

SHŌGUN

Based on the novel by James Clavell

Episode 101
"Anjin"

Written by
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Directed by
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CAST LIST

YOSHII TORANAGA
JOHN BLACKTHORNE
TODA MARIKO
KASHIGI YABUSHIGE
KASHIGI OMI
ISHIDO KAZUNARI
KIYAMA UKON SADANAGA
SUGIYAMA JOSUI
OHNO HARUNOBU
TODA HIROMATSU
YOSHII NAGAKADO
USAMI FUJI
USAMI TADAYOSHI
NAKAMURA YAECHIYO
DAIYOIN (or LADY IYO)
RODRIGUES
MURAJI
KASHIGI SAKI
KIKU
FATHER SEBASTIO
MASUJIRO
CAPTAIN
TOUGH SAMURAI
MESSENGER SAMURAI
YOUNG SAMURAI
OLD WOMAN (OBA)
UEJIROU
CHILD
PIETERZOOM
HENDRIK
SALAMON
IGARASHI YOSHITOMO
CHRISTIAN PEASANT
ANOTHER PEASANT
SETSU
JOZEN
TAKEMARU
CHIYO
YOUNG GRAY
CAPTAIN GENERAL
ROPER
SAKICHI

*

SET LIST**interiors:**

OSAKA CASTLE
 CEREMONIAL MEETING HALL
 WEST PALACE
 TORANAGA'S QUARTERS
 USAMI RESIDENCE
 MEETING ROOM
 PIGEON HOUSING
 TODA QUARTERS *

ERASMUS
 GUN DECK
 CAPTAIN-GENERAL'S QUARTERS *

AJIRO COAST
 STORAGE CELLAR

AJIRO VILLAGE
 OMI'S HOUSE
 MURAJI'S HOUSE
 SCREENED ROOM

exteriors:

OSAKA CASTLE
 WEST PALACE
 COMPOUND WALL
 FORECOURT
 GARDEN
 FOREST GATE *

ROCK MAZE WALL *

OSAKA
 FOREST
 COASTLINE
 GALLEY
 BAY
 RIVERBANK

AJIRO COAST
 RIDGE ABOVE
 BEACH

AJIRO VILLAGE
 TERRACE
 OMI'S HOUSE
 GARDEN
 MURAJI'S HOUSE
 CEMETERY

OPEN SEA
 GALLEY

ISE COAST
 PROTECTED BAY
 SHORELINE
 CLIFF SUMMIT
 CLIFF FACE
 BOTTOM OF GULCH

ERASMUS *

QUARTERDECK *

FOG. Infinitely dense. Like coming out of a dream. The sound of WATER LAPPING brings us to --

A MASSIVE HULL materializes like a leviathan from the mist. THE ERASMUS. Two hundred and sixty tons of fighting ship. TWENTY CANNONS lining the gunwales. But it's drifting aimlessly on dead wind. Sails frayed, rigging neglected.

A1 INT. ERASMUS, GUN DECK - NIGHT A1

Details. Cannons. Muskets. Hoarded silver and other items. Sailors passed out in hammocks, sick or dead with scurvy.

B1 EXT. ERASMUS, QUARTERDECK - NIGHT B1

A weak figure leaning on the rail, pulling a LEAD LINE from the gray sea below. Finding SAND in a tallow, squeezing it in wonder in the palm of his hand.

Another sailor, SALAMON, weakly climbs the stairs.

SALAMON
He's asking for you.

Blackthorne looks back, a beat. He checks the depth sounding on the tallow, marking it in the journal he's carrying. Then he pulls over PIETERZON, another emaciated sailor...

BLACKTHORNE
Keep your face in the wind so you
stay awake. Listen for wave
breaks. You hear any, find me.

C1 INT. ERASMUS, CAPTAIN-GENERAL'S QUARTERS - NIGHT C1

Dim light. Lanterns rocking on the sea. The CAPTAIN-GENERAL (50s), frail and weak, wrapped in a blanket at his desk. Staring at a maggot-riddled APPLE. Blackthorne enters with purpose, making more notes in his journal.

BLACKTHORNE
I couldn't take any celestial
declinations due to...

CAPTAIN-GENERAL
The clouds.

BLACKTHORNE
Yes. However...
(drops the sand on the desk)
(MORE)

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

White sand. By the mark ten.
We're still on course.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

You see what you want to see.

Blackthorne picks up a RUTTER off the Captain-General's desk.

BLACKTHORNE

"Ten fathoms, white sand in the
tallow." That son of a bitch
Spaniard's rutter was right about
Magellan's Pass, was it not?

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

Give me that book. It's been the
death of us.

Blackthorne relinquishes it to the Captain-General, who hides
it away in a hidden compartment in his desk. Turning to
Blackthorne with history and affection...

CAPTAIN-GENERAL (CONT'D)

Time you started making plans,
Pilot. You've no food, and as of
tonight, no water. If you don't
make landfall in three days,
you're floating straight to Hell.

BLACKTHORNE

You mean "we." We've no water.
We'll make land.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

You never know when to let go...

BLACKTHORNE

"The man who's not afraid of the
sea'll be drowned in it, for he'll
go out on a day he shouldn't. But
we be afraid of the sea so we only
be drowned now and again." An old
sailor once told me that.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

Sounds like a fool.

BLACKTHORNE

We'll reach the Japans.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

Fantasies of a scurvy-ravaged
mind...

BLACKTHORNE

We'll reach it. Between latitudes
30 and 40 north. We'll lay claim
to that dark land, and then it's
back to Holland. Rich and safe,
having gone round the world.
First Dutch ship. First English
pilot.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

Listen to yourself. "We'll reach
the Japans." The Japans...
(ominous beat)
No, Pilot. Not me.

The Captain-General holds out a hand. Blackthorne sees what
he's pointing at. The PISTOL in his belt. A look back.

CAPTAIN-GENERAL (CONT'D)

Five ships when we began, crew of
five hundred... now we're barely a
single vessel. I won't bear
witness to what's coming. At my
age, you draw your line...

BLACKTHORNE

That would be a coward's way out.
(beat)
You're Captain-General of this
ship. There are a dozen men out
there still looking to you --

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

For what?
(off his look)
There's no more mission. Can't
fulfill our orders now. You're
stumbling blindly to Hell. Three
days. Two days...

Blackthorne with great emotion drops the pistol on his desk.

BLACKTHORNE

Do it yourself.

He takes the apple. Then turns to leave, in anger, when --

CAPTAIN-GENERAL

You don't even feel it. The soft
wind in your face. Blessed
release. That's the breath of the
Almighty, Pilot. He's calling us
home.

Blackthorne, haunted, walks off without a look back.

EXT. ERASMUS, QUARTERDECK - NIGHT

Blackthorne emerges back on the rail, looking out, the weakened Pieterzoon now doubled over the rail. He stares out at the dark sea. Nothing on the horizon. Hope in his eyes... as a GUNSHOT rings out...

And then silence. Water lapping.

EXT. AJIRO COAST, RIDGE ABOVE - DAY

A rocky cove. It's dawn. A FIGURE lumbers out of the ether. His clothes are simple. So is the hymn he's quietly humming.

CLOSER: this is MURAJI (60s). A peasant villager come to pray in secret. He kneels. Cautiously draws a CRUCIFIX from his neck. Whispers the Lord's Prayer in Latin as we --

Linger on the intimacy of this moment. His chapped lips. Gnarled fisherman's fingers wrapped around the small, rough-hewn wooden cross. Eyes suddenly lifting...

...because something tells him he's not alone.

AHEAD OF HIM: the wall of fog. Concealing leagues of ocean.

AND A PRESENCE. The creaking of wood. Metal fasteners. Like the water is cradling some kind of shape...

The Erasmus. It looms over Muraji, dwarfing him in size --

AS HE FALLS BACK AND RUNS:

EXT. AJIRO COAST, RIDGE ABOVE - DAY

We cut to A PACK OF SAMURAI, strafing along the rocks. Agile, young and armored. In the center is their leader, astride a powerful horse: KASHIGI OMI (20s). Smart, political, his eyes tracking...

The Erasmus as it drifts past. He holds up a hand, because --

Something is wrong with this ship. Its bowsprit and rigging have torn loose. No crew is visible. The frigate appears to be drifting aimlessly, until it finally --

SCRAPES against a mud shoal and comes to a stop. The samurai exchange confused looks. Omi's gaze hardens...

A3 EXT. ERASMUS, QUARTERDECK - DAY

A3

OVERHEAD: grappling hooks connected to ropes. Samurai quietly creep over the rail. More come up behind them. Their FEET walking over a grate in the floor as we CUT TO --

3 INT. ERASMUS, GUN DECK - DAY

3

Creaking of timbers. SHADOWS ABOVE visible as we PULL BACK over Blackthorne, weak with illness and dehydration, waking up on the floor near two other sailors nearby...

HENDRIK

(a whisper)

We're being boarded...

Blackthorne suddenly blinks into action... looking out down the length of the gun deck towards a door on the far side...

BLACKTHORNE

The rutters...

He crawls forward with purpose as...

OMI descends below deck, ready for anything. His men behind him. In the light of a SWINGING OIL LANTERN: he sees swarms of cockroaches. A rat scurrying in shadows. HUMAN SHAPES littering the floor. EUROPEAN SAILORS, blonde and haggard. Some corpses, some close. Ravaged by fever, pestilence. Omi kneels before a DELIRIOUS MAN: pale face, sunken eyes.

MASUJIRO

*(all italics spoken in Japanese)**Lord, be careful...*

Omi takes him by the face: ULCERS on his gums, missing teeth.

MASUJIRO (CONT'D)

They're all sick.

OMI

It's starvation.

No one noticing BLACKTHORNE hiding beneath the nearby staircase. From his cover he's studying these intruders with great curiosity. The samurai creep through, checking for signs of life. And when their backs are turned, Blackthorne has a chance to emerge from his hiding place...

CRAWLING FOR THAT DOOR twenty paces away. HIS HAND DISRUPTS A BOWL ON THE FLOOR. The samurai turn -- Omi's eyes sharpen --
- BLACKTHORNE SCRAMBLES TO HIS FEET --

And the samurai intervene in a bum rush. Blackthorne fights back with unexpected strength. Hands reaching the latch, but they pry his fingers off. He spits and snarls until --

OMI'S ARM WRAPS AROUND HIS NECK, asphyxiating him until he drops to the floor, unconscious. The Young Samurai, MASUJIRO (19) kneels over him. Studying his long hair, incredulous...

MASUJIRO

What are they...?

Omi doesn't respond. PUSHING IN ON BLACKTHORNE'S FACE...

AND WE CUT TO:

TITLE SEQUENCE: SHŌGUN

EXT. OSAKA FOREST - DAY

A PEREGRINE FALCON soars above junipers. We're watching from the ground. POV belonging to...

A POWERFUL FIGURE on horseback. Seen only from behind. He rides down a forest path. Patient. Eyes never leaving the bird. Tracking it like a child would a kite.

He's not alone. He's being trailed by a cadre of bodyguards. All SAMURAI, clad in brown. In fact we'll call them BROWNS. Some have their eyes on the falcon. Others on their master.

THE FALCON DOES A SPIRAL AND ENGAGES -- striking a PHEASANT then dropping it to the earth. A samurai, NAGAKADO (20s), Toranaga's son, picks up the dead bird. He returns the falcon to its master's arm, talons digging into a leather coil. And now we see the intense gaze of --

YOSHII TORANAGA (58). A living legend. A powerful *busho*, fully absorbed by this splendid creature before him.

NAGAKADO

She's splendid, your goshawk.

TORANAGA

She's a peregrine. Hunts by concealing herself against the sun. Conserving energy, waiting for her moment. You might never know she's there...

A beat as he stares out. Eyes hardening with purpose as he turns towards a view of the distant castle.

TORANAGA (CONT'D)

I'm ready to go now.

Nagakado nods with gravity. Toranaga rides off...

A5 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, FOREST GATE - DAY

A5

PUSHING BEHIND Toranaga as he leads his entourage out of nature and stops before the front entrance to Osaka Castle. An army of FOUR HUNDRED GRAYS waiting across the bridge. CRANE UP to reveal how Toranaga's group is outnumbered.

A YOUNG GRAY comes forward on his horse...

YOUNG GRAY

*Welcome to Osaka Castle. Lord
General Ishido asks that we escort
you to your guest quarters.*

Toranaga looks off towards TWO SHAPES on the castle walls...

B5 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, ROCK MAZE WALL - DAY

B5

ISHIDO standing next to JOZEN, his General. Hunters with their prey in sight.

JOZEN

I'm surprised he came.

ISHIDO

*A wise man knows when his time has
ended.*

Ishido turns and walks off.

C5 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, FOREST GATE - DAY

C5

Toranaga and Nagakado, staring at the intimidating scene. Finally, Toranaga rides forward in a big wide shot, the army of Grays all parting for him...

5 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE COMPOUND WALL - DAY

5

Tracking Toranaga from behind as he moves through a maze of ROCK WALLS. The army of Browns keeping pace around him. Above, SAMURAI ARCHERS stand with their bows trained. These men are clad in GRAY, and do not appear to be friendly.

They come to a line of GRAY GUARDS flanking a tall WOODEN GATE. Hostile stares between them. The Grays step aside.

CRANE UP over the stone to reveal the West Palace, a lavish guest house. Beyond it we can see other structures in the distance. A vast complex of keeps, none taller than...

The *tenshu*. The most elegant tower of them all, visible from far away. Eight stories. Walls flecked with gilded tiles. The center of the Realm's power.

INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, TORANAGA'S QUARTERS - DAY

Creaking floorboards. Browns shift, keeping watch in the corridors. Behind the *fusuma*, or sliding door, we hear...

TORANAGA. A young *KOSHŌ* helping him out of his hunting gear in favor of a CEREMONIAL KOSODE with a gilded family crest.

Toranaga listens to a bird outside. On the other side of the *fusuma*, throats are clearing. Whispers. Samurai are getting antsy. There's somewhere they need to be. But Toranaga doesn't care. He's biding his time. Then an announcement:

SAMURAI GUARD (O.S.)

Toda no uji, Hiromatsu-dooonoooo!

The door slides opens to reveal TODA HIROMATSU (60s). In his younger days they called him "Iron Fist." He bows before stepping in, then bows again.

TORANAGA

Well?

HIROMATSU

I hate Osaka. This place is a shithole.

Toranaga gives a slight grin to his old friend...

TORANAGA

Then let's be done with it.

...as he walks to where a MAGNIFICENT SWORD is being held by a *KOSHŌ*. That same YOSHII FAMILY CREST on its hilt. He clips it to his belt with an urgency that drives us into --

EXT. OSAKA CASTLE - DAY

Soaring with urgency past Gray guards on the wall, towards the magnificent *tenshu*. Grays checkered everywhere.

INT. OSAKA CASTLE, CEREMONIAL MEETING HALL - DAY

FEET striding along elegant pine wood. Toranaga is escorted into the gallery by Hiromatsu and the Browns.

With them is Nagakado, Toranaga's son. Glaring as he passes the GRAYS waiting in the gallery. Palpable tension.

Toranaga enters the hall from the south. His Brown escorts kneel behind him. Grays in the gallery. All focusing on --

THE MAIN HALL: where sitting in a line are dignitaries from four clans. BUSHOS. Japanese lords...

KIYAMA (50s), conspicuously displaying a cross. SUGIYAMA (70s), a philosopher lord with long whiskers. And, partially seen behind screens... OHNO (50s), a person affected by leprosy. These men are all Regents. Technically, their power is equal. But they seem most subservient to --

LORD GENERAL ISHIDO (40s). Protector of this castle. A military veteran who views bureaucracy as a vital order. He sits, straight-backed and stern. Nearby, in a *tokonoma* on its *yoroi* box, a grand display of ARMOR.

Toranaga takes it all in carefully.

ISHIDO
*The Council of Regents appreciates
your coming all this way to Osaka.*

Toranaga bows, then sits.

TORANAGA
The seating arrangement is new.

KIYAMA
*We thought it appropriate, under
the circumstances.*

A look from Toranaga. Ishido clears his throat...

ISHIDO
*Lord Yoshii Toranaga. In the year
since the Taikō's death, we have
watched with concern as you've
aligned power against the Council.
Which, as you know, the late Taikō
had good reason to forbid.*

TORANAGA
What power have I aligned?

ISHIDO
Six marriages you've consented to.

SUGIYAMA
And your fief has doubled in size!

A wave of tension ripples through the ranks in the gallery. Toranaga remains unfazed.

TORANAGA

If my fellow Regents are concerned, let me say I am content as Lord of the Kantō. I will never be the first to break any peace.

Ishido smiles tightly. Completely unconvinced.

ISHIDO

Very strange to hear that. When just this morning, the Heir's Mother was escorted to your castle at Edo. No warning, no request.

TORANAGA

Her sister, who married my son, is in labor --

ISHIDO

Or has Lady Ochiba been taken hostage to guarantee your safety here?

Samurai's hands clench thighs. Toranaga never loses face:

TORANAGA

This is a time of peace, Lord General. Surely you'd agree the Lady is no more a hostage in my castle than I am here, in this one.

He bows to defuse the tension. Ishido sighs, glancing over at the nearby armor...

ISHIDO

I wonder what the Taikō would say if he were with us now.

TORANAGA

I think he'd be pleased, knowing the five of us still can't agree.

ISHIDO

His dying wish was for a peaceful sharing of power --

TORANAGA

Until his Heir comes of age. Yes, and I look forward to that day. These meetings are exhausting.

ISHIDO

*I must formally request that you
return the Heir's Mother to Osaka.*

TORANAGA

*She's not under my orders, and I
am not under yours --*

ISHIDO

Then let me put it differently.

One of Ishido's servants delivers an *origami* to Toranaga.

ISHIDO (CONT'D)

*The Council has voted to demand
the Lady's return. Under penalty
of impeachment. You'll see four
signatures. Lords Kiyama,
Sugiyama, Ohno, and myself.*

Toranaga reads it sadly. Surveys the Regents' faces. None of them can meet his eyes. Ishido revels in victory...

ISHIDO (CONT'D)

*The time has come to expose those
traitors who wish to usurp the
Heir's power. Low-born, high-
born... even a great Minowara.*

PANIC surges through the ranks of Brown samurai. TRACKING PAST their stricken faces to USAMI TADAYOSHI (20s). A young man, honest and upright. Who can control himself no longer --

He flies to his feet and STEPS FORWARD, drawing his short sword ever-so-slightly out of its sheath. All eyes WIDEN at this. Grays rise. Many hands to many hilts. Tadayoshi isn't paying attention to it, his thoughts consumed by rage --

TADAYOSHI

*Your pardon... but hasn't my Lord
done everything according to law?
To call him a traitor on such
flimsy accusations is --*

TORANAGA

Tadayoshi, sit down!

And only now does Tadayoshi snap out of it, looking around and realizing he's about to get everyone killed. He drops to his knees and BOWS humbly to Toranaga.

TADAYOSHI

*Your pardon, Lord, I could not
bear you hearing such insults.*

Toranaga eyes the waiting Grays, the tension palpable.

TORANAGA

*How dare you imply that anything
Lord General Ishido said was meant
to insult me?*

TADAYOSHI

*I ask permission to commit
seppuku. I will end my family
line, and all who carry my name.*

Toranaga weighs this with gravity. Finally nodding. Then BOWING towards Ishido as a means of disarming the situation.

TORANAGA

My host, please accept my apology.

Ishido nods begrudging acceptance. The Grays' hands go loose. The Browns settle.

ISHIDO

*Fine. Though I must say this
childish outburst is typical of
your clan, and an insult to the
Taikō's proud legacy.*

Ishido rises to leave. The Grays stand accordingly.

ISHIDO (CONT'D)

*You have seven days to release the
Heir's Mother from Edo. And then
we will vote on your fate.*

He strides out. PUSHING IN ON TORANAGA'S FACE as WE CUT TO --

8-9 OMITTED (RESHOT AS SCENES B11/C11)

8-9

10 INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, PIGEON HOUSING - DAY

10

Clouds rolling over imposing castle walls. A CARRIER PIGEON shuffles through a trapdoor into its COOP, where...

Toranaga lifts it from its berth. He strokes its feathers. His fingers finding AN ORIGAMI in its talon. A coded message. Which he reads. Intrigued. Returning the pigeon to its bed just as Hiromatsu arrives behind him...

TORANAGA

*Usami Tadayoshi-- he's married to
your granddaughter, isn't he?*

HIROMATSU

Yes. Fuji, the best of all my grandchildren.

TORANAGA

I'll see to it she lives.

HIROMATSU

The boy has only himself to blame for his reckless actions.

TORANAGA

No, he was brave. I don't approve of all this pointless death...

HIROMATSU

Then why are we still here?

Hiromatsu is staring at him, charged. Toranaga wipes a trace of pigeon dung off his vest and waits for him to continue...

HIROMATSU (CONT'D)

Trapped in this castle by bureaucrats who want us dead. As soon as they have the Heir's mother, they'll vote to kill us.

TORANAGA

Yes, I think so.

HIROMATSU

So now's the time. Escape Osaka and call for war.

Toranaga draws a breath. Looks back down at the message.

TORANAGA

Sorry, old friend... if we go to war now, four armies against one, I will lose. I must remain here.
(hands him the note)
Which is why you must go to Ajiro in my place.

Hiromatsu reads the message. Confused.

HIROMATSU

You're prisoner to your enemies. Days from death. And you want me to look after a barbarian ship?

Toranaga turns away. Hiromatsu knows better than to question his old friend. He bows, turns to leave, when --

TORANAGA

*I wonder if you made a mistake.
Siding with me, instead of those
bureaucrats who want me dead.*

HIROMATSU

The thought had crossed my mind.

They exchange the tightest of grins. Hiromatsu leaves. Only when he's alone does Toranaga's face crease with worry.

A11 EXT. AJIRO COAST - DAY

A11

BIG WIDE: flying over a lush green channel to reveal the Erasmus has been affixed to thirty rowboats with fishing ropes. It is being towed. An epic feat.

B11(R8) EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - DAY

B11(R8)

A fishing village bustling with energy. Peasants preparing rowboats and tidying equipment because the Erasmus is now visible coming around the corner.

Omi stands on the point. Muraji, in the middle of passing out orders to other villagers, comes up beside him.

OMI

*Everything is to remain on board
for my uncle to inspect.*

MURAJI

*Yabushige-sama? He's not in
Mishima...?*

OMI

*I sent word to him as soon as I
could. He wants to see this in
person.*

Omi steps away. Muraji crosses himself in fear. PUSHING IN TOWARDS THE STORAGE CELLAR...

C11(R9) INT. AJIRO COAST, STORAGE CELLAR - DAY

C11(R9)

A slim POV through bars, looking up at SAMURAI GUARDS. We're in a cellar for storing whale fat. Frightened faces of sailors, huddled in the dark, looking upwards at the sound of everything that's going on. HENDRIK is on the ladder, craning his neck, while PIETERZOON and SALAMON stand below.

HENDRIK

I think they're towing her in...

PIETERZOOM

Let me get a look, you've had your
turn --

SALAMON

Can you tell what they are? Are
they Cathay?

HENDRIK

Quiet!

BLACKTHORNE (O.S.)

They're Japanese.

All eyes go to Blackthorne in the corner, who's rolling a
cluster of sprigs and leaves in his fingers.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

What? Don't all thank your good
fortune at once.

(a beat)

We've reached it. Portugal's
secret empire in the East...

The others stare, dumbfounded. He crawls into the center of
the floor, dropping the sprigs for the rest of them to see.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

Hemlocks. Wet and coniferous...

PIETERZOOM

That could be anywhere.

BLACKTHORNE

I followed the westward course from
the stolen rutter. Six days of
drifting, but we found the tide.

HENDRIK

Impossible...

BLACKTHORNE

The mission is still on.

SALAMON

What part of this is still on? We
were supposed to make war with the
Portuguese and Spaniards. Forge
treaties. Open trade! How do you
expect to do that, twelve sick men
with no ship in a fucking hole?

PIETERZOOM

Give him a chance, he's taken us
this far.

Blackthorne, mind racing because now he's got a plan...

BLACKTHORNE

We can still negotiate. Goods to
trade. We act civilized, they act
civilized. We're rich if we keep
our wits.

A beat as the men contemplate this possibility.

ROPER

All I know is, we had Spanish
ships to the south and north of us
out of Santa Maria. Nowhere to
run but west. And this pilot got
us through.

SALAMON

As soon as the Portuguese tell
them who we are, we'll be hanged.

BLACKTHORNE

They don't know who we are. The
rutters are locked in the Captain-
General's compartment. So long as
they stay that way, we're safe.
(a smile because it's so simple)
We're just... merchants. Lost at
sea, looking for safe passage
home.

The men are terrified and broken, but they want to believe.

ROPER

You really think it'll work?

Blackthorne looks into their faces.

BLACKTHORNE

Here's what you're missing, the
lot of you: // we've been caught a-
lee, windless, speck on a
current... pestilence, starvation,
chewing the calfskin covers of
ropes... // We should be corpses
by now.
But here we are.

(MORE)

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

// Twelve shit-smelling but generally able-bodied young Protestant scoundrels, on a mission against a savage horde and the entire goddamned bastard Portuguese fleet. // I'd say our chances are fair.

(looking up)

This is not where we die.

D11 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE - DAY

D11

Establishing shot.

E11(19) EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE FORECOURT - DAY

E11(19)

BROWN SAMURAI stationed outside a guest house...

TADAYOSHI (O.S.)

Stop this at once!

F11(20) INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, USAMI RESIDENCE - DAY

F11(20)

USAMI FUJI (19). Protectively holding an INFANT BOY. Several BROWNS wait around Tadayoshi, her husband...

FUJI

Stay back!

TADAYOSHI

You will submit to orders and hand over our son!

FUJI

I won't do it!

The baby begins to WAIL. The samurai move in, but Fuji draws from her *obi* a *KAIKEN* dagger, bringing it to her breast -- when ANOTHER VOICE speaks, calm, yet commanding:

MARIKO (O.S.)

Fuji-dono.

Fuji, Tadayoshi, and the samurai freeze, looking back to see AN IMPECCABLY-DRESSED NOBLE WOMAN, striking as she is inimitable: MARIKO (32). Someone you pay attention to. The men part out of reverence. Allowing her to come closer.

FUJI

Tadayoshi humiliated our lord in front of Ishido, then committed our son to die...

MARIKO

I heard. I'm sorry.

FUJI

*(breaking, emotional)
...but I am forced to live.*

TADAYOSHI

*The order comes from our master!
I am your husband -- !*

Suddenly Mariko turns on Tadayoshi, firm and poised:

MARIKO

And this is the granddaughter of Toda Hiromatsu, a name that should command respect. Her family ends today because of what you've done. Who are you to treat her harshly?

Tadayoshi bows, broken. The Browns bow their heads in deference. Mariko turns back to Fuji. Softness in her eyes:

MARIKO (CONT'D)

*I'm sorry, but he's right.
Toranaga has ordered you to live.*

FUJI

Why would he be so cruel?

Mariko stares sympathetically. Stepping even closer.

MARIKO

I know you feel the pull of death. I've felt it too. But it's a mercy that you must reject.

FUJI

I'm not strong like you, Mariko-sama... I can't remain in this world without purpose --

MARIKO

If he's ordered you to live, then that is your purpose.

Fuji, her blinking tearful. Mariko puts a hand on hers. Fuji wavers... and then DROPS the *kaiken*. The Browns step forward, but Mariko blocks them, eyes on Fuji --

MARIKO (CONT'D)

*Let her hands be the last to hold
her son.*

Fuji walks past them with the boy in her arms. The Browns escort an emotional Tadayoshi out of the room behind her.

G11 INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, TODA QUARTERS - DAY G11

WITH MARIKO as she walks hastily down a hall. Her face is composed, but there's a storm beneath. Something about her conversation with Fuji has triggered something, rising within her. As we LINGER CLOSELY ON HER FACE --

WE FLASH TO MULTIPLE IMAGES OF AKECHI JINSAI [106]. A man we don't yet know. But the image of him, staring into camera --

-- BRINGS MARIKO TO TEARS. She collapses into her quarters as her lady-in-waiting slides the *fusuma* shut for privacy. Sobbing as if she's been holding it in until this moment alone. CLUTCHING A CRUCIFIX in her hands and PRAYING:

MARIKO

Lord, forgive me... forgive me...

H11 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE - DAY H11

WIDE FROM ABOVE as we soar over mountains to reveal the rooftops of the quaint fishing village by the sea. And from the mountain pass, we now see a VAST LINE OF GREEN SAMURAI moving towards town. An entire army coming in...

11 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE - DAY 11

MANY WOOD AND THATCHED ROOF HOUSES are nestled at the base of a terraced mountain. STOREHOUSES filled with goods.

THE CLATTER OF HOOVES. SELLERS looking up in fear as an ARMY moves through on horseback. GREEN COLORS bearing the insignia of the KASHIGI CLAN. Children are hidden inside. Everyone is afraid of this clan and the man who heads it...

KASHIGI YABUSHIGE (50s), a ruthless *busho*, eyes fixed ahead. Beside him is IGARASHI (50s), his eye-patched loyal vassal.

SAKI (O.S.)

*Your uncle never set foot in this
village before...*

12 INT. AJIRO VILLAGE, OMI'S HOUSE - DAY 12

Simple interior. Omi stands on wood flooring next to his mother, SAKI (50s). He is getting dressed. Saki glances out at the sound of HORSES GALLOPING PAST.

SAKI

*...even after your father's death.
That ship has changed our fortunes.*

Omi steps away, distracted. He picks up his sword. Saki comes to him and smoothes out his kosode.

SAKI (CONT'D)

*We must make the most of this
moment. Only Yabushige can give
you the fief you deserve...*

Omi slips on his shoes and walks out of the house.

13 OMITTED 13

14 INT. AJIRO COAST, STORAGE CELLAR - DAY 14

Tired shapes huddle in filth. Recoiling as LIGHT FLOODS THE SPACE. The trapdoor has been opened and a LADDER is lowered. Omi stands above, next to Masujiro, who gestures:

MASUJIRO

Prisoners come up.

PIETERZOOM

Godverdomme... what's he saying?

ABOVE-GROUND: Omi grows impatient and leans over the opening:

OMI

*Worthless cowards! You are
ordered to come up and present
yourself before Yabushige-sama,
Lord of Izu!*

Blackthorne watches, eyes fixed on Omi.

BLACKTHORNE

*Are you the leader of these men?
My name is John Blackthorne and I
demand to speak.*

OMI

All men come up now!

BLACKTHORNE

I will come up alone!

Blackthorne steps up on a rung, but Pieterzoon holds him --

PIETERZOON

They'll kill you, Pilot...

BLACKTHORNE

(ignoring him, to Omi)

I will come up alone and speak for
my men.

Omi's done negotiating. A gesture of his hand, and Masujiro leads TWO SAMURAI down into the cellar, swords drawn, trying to force the sailors up the ladder.

Blackthorne and the others push back. Shouts and struggles in the small space. Masujiro is stripped of his weapon. A sailor is about to stab him when Blackthorne grabs his hand --

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

Don't! We need him alive.

BARRELS are rolled to the cellar's edge. OFFAL AND SEAWATER are poured down, flooding the space with stinking fish guts. Men retch and vomit, drawing back into the corners. The two remaining samurai retreat back up the ladder.

Blackthorne pins Masujiro, keeping him there until the water subsides. He returns to the ladder, Masujiro his hostage.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

I come up alone! Me!

Blackthorne points at himself, then the ladder. Omi nods.

SALAMON

Pilot, look at their swords!

Then he hands Masujiro off to a sailor, whispering...

BLACKTHORNE

Keep him, in case I don't come back.

And with that, he begins to climb...

...emerging onto a promontory and immediately being beaten by the samurai. Blackthorne cowers to show submission.

BLACKTHORNE

I submit! Goddamnit, I submit!

They stop. Blackthorne takes in his surroundings. FISHING CRAFT, some with a single sail, others being sculled by OARSMEN. The Erasmus, still buoyed. He turns to Omi:

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

We are merchants. I demand we be released to the safety of our ship.

Omi quickly scans the faces around him. Against the wall are a group of peasants, heads bowed -- MURAJI among them.

OMI

You're Christian-- you speak Portuguese?

MURAJI

Very little, Lord.

OMI

Tell him to behave.

Muraji's face is one of terror -- he has no idea how to be a translator. But he knows he must:

MURAJI

Omi-sama say... be good.

Blackthorne's eyes go wide at someone speaking Portuguese.

BLACKTHORNE

Is this the Japans?

MURAJI

Hai. Yes.

BLACKTHORNE

How do I say, "I understand"? In your language.

MURAJI

Understand.

Blackthorne turns to Omi, making his point in Japanese:

BLACKTHORNE

Understand.

Omi glares back. Blackthorne gestures down to the cellar...

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

I ask for my men to be freed.

MURAJI

Not possible --

BLACKTHORNE

In the name of decency!

MURAJI

Please. In Japan, must be good...

BLACKTHORNE

If this is how he treats guests,
tell this poxy little bastard I
piss on his whole goddamn country.

Blackthorne glares at Omi, gesturing towards his groin to demonstrate what he's talking about. Muraji looks graven.

Omi glares back, challenged. He gives a nod to his men, who forcefully pin Blackthorne. Omi opens his pants AND URINATES ON BLACKTHORNE'S BACK. There's nothing Blackthorne can do. Omi finishes.

OMI

You're a foul-mannered savage.
(with a glare)
"Understand?"

16 OMITTED

16

A17 EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - DAY

A17

With a weak Blackthorne as he is pushed up a hill by Omi and several samurai moving around them.

(R)17 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE - DAY

(R)17

Blackthorne comes up the hill into the village, seeing it all for the first time. Shots of villagers, bustling out of sight. Some stop to get glimpses of him. Blackthorne takes it in. The way the villagers look at him. Seeing his filth, his "otherness." Feeling his own alien skin.

A GROUP OF CHRISTIAN PEASANTS push through, blocking the path as Omi and the samurai move through.

CHRISTIAN PEASANT

Is this man a Christian?

MURAJI

We don't know what he is...

OMI

Everyone stay back!

The Christian Peasant isn't listening to Omi, set on Muraji --

CHRISTIAN PEASANT

Why is he being held prisoner?

MURAJI

Please stay away.

Omi grabs Muraji, staring at him with wild fury:

OMI

*If you don't order these peasants
to stay back, there will be
consequences.*

Muraji, afraid, trying to push at the others as they vie for a closer position.

MURAJI

Please stay away!

One of the Peasants gets right in front of Blackthorne, staring him in the face. Blackthorne stares back, seeing the cross in his hands. The Peasant blesses him in a cross formation. Blackthorne, watching. Taking it in with a concerned look on his face. A Catholic. Shit.

Until Omi suddenly draws his sword --

AND SLICES OFF THE PEASANT'S HEAD. Blackthorne reacts, stunned. The Peasant's body drops to the ground. Muraji closes his eyes in pain. The other Christians hastily retreat. Blackthorne looks down at the body, the cross falling out of the Peasant's hands... and back at Omi, who flicks blood off his sword, glaring at Blackthorne.

A look between them, as Blackthorne tries to figure out just what the hell is going on. Then the samurai push him along --

18 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE, TERRACE - DAY

18

A terrace with a view over the entire village. YABUSHIGE sits on a stool, fanning himself. Samurai bring up Blackthorne, dropping him to his knees. Omi bows, then takes a seat beside his lord. Igarashi is on the other side.

An exhausted Blackthorne studies the ranks before him.

Meanwhile, Yabushige looks around impatiently:

YABUSHIGE

Where is this translator?

Just then, A SHUFFLING OF FEET. The crowd parts for --

A JESUIT PRIEST hastily making his way through. Tonsured head, thick black cloak... FATHER SEBASTIO (40s), overweight, nervous in Yabushige's presence. He bows awkwardly before him, clears his throat... and speaks Japanese:

FATHER SEBASTIO

*Yabushige-sama. It is honored for
I that you come here village.*

Blackthorne, mind racing at the sight of a Jesuit. Yabushige, appalled by Sebastio's Japanese, exchanges a frustrated look with Igarashi... much to Omi's embarrassment.

YABUSHIGE

*Is he all we have?
(a sigh)
Priest, you will translate for me
and this barbarian.*

Sebastio nods. Yabushige speaks. Sebastio translates:

YABUSHIGE (CONT'D)

*Who is he and what is his
mission here?*

FATHER SEBASTIO

*Our busho, Lord of Izu,
Kashigi Yabushige, asks to
know who you are and how you
came to this land.*

BLACKTHORNE

Who are you?

FATHER SEBASTIO

A servant of God.

BLACKTHORNE

Your God. First make that
distinction, you Papist prick.

Sebastio glares. Yabushige and Omi watch with interest:

YABUSHIGE

Priest. Why is he angry with you?

Sebastio slinks back to them, wagging a finger towards Blackthorne while sputtering bad Japanese...

FATHER SEBASTIO

Him evil. Make death. Pirate.

IGARASHI

*Lord, I can't understand a word
this fool is saying...*

Still kneeling, Blackthorne addresses Yabushige directly:

BLACKTHORNE

My name is John Blackthorne. I'm English. Pilot of the Erasmus, a Dutch merchant ship. We were blown off course two months ago...

FATHER SEBASTIO

You expect anyone here to believe you're a merchant?

BLACKTHORNE

All we ask for is food and water, and time to repair our bowsprit --

FATHER SEBASTIO

That is a Dutch privateer, and you're a pirate-- come to war on a peaceful Portuguese settlement.

OMI

Priest! Translate.

FATHER SEBASTIO

Very bad man. Make murder Japan and Portuguese.

Yabushige ponders this. Blackthorne studies the Japanese, then Sebastio. Beginning to put something together...

BLACKTHORNE

They don't know about us. Do they?

Sebastio's slack-jawed look tells Blackthorne he's right.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

You've likely told them Portugal's the only flag in Europe. Which means I'm the first English sailor to reach your Catholic treasury. And you have no intention of translating my words.

Blackthorne fixes his gaze on Yabushige. Quickly BOWS in the same way he saw Omi do. Much better than Sebastio's bow.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

I beg your king for parlay. I humbly ask for safe passage...

FATHER SEBASTIO

Lord! This man. Evil pirate.

Yabushige yawns, bored. He stands and prepares to leave...

YABUSHIGE

*Tell him his ship is confiscated
with all it contains.*

Sebastio smiles at Blackthorne, pleased:

FATHER SEBASTIO

Yabushige-sama says that your heretic
ship now belongs to him. You will
soon be executed, as will your men --

Blackthorne knows he's losing his audience. So with all the
strength he has left he LEAPS TO HIS FEET -- going straight
for Sebastio, ripping the wooden crucifix from his belt and
BREAKING IT IN HALF. Declaring for everyone to hear:

BLACKTHORNE

I am a free man! An Englishman and
a lord. I will not be spoken for
by Catholics. Not in Europe, and
certainly not in this dark land!

He collapses back down to his knees. Yabushige's guards jump
forward, SWORDS RAISED, until --

YABUSHIGE

Stop.
(everyone waits)
Bring him to a house and bathe him.

FATHER SEBASTIO

No, man danger! Pirate must die!

YABUSHIGE

*If he's a pirate, it must be
proven. Do you have proof?*

FATHER SEBASTIO

Insult to Cross!

Yabushige waves dismissively and once again turns to leave.

YABUSHIGE

*I don't have time for this
Christian nonsense...*

FATHER SEBASTIO

*Insult to Father-Visitor... Father-
Visitor mad for pirate live. Must
give justice!*

YABUSHIGE

*Fine, then choose another sailor
to be executed in his place.
We'll do it in my special way. I
hope that will satisfy your
Christian bloodlust.*

Meanwhile, Blackthorne is lifted to his feet, barely
conscious. A defiant glare as he's carried away:

BLACKTHORNE

*Sorry, Father. We'll be all over
this continent soon. Go back in
your sty. Dick up your arse.*

19-20 OMITTED (MOVED TO SCENES E11/F11)

19-20

21 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, GARDEN - DAY

21

Conifers, pines, and maples. Carefully placed and tended.
GRAYS are placed at various posts. Seemingly way too many of
them for the playful, innocent scene that's unfolding...

A YOUNG BOY, knees tucked under him. NAKAMURA YAECHIYO (7) --
son of the late Taikō -- next in line to become military
ruler of Japan... and right now he's playing a game of
kakushi-ate-mono-ken with Toranaga. The boy laughs.

YAECHIYO

Try harder, Uncle, you always lose!

TORANAGA

*This is a new game for me, my
Lord. It's very complicated...*

YAECHIYO

*Didn't you learn how to play when
you were small?*

TORANAGA

*When I was your age, I was honored
to be a hostage. Traded amongst
enemies until I was this tall.*

He raises his hand above Yaechiyo's head. The boy smiles.

Toranaga stares into the boy's eyes. Affectionate, paternal. Yaechiyo leans in and stares back.

Behind them, an ELDERLY WOMAN approaches. DAIYOIN (70s), widow of the Taikō, in the habit of a Buddhist nun. Once, she was fierce and deadly, but she's softened with age. She regards the Grays with disdain as she walks past --

DAIYOIN

The Heir is late for his writing lesson, as he well knows.

YAECHIYO

Hello, Daiyoin-sama. May I practice archery instead?

TORANAGA

A leader must write clearly and beautifully. He must be the very best in all things.

YAECHIYO

This is what my mother says too. Is she coming home from your castle soon?

A knowing look from Daiyoin to Toranaga. Then --

TORANAGA

I hope. Go practice.

Yaechiyo runs off, the swarm of Grays following in his wake. Yaechiyo implores a Gray to throw him on his shoulders...

DAIYOIN (PRE-LAP)

Ishido takes no chances with you, I see...

A22 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, GARDEN - DAY

A22

A time cut. Toranaga and Daiyoin are walking together towards a footbridge, Toranaga gingerly assisting her.

DAIYOIN

I can't imagine what he promised those Regents to fall in line...

TORANAGA

My fief, probably.

DAIYOIN

*He'll kill them next. And then
the child. It's the Dark
Centuries starting again.*

TORANAGA

I'll never let the Heir be harmed.

DAIYOIN

If only you could stop him.

Toranaga pays her a glance. They've had this talk before.

DAIYOIN (CONT'D)

*It's your name he fears. Not
"Yoshii Toranaga." The name that
is in your blood...*

TORANAGA

*I don't seek the title of my
ancestors.*

DAIYOIN

*Because you are a good man. But
now is not the time for good men.
It is the time for a Shōgun.*

And with that word, the conversation changes. Toranaga looks out over the garden as if a chill had run through it.

TORANAGA

*And I've told you before... I don't
seek to be Shōgun. It's a brutal
relic from a bygone era.*

Daiyoin sighs sadly. They come to a magnificent black pine. At its center is a pole, taller than the tree, sending ropes down on all sides.

DAIYOIN

*This was planted the hour Yaechiyo
was born. The ropes protect its
growth-- like you and the boy.
What happens when you're gone?*

Off Toranaga's face, we PRE-LAP an eerie PEASANT'S SONG...

Almost sunset. The song floats on the water like the last bits of glow. Its source: SAKICHI and VILLAGERS working in unison to haul cargo from the Erasmus to shore. Fishing boats and dinghies go back and forth.

From the cellar: VOICES shouting, going nowhere. They are calling to Pieterzoon, being pulled from the depths.

PIETERZOON

Please. We're just merchants...

Front and center is a great IRON CAULDRON made to render whale blubber. Igarashi supervises next to Omi. A nervous samurai lights the firewood beneath it. Others mumble uncertainly.

PIETERZOON (CONT'D)

For the love of Christ...

The samurai lower a terrified Pieterzoon into the cauldron. Omi can't even watch. He turns and leaves.

23-24 OMITTED

23-24

25 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE, MURAJI'S HOUSE - DAY

25

A semi-conscious, exhausted Blackthorne. His naked, filthy body being scrubbed with fabrics and pumice on the engawa. TIGHT SHOT: hands begin to cut at his hair with scissors.

26 OMITTED

26

A27 EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - DAY

A27

Overhead the cauldron as it continues to heat up with Pieterzoon inside. The sailor's screams become louder.

B27(28) EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE - DAY

B27(28)

A child sitting in the square covers her ears as the screams begin to filter in.

C27 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE - NIGHT

C27

Samurai listen by a brazier as the screams climax.

27 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE, OMI'S HOUSE, GARDEN - NIGHT

27

Yabushige sits in a rock garden, wearing a dark *kataginu-hanbakama* over his somber *kosode*.

Meditating to the sound of Pieterzoon's DISTANT AGONY, which now comes in waves. His mouth is slack, his wet lips parted.

A28

INT. AJIRO VILLAGE, OMI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A28

REVEAL: TAKEMARU, Yabushige's koshō, watching him through the door. KIKU (20s) enters. A deft and intelligent courtesan. Taking in the distant screams.

Takemaru stares out, all-too-familiar with his lord's ritual.

TAKEMARU

*I'm sorry for the discomfort my
lord has caused your village. His
methods can be hard to understand.*

Kiku, pondering as she comes to the door and stares into the garden.

KIKU

It won't be much longer now...

TAKEMARU

*Hopefully it will satisfy him.
The moment of death...*

(beat)

*It's his passion. How we face it--
when all control is lost, and
there's only the inevitable before
us...*

Kiku turns back to the garden, a look of understanding on her face --

KIKU

It's the closest he can get.

28

OMITTED (MOVED TO SCENE B27)

28

A29

EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - NIGHT

A29

TIGHT SHOTS: boiling water, flailing, Pieterzoon screaming horrifically, trying to bang his head on the cauldron to put an end to his misery.

B29

EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE, OMI'S HOUSE, GARDEN - NIGHT

B29

CU: Yabushige sits in the rain, listening as the SCREAMS FINALLY CEASE. Just rain.

C29 EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - NIGHT

C29

Pieterzoon's hair is draped over the lip of the tub. As his corpse sinks into the water, the hair vanishes within.

(R)29 INT. AJIRO VILLAGE, OMI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

(R)29

Yabushige stalks in, agitated. Speaking as he sits down to his writing table in a huff. So focused on his disappointment, he hasn't so much as registered Kiku.

YABUSHIGE

I kept waiting, but... nothing.

TAKEMARU

(been here before)

I'm sorry, Lord.

YABUSHIGE

*His final moment came and went,
like everyone else...
inarticulate...*

TAKEMARU

*Lord, this is Kiku-sama. The most
celebrated courtesan in Izu.*

KIKU

(bowing)

*It is my honor to serve, and my
duty to please...*

Kiku removes the first two layers in a soft cascade. Yabushige glances up to review what's on offer.

KIKU (CONT'D)

*If you'll let me, I wish to ease
your mind.*

Yabushige sees Takemaru is unable to keep from taking in Kiku's beauty.

YABUSHIGE

*What are you looking at with your
pervert eyes. Leave us.*

Takemaru quickly bows to exit, but Kiku makes her move. She redirects Takemaru over to a *shitone*. They sit and she begins to remove his clothing. Yabushige watches out of the corner of his eye. He'd be angry if he wasn't bemused.

Kiku uses Takemaru's hands to remove her *juban*. They now enjoy each other's bodies.

Yabushige begins to open himself to their exploration. Over Takemaru's shoulder, Kiku asks Yabushige --

KIKU
Shall I stop?

YABUSHIGE
Go on.

Yabushige sips on *saké* as Kiku guides Takemaru down onto the *shitone*. Her hand makes its way along the length of him, finding his point of pleasure and working it offscreen.

On Yabushige, finally relaxing into the relief of someone else reaching for the height of feeling.

The whole time, Kiku's eyes never leave his...

30 OMITTED 30

31 EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - DAWN 31

A fisherman throws a net. No sound but the water lapping...

A32(34) INT. AJIRO VILLAGE, MURAJI'S HOUSE, SCREENED ROOM - DAY A32(34)

Blackthorne sits up, suddenly awake. He's clean. And naked. No idea where he is. The room GLOWS with diffused light.

He rises, toes sinking deeper into the fabric of the *kosode* laid out on the floor. All of this is so foreign to him.

A SMELL sharpens his senses. Next to him is a TRAY bearing bowls of pickles, fish soup, and a porridge. He DEVOURS it.

He stands. Nude. Turns to the *shōji* screen facing outside. Approaching it, as one would approach a door, hand raised -- PUSHING IT -- and his hand GOES RIGHT THROUGH. Blackthorne pulls back -- *shit* -- only to tear more paper with it.

HASTY FOOTSTEPS in the hallway behind him. He retreats, looking for something to cover himself. The *fusuma* SLIDES OPEN, revealing an OLD WOMAN (60s) in a *kosode*.

Blackthorne is painfully aware of his nudity. Resorting to covering his man-parts with his hands.

BLACKTHORNE
I'm sorry... Jesus... where are my
boots...?

The woman can't be bothered with embarrassment. She motions toward a WARDROBE TRAY. On it rests a clean kosode.

32 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE, CEMETERY - DAY

32

Omi, Muraji, and UEJIROU (80s), a gardener, bow over a STRAW-COVERED CORPSE. Pieterzoon's anguished face just visible.

MURAJI

*Barbarian. Please forgive our
lord's cruelty.*

Omi stares. Nods at the peasants, who cover the corpse.

33 INT. AJIRO VILLAGE, OMI'S HOUSE - DAY

33

Omi and Saki sit quietly, not in the mood for breakfast, while Yabushige, well-rested, gorges happily.

YABUSHIGE

It's lovely. Your garden.

OMI

It's sufficient.

YABUSHIGE

*There's a rock in mine. I call it
The Waiting Stone, because we were
waiting for the Taikō to attack
the night I found it. Why not put
it here, in your garden.*

OMI

You honor my home.

Saki quietly leaves. Yabushige sets down his soup.

YABUSHIGE

*Have the weapons brought to my
castle in Mishima. The pilot too.
One whisper about any of it and
the village will be obliterated.*

OMI

*And when should we send word to
Lord Toranaga?*

Yabushige doesn't appear to hear him...

YABUSHIGE

*The barbarian took a long time to die.
He was stronger than most Christians.*

Omi nods, shaken. Yabushige puts down his bowl. Stares.

YABUSHIGE (CONT'D)

Give me a poem about him.

A long beat. Omi knows he's being tested. So finally --

OMI

*His eyes were just the end of Hell
-- all pain, articulate.*

Yabushige nods, impressed. Going back to his food.

34 OMITTED (MOVED TO SCENE A32)

34

A35 INT. AJIRO VILLAGE, MURAJI'S HOUSE, SCREENED ROOM - DAY

A35

Blackthorne stands still while Old Woman and CHIYO, another maid, are working to put the *kosode* around him.

BLACKTHORNE

I thought I heard screams last
night. Did anyone...?

(silence)

Listen, if it's amenable to any of
you, I'd very much like to speak
with your leader again at the
nearest possible --

He reaches for the *kosode*, but Old Woman slaps his hand off
as she continues to work. Blackthorne recoils, resigned.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

Right.

35 OMITTED

35

36 EXT. AJIRO VILLAGE, OMI'S HOUSE - DAY

36

Yabushige and Omi emerge into the bustling village.

YABUSHIGE

*You've managed this village well
since your father's death. How
long has it been?*

OMI

Almost a year, Lord.

YABUSHIGE

Your fief is increased to three thousand koku. I'll see to it as soon as I'm home.

Omi bows. Yabushige starts to walk away when --

OMI

Uncle, if I may... so you're not going to tell Toranaga-sama about the barbarian ship...

YABUSHIGE

Our lord is trapped in Osaka. I told him it was madness to submit himself, but he went anyway.

(turning to him)

Why tell a dead man the future?

OMI

Then you have other plans.

Yabushige turns to him, penetrating him with his gaze...

YABUSHIGE

You tell me. In these uncertain times. What comes next?

OMI

(beat, then)

After Toranaga is dead, no doubt there will be war. Lord General Ishido would be the most powerful Regent, but he'd next have to contend with the Christian lords.

YABUSHIGE

With their Christian weapons.

Yabushige stares. Omi is beginning to put it together...

OMI

So a lord who possesses a ship with these weapons would make a valuable ally to anyone.

YABUSHIGE

(beat, smiles)

My brother never told me about his son's great qualities. Perhaps he feared I'd adopt you as my own.

Omi bows, flattered. And then -- SHOUTS draw their attention to the harbor. A SAMURAI RUNS UP to bring a message --

MESSENGER SAMURAI

Lord! A ship's arrived!

A37 EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - DAY

A37

Peasants all gathering on the point to see a MAJESTIC GALLEY, newly arrived just beyond where the Erasmus is moored.

37 EXT. AJIRO COAST, BEACH - DAY

37

A majestic GALLEY is moored offshore. A sixty-oared vessel. The top platform holding several dozen BROWN SAMURAI. The flag waving with Toranaga's recognizable crest.

Off a beached LONGBOAT walks HIROMATSU, a man on a mission. His sword in its scabbard. His eyes set on THE ERASMUS.

Yabushige and Omi rush to greet him. Bowing respectfully.

YABUSHIGE

*Ah, Hiromatsu-dono. You honor me
by coming to one of my villages.*

Hiromatsu bows, but not low, which concerns Yabushige.

HIROMATSU

*Toranaga-sama had requested you
wait for him at Edo with the other
bushos.*

YABUSHIGE

*I felt it was important to our
cause to be here. We've seized a
foreign ship and its crew. Not
friendly to the Portuguese --*

HIROMATSU

And where are the cannon?

Yabushige flinches. Hiromatsu twists his sheath in his hand.

HIROMATSU (CONT'D)

*I'm told there are five hundred
muskets, twenty cannon, and
several crates of silver and gold
on board that ship. In addition
to the barbarian crew.*

YABUSHIGE

I had everything brought ashore.

HIROMATSU

*Good, you've done the work for me.
As President of Foreign Relations,
Toranaga hereby confiscates this
ship and all of its contents.*

YABUSHIGE

With respect. Izu is my fief.

Hiromatsu just stares. Around him, his fifty samurai.

HIROMATSU

*So sorry. It was my understanding
that you were loyal to our lord.*

Yabushige recognizes the tension of the moment. Anything could happen... so he makes a choice...

YABUSHIGE

*Toranaga has no need to confiscate
this ship... because it's already
his. It is a gift, though I had
wanted it to be a surprise.*

Hiromatsu feigns approval and rises.

HIROMATSU

*He'll be pleased with your
generosity. Have everything
brought to my galley. And the
crew's leader-- Toranaga-sama
wishes to meet him.*

Yabushige opens his mouth to speak, decides against it. Bows. Hiromatsu turns, as if he's just had a thought:

HIROMATSU (CONT'D)

*You should come too, Yabushige-
dono. Our lord will be delighted
to receive this bounty from you
directly.*

YABUSHIGE, furious, as muskets are being carried past him. All of his plunder is being loaded onto rowboats bound for the galley. His plans foiled. A troubled Omi is beside him.

YABUSHIGE

*He knew everything. There's a spy
in your village.*

Meanwhile, FOUR SAMURAI are leading Blackthorne down the slope. His hands are bound. Muraji is beside him. He regards the galley floating in the bay.

BLACKTHORNE

Where am I being taken?

YABUSHIGE

Shut that pilot's mouth!

Blackthorne's eyes narrow on Yabushige. He strides right for him. Omi and the samurai hold him back --

BLACKTHORNE

You. Look at me. You murder prisoners without a trial, is that how it's done here?!

Yabushige holds his ground, absorbing Blackthorne's hatred --

-- when Hiromatsu steps away from the Captain, drawn to the sight of Blackthorne. Omi bows. Blackthorne imitates him.

HIROMATSU

The barbarian learns quickly. Tell him he's being taken to Osaka.

Omi once again looks to Muraji, who points at the galley --

MURAJI

You go Osaka.

BLACKTHORNE

I go nowhere until I see my men.

MURAJI

Please. *This man is very powerful --*

Blackthorne angrily rises. Omi shoves him back down when --

VOICE (O.S.)

Hey! Piss-eating bastards...

A SPANISH SAILOR hops out of a rowboat that just pulled up to the beach. Sloppily dressed in seaman's clothes. This is RODRIGUES (30s). And Rodrigues is flat-out nuts.

RODRIGUES

Kinjiru, neh? Kinjiru! Is he the pilot? The Anjin, ka?

Rodrigues draws a PISTOL, waves in Blackthorne's direction.

RODRIGUES (CONT'D)

Hiromatsu-sama. Rodrigu-sama responsible for him. Give him drink, then blow head off. Yeah? Good. Real good.

Hiromatsu nods at Omi to release Blackthorne. Rodrigues holsters his pistol and helps him up.

RODRIGUES (CONT'D)

Bow to the bastard-sama if you wanna live. Man's like a king here. Tell him *goyosha wo*.

Blackthorne relents. Looks to Hiromatsu. And bows.

BLACKTHORNE

Goyosha wo.

RODRIGUES

Real good. You do that just like a Japper. *Goyosha kudasare* to all shit-eating samas!

He gives a theatrical bow, then pulls Blackthorne along. They walk down the beach, past crates towards a rowboat.

RODRIGUES (CONT'D)

You pilot of that Dutchman?

BLACKTHORNE

Who are you...?

RODRIGUES

Young little shit, aren't you? What's the latitude of The Lizard?

BLACKTHORNE

(bewildered)

Forty-nine degrees, fifty-six minutes North. And watch out for the reefs, south-southwest...

RODRIGUES

...or they'll send you tits-up. By God, you are a pilot. And Ingeles too. Fuck me...

BLACKTHORNE

Listen sir, you speak Japanese. I must know if my crew is alive.

Rodrigues turns to Omi and calls back in Japanese:

RODRIGUES

Samurai-sama. Pilot friends?

OMI

One has been executed. The rest are prisoners of Lord Kashigi. They stay in Ajiro. If the pilot behaves, I will bring his men out.

RODRIGUES

Well then! Good news. One of your crew is dead-- but! The Jappers say they'll free the rest of 'em if you play nice.

BLACKTHORNE

Who of my men is dead --

RODRIGUES

Here it is, Ingeles: your crew belongs to them now. Maybe you'll see 'em if you get back. Maybe not. But it's out of your hands.

Rodrigues pushes off the rowboat and climbs in. Blackthorne reluctantly joins him.

BLACKTHORNE

Where are we going?

RODRIGUES

Osaka. Big city. The great Lord Yoshii Toranaga wants to meet you.

BLACKTHORNE

What does he want with me?

RODRIGUES

Play with your balls maybe, how should I know? But he's a powerful sort, so I might let him.

Blackthorne casts a look back at Yabushige and Omi.

BLACKTHORNE

More powerful than these men?

RODRIGUES

Lord of the Kantō. A million of them fanatics would die for the honor of wiping his arse...

Blackthorne regards the Erasmus. Thinking of what's aboard.

BLACKTHORNE

I didn't get your name, friend...

RODRIGUES

Rodrigues. And I'm a Spaniard who sails for the Portuguese, I'm not your friend.

BLACKTHORNE

Any chance of me boarding my ship, Rodrigues?

Beat as Rodrigues stares at him. A knowing grin...

RODRIGUES

Just as soon as you lick my jib. Listen, Ingeles: no more tricks. I told these *samas* I'd be responsible for you...

(re: Erasmus)

So do us both a favor and blow her a kiss. We're leaving.

39 OMITTED

39

40 EXT. OPEN SEA, GALLEY - DAY

40

WIDE: the galley moves on calm seas. DETAILS: men rowing below, rigging on the top deck. On the bow, Yabushige and Hiromatsu looking out.

YABUSHIGE

Feels wrong, going to Osaka. Like volunteering to be prisoner. No?

Hiromatsu remains silent. Yabushige just sighs.

CUT TO BLACKTHORNE, near the stern next to Rodrigues. Hands still bound. Eyes fixed on CLOUDS on the horizon.

BLACKTHORNE

There'll be a storm by sunset.

RODRIGUES

Hope it's not a *taifoo*. We should head northwest. This crew'll love to keep within sight of land.

Rodrigues turns the till. Blackthorne watches the men row.

BLACKTHORNE

You came over with the Portuguese?

RODRIGUES

Sail for a living, *hai*.

BLACKTHORNE

And how long did it take you to learn these people's language?

RODRIGUES

Don't get any ideas. Young *cojones* like yours... how'd you get here, anyway?

BLACKTHORNE

Came by Magellan's Pass. Merchant mission. Captain-General held us in Chile too long. I warned him the winds would die-- he wouldn't listen. We crossed the equator...

RODRIGUES

Doldrums.

BLACKTHORNE

Floated for weeks. Then scurvy.

RODRIGUES

And now command rests on you. That's some fate. *Shukumei*...

BLACKTHORNE

(hearing the word again)
What is that word?

RODRIGUES

It's like an attitude out here. *Shukumei*. Fate. Karma. Fixed destiny. Everything's connected, part of a whole. Life, death. Just gotta accept your wee place.

Blackthorne casts his gaze towards Yabushige at the bow.

BLACKTHORNE

That's how they justify torturing and killing innocent men?

RODRIGUES

Who of us is innocent.

Blackthorne watches as YABUSHIGE comes up from below. A look back at Blackthorne, then he stares out at the horizon.

BLACKTHORNE

These people are godless savages.

RODRIGUES

Or maybe they just don't give a
shit what you think. Young,
scheming little pirate.

BLACKTHORNE

(guarded look)

Why do you believe I'm a pirate?

RODRIGUES

You had twenty guns on that ship.

BLACKTHORNE

To defend ourselves from unlawful
Portuguese galleons piloted by
Spanish dogs. We're merchants.
We drifted here by accident, and
we're trying to return home.

Rodrigues laughs, then defuses the moment by pulling his sea
cloak tight and settling deep in his chair for a nap.

RODRIGUES

I like you, Ingeles. Be dead in a
week, but I like you all the same.
In fact, given we've got a long
night ahead, I think I shall allow
you the honor of taking this watch.

BLACKTHORNE

Kind of you to trust me.

RODRIGUES

Why not-- you're a pilot, not a
godless savage. *Understand?*

Blackthorne takes the tiller. But as he turns to the sea,
his face drops under the weight of his plight.

A RAGING STORM. Blackthorne and Rodrigues hang onto the
gunwales as the ship pitches and rolls.

Yabushige is holding on for dear life near Takemaru.
Reveling in the chaos he's caught up in...

YABUSHIGE

*Maybe we won't be dying in Osaka
after all!*

42 OMITTED 42

43 EXT. OPEN SEA, GALLEY - DAY 43

Blackthorne shouts over the howling wind:

BLACKTHORNE

We've got to turn ourselves into
this swell!

RODRIGUES

Where are your *cojones*?

BLACKTHORNE

Where they should be, by God, and
where I want them to stay!

Rodrigues sighs, cuts Blackthorne loose from his bindings:

RODRIGUES

Go below, get 'em to row portside.
(beat)
Can you swim?

BLACKTHORNE

Can't you?

RODRIGUES

Never learned. Better to drown
quickly, right?

Suddenly a SWELL HITS THEM. Waves coming over the side --
Blackthorne losing his balance -- the Captain is going
OVERBOARD -- until Blackthorne reaches out and pulls him back
from the sea. Coming past Rodrigues on his way below...

RODRIGUES (CONT'D)

What are you still doing up here,
you pirate bitch?!

BLACKTHORNE

Piss on the Spaniard who serves
the Portuguese!

RODRIGUES

Piss on all English, long live
Spain!

Towards the bow: Yabushige sees Blackthorne go down...

YABUSHIGE

What's he up to...?

He staggers to his feet and moves out of frame.

Blackthorne drops into the well, crawling over sick oarsmen.

BLACKTHORNE

Row to port! Portside!!

He fights forward through the men, shouting orders -- when ANOTHER SWELL HITS. Oarsmen tumble over each other. The ship settles. But now Blackthorne turns back to see THE PILOT'S SEAT ABOVE IS EMPTY.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

Rodrigues!

He runs to the gunwale and sees Rodrigues struggling out there in the churning sea. A crewman throws him a wooden life ring. The sea sweeps it out of reach.

Blackthorne grabs an oar, THROWING IT LIKE A JAVELIN -- Rodrigues grabs it just as the SURF DRAGS HIM OFF.

Blackthorne turns back to the injured Captain, the weary men. Yabushige climbs down, looking around, realizing Rodrigues is gone. Locking onto Blackthorne. Who STARES BACK...

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

You bastards wanna live?

He pushes past Yabushige and helps the men return to their stations. Even Yabushige takes a position of his own.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

Everyone on my command: PULL!!!

As they pull in their oars against the driving storm, we --

CUT TO:

The galley floating in the distance. Onshore, injured oarsmen are passed out. Browns are chopping wood to rebuild their damaged boom. Hiromatsu climbs out of a skiff and sees Yabushige slumped against the rocks.

Blackthorne is kneeling on a bluff, staring out at the coastline. A long trail of detritus from the galley washing ashore. Finally he rises and turns to the Captain:

BLACKTHORNE

You're Captain-sama again.
Understand? You. Captain-sama.

CAPTAIN

Understand. Yes, thank you.

Meanwhile, Blackthorne grabs a length of rope and puts it on his shoulder. Preparing to march up the rocks.

HIROMATSU

Captain, what is the pilot doing?

Blackthorne looks back at Hiromatsu, points up the coastline:

BLACKTHORNE

Rodrigu-sama. Go look.

HIROMATSU

Have the men return to the galley as soon as we're ready. Our lord is waiting in Osaka.

The Captain shouts orders. Blackthorne points emphatically:

BLACKTHORNE

Look! Anything off that ship comes right back with the tide. Your pilot is out there! For all we know he's still breathing!

HIROMATSU

Naran!

BLACKTHORNE

I don't care what sort of savage whore-bitch turd you are. Where I come from, we don't leave a man behind. Rodrigu-sama! Look!

Hiromatsu is stunned by Blackthorne's impudent tone. He puts his hand on his sword. But Yabushige finally steps forward:

YABUSHIGE

Hiromatsu-dono. He's not wrong to search for the Spaniard. The man's a valuable pilot. If this barbarian is a guest of our lord, shouldn't we honor his wishes?

HIROMATSU

Take him. Make sure it's quick.

45 EXT. ISE COAST, SHORELINE - DAY

45

PASSAGE OF TIME as Yabushige, Blackthorne, two Green samurai climb together, single-file, up a narrow switchback on the windy cliffside. The path dips and rises along the cliff face, two hundred feet above the crashing surf below.

Blackthorne catches his breath while searching the shore. Yabushige walks in steady silence. Finally, one of the samurai SHOUTS SOMETHING ahead and points down into a gulch... Blackthorne runs up to join him...

46 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY

46

RODRIGUES is far below, his corpse caught in a cleft between two great rocks. His arm locked around the broken oar.

YABUSHIGE

No footholds. It's too dangerous.

Blackthorne moves closer to the edge. One of the samurai STOPS HIM with his hand.

BLACKTHORNE

I'm only trying to get a look.

YABUSHIGE

Don't let the pilot put himself in danger like that again.

Blackthorne stares back and realizes, they need him alive. And now he gets an idea. He points to the body and gestures:

BLACKTHORNE

I'll bring him up. Me.

Again he moves forward, as if to climb down. Again they restrain him. He feigns great anger, gesturing wildly:

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

Now listen, you bastard! Either I recover that body, or you.

(Yabushige stares back)

Can't turn down a challenge in front of your men, can you?

Yabushige looks down. Weighing the climb. The wind.

BLACKTHORNE (CONT'D)

Go on then. Maybe the fall will kill you before you drown.

Yabushige takes a COIL OF ROPE off a samurai's shoulder and removes his kosode.

YABUSHIGE

Let's be fast about this.

TOUGH SAMURAI

Lord, let me go in your place.

He anchors the rope around a nearby tree, tossing it down, and tests a ledge with his feet. Glaring at Blackthorne:

YABUSHIGE

*Don't you see what he's doing?
The barbarian wants me to fail.
He's very simple, though he
doesn't know it.*

47 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF FACE - DAY

47

With Yabushige as he descends carefully, showing great skill.

48 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY

48

Blackthorne and the two Green samurai watch him from above.

49 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF FACE - DAY

49

Yabushige momentarily slips -- HIS LEFT HAND GRABBING AN OUTCROP -- SWINGING between life and death, his fingers digging deeply. His toes find a cleft just as his hand rips away. His hand grabs the hanging rope for stability.

Looking back up at his panicking samurai. And Blackthorne. Eye contact between them. Yabushige, defiant. He's not dying... until the rope catches on A SHARP ROCK and SNAPS --

50 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY

50

YABUSHIGE FALLS THE REMAINING TWENTY FEET, his body tumbling down the sloped face and coming to a rest in a human ball.

51 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY

51

Blackthorne, content that he's dead...

BLACKTHORNE

Sorry about your sack-of-shit lord.

TOUGH SAMURAI

Fetch more ropes from the ship!

The Young Samurai sprints away. Meanwhile, Blackthorne notices Yabushige trying to RISE...

52 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY

52

His arms are lacerated. Blood dripping from his fingers. He collapses under his own weight. A column of spray douses him. But he musters the strength to slide down to RODRIGUES. Twisted, broken. BUT HIS BACK IS RISING AND FALLING.

53 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY

53

Blackthorne and the other Green listen as Yabushige calls up:

YABUSHIGE

The pilot is alive!

54 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY

54

Yabushige turns Rodrigues's body over. With great effort he brings him out of the surf. Then HIS INJURED ANKLE TWISTS AGAIN -- losing his footing, HE FALLS INTO A NEARBY GULCH.

55 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY

55

Blackthorne and the Green see this happen.

TOUGH SAMURAI

Lord!

56 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY

56

Yabushige is in a deep pocket now, slammed by crashing waves and unable to ground himself due to his injuries.

57-58 OMITTED

57-58

59 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY

59

Blackthorne watches him down there, pitying the poor man.

60 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY 60

Yabushige fights the waves, which threaten to pull him out towards the sea. He can't see for the spray.

61 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY 61

The Tough Samurai growing more frantic --

TOUGH SAMURAI
Grab a hold! The rope is coming!

A62 EXT. ISE COAST, SHORELINE - DAY A62

With the Young Samurai as he sprints frantically across the rugged coastline, his breathing frantic...

62 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY 62

Yabushige swims desperately to another lip of the ravine, grabbing a hold but finding there's no route up. The waves continue to pound in his face. He lies prostrate on sloped rock, his strength beginning to fail. Looking out at the slamming waves that are moments from drowning him...

...clarity dawning on his face. This is going to kill him. At first, sadness... then acceptance. He draws his KNIFE from his scabbard. Looking back up, a long, proud gaze at...

63 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY 63

Blackthorne, staring back as if only the two of them existed.

BLACKTHORNE
What is he doing...

Yabushige, fixed and resolute, nods almost defiantly. Content in the service he's accomplished. He turns to the sea. Blade in his hands, pointed to his belly.

The Tough Samurai looks back, sees Young Samurai now approaching with a rope and TWO OTHERS TO HELP.

TOUGH SAMURAI
Please! Help is coming, Lord!

64 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY 64

Yabushige can't hear him. His eyes lift to the CLOUDS. No sound but the surf. His hands, about to thrust the knife...

65 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY 65

The Young Samurai arrives with the rope. They throw it down.

66 EXT. ISE COAST, BOTTOM OF GULCH - DAY 66

Yabushige, about to thrust the knife when suddenly the Young Samurai lands at the bottom of the cliff and drags the rope with him, knee-deep in water --

YOUNG SAMURAI

Let me help you.

-- and only now does Yabushige OPEN HIS EYES. Momentarily disoriented. Seeing his man with the rope and returning the knife to his scabbard. The Young Samurai wraps an arm around him. Dragging him to safety as the waves begin to wash up.

67 EXT. ISE COAST, CLIFF SUMMIT - DAY 67

Later. A comatose Rodrigues lies at the top of the cliff, having been lifted earlier. Blackthorne is staring in complete wonder as --

Yabushige is helped back over the cliff. The samurai eagerly tend to his wounds, but he pushes them away. Rising to his knees and staring at Blackthorne. He BOWS with a PRIDE that no one can deny. Least of all Blackthorne, who bows too.

AS WE CUT TO:

68 EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE FORECOURT - DUSK 68

Shadows. An urgent swishing of fabric. FEET walk on a footpath outside Toranaga's keep.

69 INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, MEETING ROOM - DUSK 69

A GUARD slides open a door for MARIKO, with TWO LADIES-IN-WAITING behind her (one of them SETSU). She bows, surprised, because waiting for her across the room is -- TORANAGA.

MARIKO

*So sorry, my Lord. I was told I'd
be meeting my father-in-law.*

TORANAGA

*I sent Hiromatsu away on business.
I asked for you.*

She rises. Toranaga takes her in. Eyeing her CRUCIFIX.

TORANAGA (CONT'D)

*How long has it been since you
married into my general's family?*

MARIKO

Sixteen years, Lord.

TORANAGA

*And so rarely have we spoken.
Thank you for helping Usami Fuji
through her grief the other day.*

MARIKO

I wish I could have done more.

TORANAGA

*Do you believe she will obey my
order and deny herself death?*

MARIKO

Yes. Her duty is now all she has.

He steps toward a lanternd garden. Walls surrounding him.

TORANAGA

*Such a waste. Death is everywhere
I look, since Ishido aligned the
Council against me...*

MARIKO

*If the Regents vote for your death,
we will welcome it with you.*

Toranaga turns back to her. Other thoughts on his mind...

TORANAGA

I'm told you speak Portuguese.

MARIKO

Only as a student.

TORANAGA

*Your father-in-law is bringing a
prisoner from Ajiro.*

(MORE)

TORANAGA (CONT'D)

*A barbarian from a foreign ship.
I want you to translate for me
when he arrives.*

MARIKO

*Surely the Portuguese can send
Tsuji-sama to translate. My skills
are nothing compared to his...*

But Toranaga isn't satisfied. Probing her with his gaze:

TORANAGA

*It's been fourteen years since
your father's death?*

MARIKO

Fourteen years and three months.

TORANAGA

*Akechi Jinsai was brave and
principled, and I revered him...*

Mariko bows her head, uncomfortable. Toranaga steps closer:

TORANAGA (CONT'D)

*But I know it's haunted you, not
being permitted to join him that
day. Like Fuji. Kept from the
fight and robbed of your purpose.
(a beat)
What if, as your liege lord, I
could restore you to this purpose?*

And now her face lifts, revealing storm beneath.

TORANAGA (CONT'D)

*First, answer me: the barbarian is
an enemy of your faith. Would
your loyalty to God conflict with
your service to me?*

MARIKO

*If I were just Christian, perhaps.
But I am more than one thing.*

A beat. Then Toranaga nods. Turning again to his garden...

TORANAGA

*I think our fate has brought us
together. You, me, and this
barbarian who could turn the tide.*

70

EXT. OSAKA COASTLINE, GALLEY - DAY

70

The galley, streaking along. We're in the pilot's hut at the stern. Blackthorne is on the floor, hands once again bound. Staring at the ceiling. Rodrigues is laid up in a hammock.

RODRIGUES

You make a foul nurse, Ingeles.
My leg's on fire, my head's
bursting, and my piss pot's full.

Blackthorne snaps to. Clearing away the chamberpot.

BLACKTHORNE

How long have you been in this
country, Rodrigues?

RODRIGUES

Long enough I can't see my way
back, if that's what you mean.

BLACKTHORNE

That man was going to kill himself
on that cliff. He risked his life
to save you, and when he was done
for in those waves, he didn't...
fight, he could have tried, but he
just...

RODRIGUES

Chose his death. What better end
can a man hope for.

Blackthorne just stares, lost.

BLACKTHORNE

Will I die here?

RODRIGUES

Likely.

BLACKTHORNE

There's always a way out. There
must be.

RODRIGUES

You still think those currents are
yours to control...

BLACKTHORNE

How can you accept being powerless
to this madness --

RODRIGUES

You mean to this life. *Zehi mo gozaimasen*. We cannot resist the unseen path of nature. All we can do is accept our small part.

BLACKTHORNE

Then you're just as lost as they are. It's bollocks. Coming here was a mistake...

RODRIGUES

Funny, I thought you washed up by accident...

A look. Then Rodrigues reaches to a hidden compartment...

RODRIGUES (CONT'D)

Listen Pilot, I think it's only fair, I found these on your ship.

With that Rodrigues pulls out a SACHEL containing TWO BOOKS.

RODRIGUES (CONT'D)

This rutter was stolen off a Spanish sailor, I imagine. How you must have found your way through Magellan's Pass...

(opening the JOURNAL)

Which means this belongs to you. A list of all the Catholic bases you and your so-called merchant crew were putting to the torch. Real savage business, if you ask me.

A beat as that falls. Blackthorne knows the game is up.

RODRIGUES (CONT'D)

Your orders: "Plunder any Spanish territory, reach the Japans, and open trade in the New World."

BLACKTHORNE

I saved your life...

RODRIGUES

Which is why I'm warning you: these go to the Portuguese as soon as I arrive.

Blackthorne suddenly rises, but Rodrigues anticipates it -- lifting A PISTOL to his face. Blackthorne just glares.

BLACKTHORNE

This isn't the end for me. I
won't die in this wretched land...

RODRIGUES

Tell you what: we're coming into
port soon. Why don't you go on up
there, tell me what you see?

71 EXT. OSAKA BAY - DAY

71

THE GALLEY heading into port. Blackthorne comes to the bow.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)

Tell me, when you set eyes on
Osaka, if you really think our
world's the hilt of civilization.

AS WE REVEAL FOR THE FIRST TIME: OSAKA. In all its splendor.
An advanced city spreading out for miles. Looming large.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)

Ask yourself what kind of man
wields power in a land like this...

72 EXT. AJIRO COAST, RIDGE ABOVE - DAY

72

Same location as the opening. MURAJI walks over the rocks...

RODRIGUES (V.O.)

The one who schemes in the open,
or the one you never see.

He's going to a PIGEON CAGE. Tucked behind a wall of rocks.
He gently lifts a pigeon out. Slipping a SMALL NOTE into a
canister by its talon, and releasing it...

73 OMITTED(MOVED TO SCENE A76)

73

74 INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, USAMI RESIDENCE - DAY

74

Tadayoshi sits in a stark room wearing a white robe. He
finishes committing his death poem to paper. Nagakado stands
behind him, hand on his sword hilt. The poem is removed by a
servant. Tadayoshi reaches for a *wakizashi*, or short sword.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)

There's a saying out here, every
man has three hearts. One in his
mouth for the world to know...

Tadayoshi stands and waits at an open *fusuma* door. Fuji is in the next room, holding their son, now dressed in a DEATH KOSODE. Mariko sits nearby, head bowed. The time has come.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)
Another in his chest, just for his
friends...

Fuji gives over her child. The *fusuma* slides closed.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)
And a secret heart, buried deep
where no one can find it...

Mariko watches Fuji's face, knowing her impossible agony...

OMITTED

INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, PIGEON HOUSING - DAY

Toranaga removes a pigeon from its coop. Reading the message in its canister. Muraji is Toranaga's spy.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)
That's the heart a man must keep
hidden if he wants to survive.

EXT. OSAKA RIVERBANK - DAY

SKIFFS pull up to the shore. In one boat, Yabushige is being attended by a doctor. Blackthorne is led off another boat by Hiromatsu and SAMURAI GUARDS. A last look to Rodrigues. SATCHEL in hand. A tragic nod.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)
You'll understand soon, Ingeles.

EXT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE FORECOURT - DAY

Blackthorne is led through the wood gate, seeing the West Palace for the first time. Humbled by the scale of it all.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)
Who knows? Maybe fate brought you
here for a reason...

78

INT. OSAKA CASTLE, WEST PALACE, MEETING ROOM - DAY

78

Fusuma doors slide open, bringing Blackthorne before TORANAGA AND MARIKO. Guarded by two dozen samurai.

RODRIGUES (V.O.)
Maybe you'll live long enough to
find out what it is.

Blackthorne drops to the floor and BOWS LOW. PULL BACK FROM OUR THREE LEADS. Their fates now inextricably linked...

AS WE CUT TO BLACK.

* * * END OF 101 * * *