN within sight.

EXT. TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN - MORNING

JULIANA

Dad! Is this where it happened?

A Vision-Memory FLASHES;

EXT. JAPANESE LANDSCAPE - DAY

Juliana can see herself as Xiu Li in this very spot, though in her Vision-Memory it is much brighter, more colorful.

Xiu Li looks up at the PEAK, and sees Father, SHINING with the White Light.

EXT. MOUNTAIN TOP - MORNING

This is where it happened. Where I began to truly understand the White Light... On one of our hikes!

Dad continues to lead the way.

JULIANA

What was I doing?

DAD

If I remember correctly, you were playing with a Fox!

The Vision-Memory continues as they reach the peak;

Xiu Li is indeed scampering around with a FOX SPIRIT.

Juliana looks to Dad, as he slowly reaches the VERY SPOT where he had been sitting 2 lifetimes ago. He TOUCHES the ground and rocks, as if the memories could be felt. By now everyone else has gathered at the peak alongside him. here they can see the entire landscape below in all directions; all COVERED with the White Light, save for a few other mountain peaks in the distance.

Dad's nostalgia soon turns to concern however, as he sees the White Light ENCROACHING them from all sides.

DAD (CONT'D)

We make the Red Energy together!

Everyone obeys. They create the Red Energy, which collectively creates a RED ENERGY SHIELD. The White Light has reached them, but is NOT GETTING THROUGH.

MARTIAL ARTIST

It's working!!

But then they see a NEW THREAT, this one from ABOVE;

MILITARY JETS are flying towards them in the far distance. Several EXPLOSIONS also can be seen as they DROP BOMBS on the denser concentrations of the White Light in the distance.

STFU

The Red Energy can defend us! I have seen my Master do it!! Make it stronger! We WILL survive!!

Sifu leads the group in INTENSIFYING the Red Energy shield.

CLAN BRETHREN

It's not strong enough!

SIFU

Maintain!

The White Light now ENCIRCLES them completely, PUSHING against their Red Energy shield with increasing weight. Military Jets are COMING CLOSER.

SIFU (CONT'D)

Stronger!!!

CLAN BRETHREN

How long can we hold it??

SIFU

Maintain!

But the White Light is heavy, and starts to push back. Several of the Clan Members at the edges are CONSUMED by it.

SIFU (CONT'D)

MAKE IT STRONGER!!!

And just when it seems that they are not strong enough, Dad performs yet another unseen strength;

Dad begins GLOWING STRONGER with the Red Energy, until the shield around him begins to APPEAR ALMOST SOLID. Juliana watches Dad do this, amazed. Sifu is likewise overwhelmed.

MASATO

Hey, what's that?

In the center of this new Red Energy, like the eye or heart of the Red Energy, a PIERCING FOCAL POINT begins to MANIFEST.

SIFU

Oh my...

JULIANA

What?

Sifu is beyond belief.

SIFU

It's my Master!! I am sure of it! My Master is returning to me!! The promise was true!

Juliana watches in fear as the center of the Red Light indeed starts to take a BIRD SHAPE... then a HUMAN SHAPE.

SIFU (CONT'D)

My Master!! I have done what you asked! I've found your Apprentice! Your power will live on!!

Juliana watches, terrified, as the human shape manifests into a FIGURE that is exactly how Sifu had described;

Ancient, hooded, face obscured, NOT ENTIRELY PHYSICAL; the PERSONIFICATION of the Red Energy itself.

SIFU'S MASTER steps forward, and TAKES OFF THE HOOD.

Everyone gasps; It is MOM.

JULIANA

Mom?

DAD

What??

SIFU

You??

Mom looks up. The MILITARY JETS are almost directly above.

Their BOMBS fall. Clan Brethren and the Female Martial Artist EMBRACE.

Mom assists in STRENGTHENING the Red Energy shield, just as the BOMBS IMPACT directly on top of them.

MOM

Again.

An INTENSE BLAST OF LIGHT silences everything.

INT. VOID - MOMENTS LATER

Everything is silent. Everything is White.

Juliana wakes up slowly, her eyesight returning. Dad, Masato, Sifu, and this NEW APPARITION OF MOM are all with her.

SIFU

Master??

JULIANA

Mom! It IS you!

Juliana runs to EMBRACE her, but cannot completely grasp her, as she is NOT ENTIRELY PHYSICAL.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Then you really did die ...

Everyone is overcome with grief, but Mom SMILES warmly.

STFU

How can this be?

Being nearest, Mom's Apparition approaches Sifu FIRST.

MOM'S APPARITION My dear Apprentice, my old friend. You've kept your word! I am so sorry for leaving you.

Her story COMES TO LIFE in the white VOID for them to see;

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

I had fully passed the Red Energy to you, my greatest student, when the bombs fell that day.

In the Void, everyone can visibly see her story animated before their eyes. They watch a scene of ALLIED ATTACKS on Japan, 1945. BOMBS drop on them from above, DESTROYING everything. A Younger Sifu and his Master are using the Red Energy to SHIELD themselves...

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

The Red Energy had saved us. But after, when I saw the destruction ...

Scenes of the nearest town in the distance, DECIMATED.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

I suddenly realized that what I had given you could be used for horror in the wrong hands. I became terribly afraid, and ashamed.

SUFFERING everywhere, amongst the RUBBLE.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

I wanted to be free of it, lifted of its ways. I wanted to become something new. I wanted to forget.

A scene of a Younger Sifu, SURVIVING the blast - but his Master is GONE.

Juliana, Masato, Sifu, and Dad continue WATCHING HER TALE;

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

And something new I became! Something farther from the Red Energy than I could imagine!

They watch as Sifu's Master, still in spirit form, begins to TRANSFORM and TAKE A MATERIAL SHAPE, eventually taking the form of a HEALTHY YOUNG JAPANESE WOMAN.

Mom's Apparition moves next to Dad.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

And then, I met you. You taught me everything I didn't see before. Everything I was not. I loved you instantly.

Dad TRIES TO TOUCH Mom's Apparition, but cannot.

Then, the wife I had in this life is gone?

MOM'S APPARITION

Yes, my love. I have changed again.

Dad is struck with GRIEF, still trying to touch her.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

But you can join me if you wish!!

DAD

Join you? Another life? Go around again? How many times?

Dad does not seem so thrilled with this option.

MOM'S APPARITION

No, not again. Join me as I am now. As I was. As you almost were...

She speaks to Juliana, lovingly.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

Your Father's attempt to save Sifu was not as successful as you think.

JULIANA

What?

Dad HIDES his ribs.

MOM'S APPARITION

His White Light was not enough to stop the Fierce Fighter's blade.

Dad looks down and reveals what Mom is referring to; indeed the blade has PIERCED him. A NASTY WOUND right in the vital organs, BLEEDING terribly.

JULIANA

Dad!!

She and Masato rush to his side. Dad FALLS to his knees.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Oh Mom, what do we do??

MOM'S APPARITION

Let him finish what he started. Your Father had opened a Gate to another World, but couldn't enter.

Dad looks to Sifu.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

Sifu brought him what I had forgotten, though he couldn't see who I was. Nor did I.

Mom's Apparition moves to Juliana with deep affection;

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

But it was you who kept us all together! It was you who found us again when we were scattered, and forgetting! Oh, Little One. My loving warrior... My daughter.

They TOUCH SOMEHOW, physical meeting non-physical. Mom then looks to Masato.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

And you, Masato...

She 'touches' his face.

MOM'S APPARITION (CONT'D)

You have been a friend to us all! Would you like to create that new Root, now? The one you began with him, so long ago?

MASATO

Yes.

DAD

You mean...

MOM'S APPARITION

Yes, my love. Come make your Light once more. Let Masato help you. But this time use my Light too ... Sifu's Light! - To make the final leap! Your body will not last long. It is time for you to be who you were meant to become.

Dad SITS UP, braving the pain.

DAD

I'll only go if you come too.

Sifu smiles, the recognition of the SAME LINE being said a LIFETIME AGO as CHILDREN in the FIRST NATIONS RESERVE.

Mom and TAKES HIS HAND romantically.

Dad STANDS, clearly in a great deal of pain. Juliana and Masato help him as he clutches the DEATHLY WOUND in his side.

They find the spot where he first opened the GATE to the Spirit World, where Masato had first hopped through;

DAD (CONT'D)

It was here.

Masato and Juliana help Dad sit down. Masato sits down next to him, and Juliana suddenly becomes afraid.

MASATO

Juliana, what is it?

JULIANA

Masato - are you going too?? I don't know if I can follow! I'll lose you all again!

MASATO

No, Juliana. I first came to your World to help your Father.

He looks deeply into her eyes, so in love.

MASATO (CONT'D)

But I stayed, for you.

They KISS, and begin the ceremony;

Masato, sitting at Dad's left, creates the purest White Light Juliana has ever seen. He begins to PASS it into Dad. Dad shines with it as pure as the day he discovered it.

On Dad's right, Mom generates the Red Energy, also in its purest form, beautiful and sacred, and PASSES it to Sifu. Sifu PASSES it to Juliana, who PASSES it to Dad. Dad receives both, and ILLUMINATES INTENSELY.

And then, with the combination of BOTH White Light and Red Energy, Dad TRANSCENDS into something else; a window OPENS into the next worlds. Juliana sees FOX SPIRITS on the other side, as well as a host of OTHER SPIRIT ANIMALS and ETHERIC BEINGS. Dad's body is already no longer purely physical.

DAD

My daughter ...

JULIANA

I love you, Dad. Thanks for it all.

Mom and Dad ENTER THE GATE.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

Wait! Take this!

Juliana takes off the SHARD OF POTTERY NECKLACE, and GIVES it to Mom at the last second, who TAKES it curiously.

Eventually, it all clears away. Mom and Dad are GONE. Only Juliana, Masato, and Sifu remain, still in a WHITE VOID.

JULIANA (CONT'D)

So... are we dead?

MASATO

We did just get atomically nuked. I think. Did I say that right?

STFU

I've been bombed before. We're fine.

Then the white void begins to FADE, and more FAMILIAR LANDSCAPE becomes visible;

EXT. MOUNTAIN TOP - DAY

A major bomb of some type has indeed detonated here. But around the mountain peak there is a CIRCULAR SPACE where nothing has been damaged.

Several SURVIVING MEMBERS of the Martial Arts Clan are beginning to wake up, including the Clan Brethren, and the Female Martial Artist, STILL EMBRACING, LOVINGLY.

Juliana and Masato KISS. The Clan Brethren gives a nod of respect to them both.

Sifu needs much help from Juliana and Masato, but together they manage to start down the mountain.

EXT. OCEAN BOAT - EVENING

Juliana and Masato are helping Sifu aboard an ocean voyage.

JULIANA'S VOICE

We wanted to take Sifu home. Where he was born, before his parents died, before all this began. I always thought he was British for some reason, but he wasn't.

EXT. PORT IN IRELAND - MORNING

The boat is pulling into a QUAINT HARBOR.

JULIANA'S VOICE

He was Trish.

EXT. IRISH GRAVEYARD - EVENING

The sun is beginning to set. Juliana and Masato stay close, with warm tender love.

JULIANA'S VOICE

He died there.

They HOLD HANDS, simple WEDDING RINGS on their fingers.

JULIANA'S VOICE (CONT'D)

But not before marrying us.

EXT. BRAZIL - DAY

JULIANA'S VOICE

We went back to Brazil.

Juliana and Masato have found Juliana's HOME again. Juliana is clearly PREGNANT.

JULIANA'S VOICE (CONT'D)

Masato learned to run the Surf Shop...

A scene of Masato and Dad working in Surf Shop. It looks great, busy with CUSTOMERS.

A scene of Juliana working in Mom's POTTERY STUDIO.

JULIANA'S VOICE (CONT'D)

And I finally learned to like pottery!

Some KIDS approach her happily wearing SMOCKS; Juliana is teaching a CLASS.

EXT. BEACH IN BRAZIL - DAY

A CONCERT is beginning. Juliana and Masato are on the beach. Their BABY is with them.

JULIANA'S VOICE

And this time...

The CROWD ERUPTS in jubilation as the LIVELY MUSIC picks up.

JULIANA'S VOICE (CONT'D)

... I think I WANT to remember.

The concert begins, on this beautiful beach where the water meets the sky.

EXT. JAPANESE POND - MORNING

A Younger Sifu approaches Xiu Li's Father, who is meditating in the sun.

Xiu Li, nervous, grabs her sinking toy boat from the water, and comes to see. Mother is also watching.

Father opens his eyes, and sees Sifu. Sifu looks at him coyly, curiously, with half a smile. He leans on his staff.

SIFU

Wanna fight?

Father considers, looks to Mother, then looks to Xiu Li. There is a moment of indecision, but he quickly corrects it;

FATHER

Sure.

He smiles. Sifu is thrilled. Mother is especially happy. Father stands up, and gets ready for a friendly spar.

They take their stances, Sifu with his Red Energy, Father with his White Light.

Xiu Li is so proud, she DROPS THE BOAT.

FADE OUT.