

D U N E

Part Three

by

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Based on the novel by Frank Herbert

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ACT 1

FADE IN:

211 EXT. CITY OF ARRAKEEN - SUNSET

IN THE DISTANCE. A calm, quiet oasis of twinkling lights in the vast Arrakis wasteland.

212 OMIT

213 OMIT

214 INT. MILITARY HANGAR - SUNSET

Fremen workers labor under the stern, watchful gaze of Harkonnen soldiers. Sealing and labelling huge crates of SPICE. Maneuvering them to forklift vehicles where...

They're lifted and transported to a nearby cargo transport which is being prepped and fueled for take-off.

HARKONNEN FOREMAN

Pick up the pace, you lazy desert rats.
We have a quota to meet...

CAMERA FINDS....

OTHEYM. The young Fremen who joined up with Paul Muad'dib at Sietch Tabr. Hidden between pallets of Spice crates. Waiting for the foreman to pass before...

...he places a tiny blasting device on one of the crates. Nearby...

A couple of the other workers watch what he's doing. One of them subtly signals him when...

A Harkonnen soldier patrols too near one of the sabotaged boxes. Something has caught his eye. He moves in for a better look.

Otheym is gone. But...

The SOLDIER suddenly recognizes the blasting device. He whips around. Starts to shout. But....

BAAAAAVVOOOOMMMMM

The crate explodes. The soldier is obliterated.

(CONTINUED)

214 CONTINUED:

AN EMERGENCY KLAXON begins to wail.
Workers and soldiers scatter.

BAAAAAVVOOOOMMMMM

Another crate goes up....

BAAAAAVVOOOOMMMMM

...and another. Chaos and pandemonium.

CAMERA FINDS...

Otheym and the other Fremen worker.
Huddling against the wall.

OTHEYM

Disperse the men to the safe houses. Get
word to Stilgar. Well evacuate the city
tomorrow.

And the two of them split up.

215 OMIT

216 OMIT

217 EXT. ALLEY...ARRAKEEN CITY - SUNSET

The explosions at the military hangar make the sky above the
buildings glow like it's on fire.

CAMERA FINDS...

OTHEYM. Sneaking between buildings like an hallucination.
Blending into the wall whenever Harkonnen patrols scream by
up the street until...

VOICE

HALT!

Otheym freezes. Turns to SEE...

A Harkonnen SOLDIER. Coming toward him.
Raising a lasgun. Just about to fire when...

The soldier jerks abruptly. A small groan escapes.
He crumbles to the ground to REVEAL...

(CONTINUED)

217 CONTINUED:

A small BOY. In the shadows. Rushing forward to yank a crysknife from the soldiers back. It's the boy who watched Rabban execute his father earlier! He signals to Otheym...

...who quickly follows to a door at the end of the alley.

BOY

Tunnel out of the city at the foot of these steps.

And he rushes away to ANOTHER DOOR where... His family is waiting. His mother. His sister.

OTHEYM

The blessings of Muad'Dib be with you and your family.

The boy raises his fist to his head, then to his heart. Then is pulled back inside by his mother.

Otheym disappears down the steps. The door slams shut.

218 OMIT

219 EXT. ROCK RIDGE...SHIELD WALL - SUNSET

City of Arrakeen in the distance. Sirens shrieking. The military hangar still burning.

A FREMEN is standing here. Back to camera. Staring at the fire raging out of control at the military compound.

VOICE

Your plan worked, Muad'Dib. Now they know we can strike them at will.

The man at the ledge turns. IT'S PAUL. Older now. By several years from the looks of it. He's thinner. His skin is weathered and drawn.

But what's most startling are...HIS EYES. Totally blue now.

STILGAR and some older Fremmen are there on the ridge with him. The NAIBS Paul addressed months ago in the desert.

NAIB

We could take the city in an hour...

PAUL

It's not time.

(CONTINUED)

219 CONTINUED:

NAIB

But they're vulnerable, Muad'Dib.

PAUL

Not yet!

The men murmur in obvious frustration.
But Stilgar steps forward.

STILGAR

The advance unit found something in the
chaos, Muad'Dib. Something...you should
see...

He gestures to a young Fedaykin. Standing several yards away.
Guarding something laid on a small ledge of rocks.

Paul comes over with Stilgar. The Fedaykin bows respectfully.
Stands aside so Paul can SEE...

A leather cushion. Draped with a thick, purple cloth.
Paul slowly pulls back the cloth to REVEAL...

A HUMAN SKULL. And a piece of uniform. Torn and scorched.
The family crest of House Atreides still visible, though.

STILGAR

There was a secret crematorium in one of
the Harkonnen barracks.

(beat)

This was all of your father that was
left.

Paul gently touches the forehead of the skull. His shoulders
slump slightly. The only show of emotion he allows himself.

Then he covers the objects up again. Turns back to the city.
Stilgar leads the men away. And...

CHANI steps silently out of the shadows where she's been
watching.

CHANI

(re the skull)

The men think it's an omen...a sign that
our final battle with the Harkonnen is at
hand.

This makes Paul tense. He reaches into his pocket for small
tin box. Retrieves some pieces of spice bread. Begins eating
them slowly one at a time.

Chani frowns. She stays his hand.

(CONTINUED)

219 CONTINUED:

CHANI

Your visions frighten me, Muad'Dib.

PAUL

There are things still hidden from me.
Places I can't go. Things I can't see.

CHANI

Do you ever worry that just trying to see
the future...changes it?

PAUL

We're speeding toward the abyss, Chani. I
have to see a way around it.

A strange, alarming vacancy clouds his eyes.
Disappointment sweeps over Chani's face.

CHANI

Perhaps it's time for me to leave,
Muad'Dib.

He finally turns to her.

CHANI

I've been away from our son too long.

He doesn't say anything for a moment.
She looks almost hopeful. But...

PAUL

Perhaps you're right. We'll make
arrangements once we reach Cave Of
Ridges.

She nods. Resigned.

CHANI

Will we ever have peace, Muad'Dib?

He turns back to the city.
Watches the fires.

PAUL

We'll have victory.

And he puts another piece of spice bread in his mouth.
All she can do is watch.

DISSOLVE TO:

220 OMIT

221 OMIT

222 INT. CORRIDOR...HARKONNEN PALACE - SAME

A HIDEOUS SHRIEK cuts the night like a razor on glass.
And moments later...

FEYD-RAUTHA, Baron Harkonnen's nephew and heir apparent,
hurries out of his room...nervous and flushed...pulling a
robe tight around his naked body.

He's accompanied by several BODYGUARDS.

BODYGUARD

I'm sorry m'Lord. He said you must come
at once.

Feyd storms off down the murky hallway.

223 INT. BARON HARKONNENS APARTMENTS.....MOMENTS LATER

The door opens. Feyd and his bodyguards step in to FIND...

The BARON. In a huge chair by his bed.
Nightclothes disheveled and torn.

A lamp has been knocked over. There are bed-cushions on the
floor. Signs of a struggle, And laying at the Barons feet...

A BODY. A teenage boy. The Baron's young masseur.

BARON HARKONNEN

Do you really take me for that much of a
fool, boy?

FEYD

I don't understand, Uncle.

The Baron reaches down. Holds up the dead boys leg.

C.U. THE THIGH. There's a tiny, almost imperceptible brown
bruise there. And when the Baron squeezes it...

A shiny sliver of metal protrudes. A NEEDLE!

Feyd nods to his bodyguards. And they reluctantly leave the
room.

(CONTINUED)

223 CONTINUED:

BARON HARKONNEN

What kind of poison did you choose, boy?
Something slow and painful, I assume...so
you could watch, eh?

Feyd says nothing. His expression says it all. He's guilty.

BARON HARKONNEN

Tell me, Feyd, why didn't you simply
assassinate me yourself? You've had
plenty of opportunity.

FEYD

(after a beat)

You taught me that my own hands must
always remain clean.

An involuntary smile tugs at the Barons fat lips.
He rises up. Floats over to Feyd...who holds his ground.

BARON HARKONNEN

You're good material, Feyd. And I hate to
waste good material.

THHWAAAAAAACKKKKKK!!!

...the Baron backhands him across the face. Hard!

BARON HARKONNEN

Give me one good reason why I shouldn't
kill you right here?

A beat. Then...

FEYD

(defiant)

My brother.

The Baron thinks this over. And then...
He smiles. Broadly.

BARON HARKONNEN

Yes...you're right! HA! Your dim brother!
If I kill you, then he'd be my only
heir...

(shuddering)

And he can't even put down a dirty mob of
religious lunatics....HA! Yes, you're
clever Feyd...

(settling down)

...but not clever enough. Alright, I need
you. But you still need me! You may think
you don't...but you do. You do.

(CONTINUED)

223 CONTINUED:

And he turns his back on Feyd. Moves back across the room.

BARON HARKONNEN

Don't get any ideas, boy. My men have you
in their sights as we speak.

Feyd looks around the room for signs of the Baron's
bodyguards. Sees nothing.

BARON HARKONNEN

Don't worry, if I'd wanted you dead,
you'd never have made it down the hall.

FEYD

You're going to let me live?

BARON HARKONNEN

Well, I can't very well leave the wealth
of Arrakis to someone who's dead...

FEYD

What wealth? Every communique brings news
of another Fremen raid. By the time my
idiot of a brother is through, the
Emperor himself will have to intervene.

BARON HARKONNEN

So...you aren't as dim as I thought.

FEYD

You...intend to draw the Emperor,
himself, into this?

BARON HARKONNEN

You see? This is why you need me, boy. To
help you think. To help you plan. Do you
think I tolerate your brother's
incompetence because I'm amused? Think,
Feyd, think. There must be a method to
this madness, eh?...even though you've
been too dull to divine it.

(CONTINUED)

223 CONTINUED:

FEYD

The spice?

BARON HARKONNEN

Of course, the spice! The only thing that could possibly draw the Emperor away from his Imperial pleasures...out into the wastelands of his empire...where he will be vulnerable! Where he can be destroyed!

FEYD

Then Duke Leto was just the beginning... the prelude to a move on the Imperial throne itself...

BARON HARKONNEN

(nodding; smiling slyly)

But timing is everything, beautiful boy. Patience must be our ally. We must not make the Emperor suspicious...

(nodding to the dead masseur)

...with foolishness. So...what'll it be?

FEYD

I give you my pledge.

BARON HARKONNEN

Good. Now, let the Emperor mock House Harkonnen, call us swine. Because in the end, his throne will be mine!

And he starts to laugh. Louder and louder. And Feyd can't help smiling, too. His eyes gleaming with ambition.

A224 EXT. THE DESERT, THE DEEP SOUTH - NIGHT

A harsh, stony terrain. More desolate than any other. Interrupted only by a severe and ugly mountain ridge.

But the sky has a shimmering, portentous quality to it. The tail of a shooting star slices it like a razor.

224 INT. FREMEN SIETCH...DEEP SOUTH - NIGHT

The screech of a newborn baby fills the room. A group of Fremen women huddle around the young new mother who is exhausted; drenched with sweat.

Jessica picks up the glistening newborn.

(CONTINUED)

224 CONTINUED:

JESSICA

Another healthy fighter for the cause.

She feeds it water from a bowl handed her by another woman.

JESSICA

Here is the water of thy conception.
Drink and be one with us.

(CONTINUED)

224 CONTINUED:

OTHER WOMEN

Bi-la kaifa....

The baby gags and cries even louder. Jessica finally lays him down on its mother's breast.

But suddenly the room suddenly gets quiet again.

A LITTLE GIRL. No more than two years old is hiding by the curtains. Observing with Fremmen-blue eyes that betray a wisdom far beyond her years.

JESSICA

Alia...you were told to wait...

ALIA

He looks like Mitha's son.

A hushed murmur spreads among the women. The little girl's presence makes them extremely nervous.

WOMAN

How can you know that, child? The slaughter on Bela Tegeuse is history. You weren't even born...

ALIA

But, Mother, I saw it...and it's true...

And the hurt and loneliness in her voice is palpable.

JESSICA

(quietly; resigned)

Yes...it's true...

The women stir. But Alia reaches out. Lays a hand gently on the baby's forehead. And...it stops crying Almost instantly.

The women recoil. They can't help it.

225 INT. JESSICA'S QUARTERS, SOUTHERN SIETCH....MOMENTS LATER

Alia is sitting by herself. Calm. Expressionless. Jessica enters. Takes Alia in her arms.

ALIA

I hate them...

JESSICA

Shhh...

(CONTINUED)

225 CONTINUED:

ALIA

They stare at me...they whisper when I pass...it hurts my feelings...

JESSICA

They're confused, Alia. You frighten them.

ALIA

Because I'm a freak.

JESSICA

You are not a freak! Who has said that?

ALIA

No one.

JESSICA

Then don't you ever say it again. My children are not freaks...

ALIA

I can't help it. I just...know things. Things I shouldn't know. But I just do...

JESSICA

It was a cruel thing I did to you, Alia. I took the Water of Life while you were still in my womb. No one should ever be wakened to consciousness as you were....

Jessica pulls her daughter even closer.

JESSICA

We'll make them understand, Alia. We will make them see that you're not just a little girl...that you've never really been one.

A tear escapes Jessica's eye. Drops gently on Alia's face. Alia wipes it away...then instinctively licks her finger.

ALIA

I want my brother.

DISSOLVE TO:

226 OMIT

227 OMIT

228 OMIT

A229 EXT. THE DESERT - NIGHT

Vast, godforsaken emptiness. Except for...

Paul. Sitting here alone. Staring out across the immeasurable loneliness...as if in some kind of trance....until...

There...in the distance (POV)...slow undulations in the sand herald the inevitable.

WORMS. Several of them. Moving inexorably toward Paul from different directions. Closing in like streams of water to a drain. Faster and faster.

And their noise is getting louder and louder.
That terrifying HISS. Until finally...

They break the surface. Still many kilometers away from him, but so huge they seem as if they're right next to him.

They tower over him like living skyscrapers. Swaying and pulsing, their huge mouths gaping open almost as if speaking.

But Paul doesn't move. He is not afraid.
He is staring past them. Into the empty desert where...

The waves of dunes are starting to change. In color and texture. Almost like something is growing on them. Something green. But spreading across the sands like wild fire...

The WORMS are becoming agitated as...

The green relentlessly flows forward. Closer and closer. Strangely beautiful but frightening at the same time. Spreading like a some virulent fungus or cancer.

Suddenly the worms dive into the sand. Burying themselves in the remaining desert just as...

The green finally overwhelms it.
Sweeping up the dunes under Paul.

The desert is gone. And in its place...
Lush and verdant rolling hills.

And Paul stares out of it with sad eyes until...
The hills vanish. The WALLS OF STILLTENT appear. Closing off the vision. Paul is actually sitting inside it. Eyes refocusing as he HEARS...

Commotion outside.

229 EXT. STILLTENT...DESERT - PREDAWN

He emerges from the tent to SEE...

Chani. Standing a few feet away. Out of breath. A bloody
crysknife in her hand. Surrounded by Otheym and Fedaykin.

Other Fremmen are hustling a BODY away.

PAUL

Chani...what is this?

CHANI

(re the body)

He came to challenge you in open combat.

PAUL

You killed him?

CHANI

I took care of it.

PAUL

But he came to challenge me!

CHANI

He wasn't worthy, Muad'Dib.

Her eyes meet Paul's. An intrepid stare. And...

He can feel the stares of the other men around them.
Furtive glances between him, and Chani...and the dead body.

PAUL

(to Otheym)

Get Stilgar. Tell him to summon a maker.

OTHEYM

(startled)

Muad'Dib...?

PAUL

There is only one way to stop these
challenges.

Otheym and Chani exchange a nervous glance. But he finally
obeys and moves off with the others. Chani is left with Paul.

CHANI

You know what this will mean...between
you and Stil. The men will want you to
call him out.

(CONTINUED)

229 CONTINUED:

PAUL

Only if I survive the Maker.

A deep shudder sweeps over Chani. She can't help it.

230 EXT. ARRAKIS DESERT - DAY

Paul and Stilgar are standing together on huge S-shaped dune. Staring off at the endless carpet of beige around them. Stilgar is adjusting a THUMPER.

STILGAR

Just remember what I've taught you. Do it simply and directly. Nothing fancy.

PAUL

I'll remember.

STILGAR

Stand close enough that you can mount as he passes, but not so close he can crush you...

PAUL

I'll remember.

STILGAR

...you'll hear him before you see him. When you take your stand, you must be completely still...you must become a dune in your very essence...

PAUL

(interrupting)

Stil...I'll remember.

STILGAR

(after a beat)

See that you do. Fremmen ride the worm by the time they're twelve. I don't want an old man like you shaming my teaching.

A warm but worried smile sweeps across him as... He hands Paul two long rods...hooked at the ends.

Stilgar and Paul grasp arms in the Fremmen embrace.

STILGAR

Ride the maker, Muad'Dib. Travel the sand...as a leader of men.

(CONTINUED)

230 CONTINUED:

Then...Stilgar disappears down the side of the dune.
Leaving Paul alone. Staring over at...

CHANI. Barely visible in the distance...on another dune.
With Otheym. And others. Watching.

Paul takes the Thumper. Sets the meter then rams it into the
sand next to him. And he waits. Trying to slow his breathing.
Calling on every bit of his Bene Gesserit and Fremen training
to calm his nerves. And finally...

He throws the Thumpers latch.

THU-THUMP...THUMP...THU-THUMP...

231 EXT. ANOTHER DUNE - SAME

Chani and Otheym watch and listen.
POV...Paul. Alone on the far dune.

OTHEYM
He won't fail.

But Chani's breathing is nervous. Rapid.

232 INT. PAUL'S DUNE - SAME

THU-THUMP...THUMP...THU-THUMP...

He is perfectly still. Scanning the desert methodically.
The wait is agonizing.

And then...he HEARS IT. The sound of sand.
Rolling, twisting. Grinding against itself.

PAUL
(quietly)
I will not fear. Fear is the mind-killer.
I will face my fear and it will pass
through me...only I will remain...

And...THERE IT IS. Still a distance away. But closing fast.
A huge wave of sand. Snaking along the desert floor.
Faster and faster...

233 EXT. CHANIS DUNE - SAME

Stilgar joins the others. They all crouch low.

(CONTINUED)

233 CONTINUED:

CHANI

(a whisper)

He's too close. He's not leaving enough room...

But no one moves.

OTHEYM

I can "second" him. It's allowed, even in the test...

STILGAR

No!

CHANI

But he's too close...

STILGAR

He must do this alone.

Otheym and Chani exchange a worried look.
"Could Stilgar want him to fail?"

234 EXT. PAUL'S DUNE - SAME

Paul's eyes are riveted to the horizon.
He can still hear it, but he can't see it?

Suddenly...the wave lifts his feet. He stumbles.
It's right beside him. A GIANT WORM!
Rising out of the sand in an arch.

He is too close. His legs are swamped in a cascade of sand.
He can hardly move. The only thing he can do is...

Lash out with his HOOKS. They catch in one of the worm rings.

Paul is literally yanked free of the sand. Dragged along
beside the creature. He has to act fast.

He plants his feet on the leviathan's side.
Tugs on the hooks.

235 EXT. CHANI'S DUNE

The Fremmen are frozen. Hardly breathing.
They can't see him. The worm blocks their view.
Has he been crushed?

236 EXT. DESERT FLOOR (POV) - SAME

Suddenly the worm starts to turn. Rolling over as if trying to get away from the floor and the irritant sand. But there...being yanked up as the beast turns...

PAUL! Riding on top of the worm. He plants his feet. Tightens his grip. Holding fast against the wind and sand.

For a moment, he just rides. But soon, his breathing quickens. His eyes widen. And a huge confident smile sweeps over him. He's doing it. He's really doing it!

He lifts one of the hooks. Releasing it from the worm. Then...throws it down hard on the creature's side. Catching the ring there. Pulling it open.

C. U. RING SEGMENT. Being tugged open. And... The worm's body contracting in response. Trying to close against the sand.

237 EXT. CHANI'S DUNE

CHANI

He's turning it. He's turning it!

There...in the distance (POV)...Paul is using the hooks to "rein" the worm back toward them.

STILGAR

Take positions...

238 EXT. DESERT FLOOR

The Fremen slide down. Running beside the worm. Hooking into it. Climbing aboard.

They slowly make their way up the creature's back to Paul. His eyes meet Chani's first. She glows with pride.

OTHEYM

MUAD'DIB Is A SANDRIDER!!!!

VOICES

MAUD'DIB...MAUD'DIB...MAUD'DIB...

(CONTINUED)

238 CONTINUED:

And Stilgar moves in close to Paul.

STILGAR

So...is it our time then, Muad'Dib? You
and me...?

Paul doesn't answer. Instead...

PAUL

ACH, HAIIIIII-YOH...

He pulls on the worm and...

It turns...in a huge majestic circle.
Heading south now...into the deep desert.

END ACT 1

ACT 2

FADE IN:

239 OMIT

240 EXT: ARRAKIS DESERT.....LATER - AFTERNOON

A WORM'S WAKE traverse the desert floor.
Carving through the dunes...heading south.

CAMERA PANS UP TO FIND...

An unmarked 'THOPTER. Making a lazy circle in the dull,
monochromatic sky.

241 INT. THE 'THOPTER - SAME

Several men scan the landscape below with vision goggles.
Their clothes are rugged and worn. Definitely not Harkonnen
troops. They're smugglers. And one of them is...

GURNEY HALLECK. Looking out the window.
Another man leans up from behind him.

SMUGGLER

Don't think I've ever seen one that big.

GURNEY

Look...there.

And he points to a dark smudge on the desert below.

SMUGGLER

Spice...

242 EXT. DESERT.....MOMENTS LATER - AFTERNOON

The 'thopter is now parked near a mountain of rocks that cuts
the sands like a black, jagged knife. Armed smugglers stand
guard while...

NEARBY...Gurney and several others approach that patch of
spice they saw from the sky.

SMUGGLER

(taking deep breaths)

Smells like a rich patch. Shall I call in
the Harvester?

(CONTINUED)

242 CONTINUED:

GURNEY

Wait! Get some men up on that ridge first.

SMUGGLER

Harkonnen patrols won't be this far out.

GURNEY

It's not Harkonnen I'm worried about.

And he kneels down at the edge of the spice patch. Starts prodding it with his knife. Something about it bothers him.

He digs some more. Turning the dark, chunky "dirt" over and over to REVEAL...

Clean, fine sand beneath. Gurney picks up a handful. Lets it slip through his fingers.

SMUGGLER

I'll be damned. A false patch...

GURNEY

Get the men back aboard!

And they start to run towards the 'thopter. Too late! Because that's when they SEE...

Hooded figures. Rising up out of the sand. FREMEN. Gurney and his men are surrounded.

The smugglers try to defend themselves. But it's useless. The Fremmen are too quick.

(CONTINUED)

242 CONTINUED:

Gurney races to help one of his fallen comrades.
He grabs the Fremmen standing over him. Pulls him back.
The hood falls away. It's Otheym!

VOICE

Put the knife away, Gurney Halleck.

Gurney freezes...his blade millimeters from Otheym's jugular.

GURNEY

Who is it that knows the name Gurney
Halleck?

VOICE

You've no need of a knife with us,
Gurney.

Now Gurney starts to pull away from Otheym. Carefully.
Still poised to finish the job, if necessary.

GURNEY

Who are you? I know this voice...

Another hooded figure steps in front of him.
Gurney stares into those deep blue eyes.

GURNEY

Paul? Is it truly....Paul?

Paul throws back his hood. Gurney is staggered.

GURNEY

(almost a whisper)
They said you were...dead...

PAUL

And it seemed safest to let everyone
think so.

Gurney sheathes his weapon. Lurches forward.
Grabs Paul in a crushing embrace.

GURNEY

(almost in tears)
You young pup...you young pup...

PAUL

Gurney-man...Gurney-man...

The Fremmen around them tense up.

(CONTINUED)

242 CONTINUED:

GURNEY

So you're the reason the Fremmen have gotten so clever...

PAUL

(re the phony spice patch)

I'd never have expected you to fall for such a simple trick, Gurney.

GURNEY

Desperate times, M'Lord. Harkonnen patrols have forced us south. Deeper and deeper...

Stilgar comes forward..

STILGAR

Where you might have seen things you shouldn't.

PAUL

This is Gurney Halleck, Stil, my father's master-of-arms. One of my teachers.

STILGAR

There aren't many of us who haven't heard the name Gurney Halleck.

PAUL

Gurney, this is Stilgar. Naib of our sietch.

GURNEY

Stilgar, the Fremmen, is a name of renown everywhere.

(to Otheym)

And this one...

PAUL

Otheym...one of my Fedaykin...

GURNEY

He fights like you.

Otheym nods slightly. Accepting the compliment. And Chani comes up beside Paul.

CHANI

Feel the wind, Muad'Dib.

Paul turns to the breeze. Takes a deep breath.

(CONTINUED)

242 CONTINUED:

GURNEY

Muad'Dib!? You're...the one they call
Muad'Dib!?

PAUL

It's my Fremmen name. Come...we'll talk
about all this while we wait out the
storm...

GURNEY

Storm? We didn't see any signs...

PAUL

It comes. Soon. Trust me. We'll have to
hurry if we're going to save the
'Thopter.

Gurney turns to see what remains of his men.
Those still alive are being led away out of sight.

GURNEY

What happens to my men?

PAUL

We'll decide what to do with them after
the storm.

GURNEY

Your father would've been more concerned
with lost lives than lost equipment.

PAUL

They were your men, Gurney. I understand.
But to us they are trespassers...

His eyes are hard. Unyielding.

243 EXT. CAVE OF RIDGES.....MOMENTS LATER - AFTERNOON

As they climb a well-worn path...

Paul leads Gurney to a crevice in the rocks. Invisible if you
didn't know what to look for. They slip through it into...

244 INT. CAVE OF RIDGES

Fremmen are busy lighting glow-globes. Settling in.
Gurney is astonished.

(CONTINUED)

244 CONTINUED:

PAUL

This is one of the things you shouldn't have seen.

GURNEY

You have many such hiding places?

PAUL

Many times many.

And he leads Gurney around a corner into...

245 INT. PAUL'S PRIVATE CHAMBER

Dark colored tapestries hang on the wall.
Deadening the sound. Softening the harsh environment.

Paul brings Gurney in. Chani follows.

CHANI

Would you like me to bring coffee?

PAUL

Yes. And more...food.

He holds up one of the tins he keeps his spice meal in.

Chani's face tightens as she watches Paul chew on a spice morsel left there. But after she's gone...

GURNEY

Your woman...

PAUL

The mother of my firstborn.

GURNEY

Ah..so much has happened. The boy I knew has now become a man...

PAUL

(bitterly)

Thanks to our enemies...

GURNEY

Bah! Cowards. Hiding in their cities and garrisons. Hoping you'll wear yourselves out with meaningless raids.

(CONTINUED)

245 CONTINUED:

PAUL

In other words, they're immobilized.

GURNEY

(nodding)

They've lost the initiative. While you go where and when you choose.

PAUL

A tactic I learned from you, Gurney-man.

Paul offers Gurney a taste. Gurney recoils slightly at the pungency. Spice. But he takes a small piece.

PAUL

What about your men?

GURNEY

Smugglers, all. Good men. A couple of newcomers. Off-worlders. It's hard to find recruits these days.

PAUL

Any of my father's men?

Gurney shakes his head slowly. Sadly.

GURNEY

Those who weren't butchered by the Harkonnen bribed whoever they could to leave Arrakis.

(beat)

Everyone thought...we all believed...you were dead, M'Lord.

PAUL

I understand. But you stayed.

GURNEY

(nodding)

Eating hate. Drinking rage. Awaiting an opportunity for vengeance.

PAUL

I knew we'd be reunited, Gurney. I saw it.

GURNEY

You're the only one left to me, M'Lord. Hawat, Idaho, your Father...all dead... all betrayed...

(CONTINUED)

245 CONTINUED:

He has to look away. His expression darkening with hate.

GURNEY

I would have gladly sacrificed myself if
I could have taken the traitor with me...

Paul reaches over. Takes his old friends arm.

PAUL

My father once spoke about desert power,
Gurney...

GURNEY

I remember well.

PAUL

Well, you've just met it. The surface of
this planet is ours, Gurney. No storm, no
worm, not even the Emperor's Sardaukar
can stop us now.

(beat)

Enlist with me, Gurney...feast on revenge
with us.

GURNEY

Enlist? M'lord, I've never left your
service.

And warm smiles sweeps over them both.

DISSOLVE TO:

246 INT. LIBRARY...IMPERIAL PALACE - DUSK

PRINCESS IRULAN is studying one of her ancient texts while...

ACROSS THE ROOM...the EMPEROR reads a military report.
COUNT FENRING, his trusted advisor, waits and watches.

The Emperors face reddens. He crushes the report between his
hands. Throws it to the ground in a rage.

EMPEROR

That stupid swine seems almost begging
for me to intervene.

IRULAN

The Baron is a pig, Father. But he's not
stupid.

The Emperor finally looks over at her with his steely eyes.

(CONTINUED)

246 CONTINUED:

IRULAN

Father, Rabban has lost almost fifty thousand troops in the past two years.

The Emperor and Fenring exchange an uncomfortable look.

EMPEROR

Arrakis is a fierce planet.

IRULAN

Attrition can't explain such losses. He's losing five to one. Read between the lines.

EMPEROR

You're saying the Baron is allowing this rebellion to continue...

IRULAN

I'm saying he can count as well as we.

The Emperor looks to Fenring.

IRULAN

For the sake of argument...what if there are only twenty thousand people in a Fremen sietch? And what if there are only two hundred fifty such communities on the whole of Arrakis?

EMPEROR

(to Fenring)

Our spies are suggesting there may be twice that many!

COUNT FENRING

Yes....hmmmaaahhh...ten million...

And his eyes narrow on Irulan.

(CONTINUED)

246 CONTINUED:

IRULAN

...toughened by conditions worse than your own prison planet, Father.

EMPEROR

(dismissive)

But brutalized by that mindless thug, Rabban. They'd never ally with him.

IRULAN

But what if this brutality were simply part of something more cunning...a clever prelude to ripen them up for someone else, someone to "rescue" them from Rabban...someone like the other nephew, the cute one, Feyd?

Again the Emperor looks to Fenring. "Could this be?"

COUNT FENRING

If such a plan succeeded, the Baron would have a force to rival even your dreaded Sardaukar...

The Emperor looks back again to his daughter. But she has coyly gone back to her studies.

EMPEROR

(to Fenring)

Summon Harkonnen to Kaitain. We shall see what devices this perverse mind is breeding.

And he leaves the room abruptly. Once he's gone...

COUNT FENRING

Your Highness has a perceptive mind.

IRULAN

Shall I take that as a compliment or a threat...Fenring?

COUNT FENRING

I meant it only as a sign of my respect. I share your fear of the Barons schemes.

IRULAN

My father can handle the Baron, Fenring. It's this Muad'Dib I'm curious about.

COUNT FENRING

Yes...hnmmaahhh...a nuisance, indeed. We must arrange to rid ourselves of it.

(CONTINUED)

246 CONTINUED:

Fenring's eyes narrow. As if he's seeing something...in the future...playing out in front of him. But...

IRULAN

My Bene Gesserit teachers have a saying...

COUNT FENRING

The Bene Gesserit have a saying for everything...

IRULAN

You may come to appreciate this one, Fenring. "Do not count a human dead until you've seen his body. And even then, you can make a mistake."

She leaves the room. Fenring watches her go with a conflicted mix of suspicion and admiration in his eyes.

SMASH CUT TO:

C.U. FEET. Moving swiftly through...

247 INT. CAVE OF RIDGES - NIGHT

CAMERA PANS UP TO REVEAL...

The smuggler who was with Gurney in the 'thopter earlier. Moving swiftly through the shadows. Carrying a bloody dagger.

248 INT. PAUL'S CHAMBERS

Paul is sitting on the floor. Alone. Totally still. Staring at the tapestry on the wall. Eyes unfocused in spice trance.

BEHIND HIM...the curtain parts silently. The smuggler is there. Glaring at Paul. He slips into the room. But...

Paul doesn't react. He seems completely unaware of the danger. And then...

The smuggler leaps. Dagger aimed at Paul's neck.

Everything slows down. The smuggler seems almost suspended in mid-air. But at the last possible moment...

Paul shifts. Ever so slightly...exactly enough for the smuggler's blade to miss its mark.

(CONTINUED)

248 CONTINUED:

The assassin crashes in a heap as Paul flips him with an hydraulic left arm...knocking the dagger loose.

The two of them go at it like fighting cocks.
The blows are vicious and precise.

But the smuggler is able to grab the dagger.
He hurls it with terrific force.

The blade speeds toward Paul's face but...
He ducks and grabs the dagger out of the air!

The assassin is so stunned, he flees out the curtain to...

249 INT. THE PASSAGEWAY

...where Otheym and other Fedaykin are rushing toward him.
And Stilgar, Gurney and others are coming the other way.
The assassin is trapped.

Paul emerges from his quarters.

PAUL

HOLD!

OTHEYM

He caught Korba from behind, Muad'Dib.
Killed him.

GURNEY

One of my newcomers...

PAUL

Sardaukar.

GURNEY

Not a chance.

PAUL

...the only possible explanation if he
overcame Korba.

Chani races up the corridor. Slowing only when she SEES...
Paul...stepping up to the assassin.

PAUL

(to the assassin)
Submit...Captain.

The man doesn't move.

(CONTINUED)

249 CONTINUED:

PAUL
(using the VOICE)
Submit, Captain.

Straining against his own will, the man lowers his head in front of Paul...

...who places his crysknife on the back of the man's neck and...cuts out a chunk of hair to REVEAL..

The IMPERIAL BRAND of....

PAUL
Sardaukar!

Gurney steps up to the man. Grabs him by the hair. He's about to slit his throat. But...

PAUL
Gurney...

GURNEY
Let me kill him, M'Lord. Let the Emperor know his spies vanish like dust in the wind.

PAUL
No.

STILGAR
Gurney Halleck is right, Muad'Dib. We must take his water then drop his skull in a Harkonnen barracks.

A beat while Paul thinks it over. Then...

PAUL
Otheym...see that he's not harmed. We'll have use for him soon.

Reluctantly, Otheym and others haul the Sardaukar away.

PAUL
Chani...I want you to bring my mother...

GURNEY
Your mother!

He jerks like being hit with electricity.

PAUL
...we will need her counsel for a Gathering...

(CONTINUED)

249 CONTINUED:

Stilgar stiffens. He and Paul exchange an ominous look.

PAUL

...we should be there in several days.
Tell her...Gurney Halleck and I have
something we must do first.

GURNEY

(pale as a ghost)
M'Lord...your mother?

Paul turns.

PAUL

Something wrong, Gurney-man?

Gurney is standing there in shock.
Trying to hide his reanimated rage.

GURNEY

Forgive me, Lord. I...thought...we were
told she was taken...by the Harkonnen...
that she was...dead.

PAUL

She is very much alive, old friend. And
you will see her soon. Come, we have
another raid to plan.

And he moves off with Stilgar and Chani.

...leaving Gurney alone. A dark, ominous expression sweeping
over him like a malevolent shadow.

END ACT 2

ACT 3

FADE IN:

250 INT. IMPERIAL LIBRARY - NIGHT

An Imperial soldier in a dirty rumpled uniform stands nervously. Like he's just arrived from somewhere in a hurry.

SOLDIER

...Muad'dib never sleeps, they say,
Muad'dib never eats. They believe he can
see into the future. They believe...he
can not be killed.

ACROSS THE ROOM...Princess Irulan fixes him with an intense stare.

IRULAN

But no one has ever seen him!

SOLDIER

No, Highness. Though many claim they
have. Sometimes in several places at the
same time...

IRULAN

But what does he look like? I want to
know what he looks like!

SOLDIER

No one will say for sure. Perhaps he
doesn't even exist. Perhaps he's just a
legend...a ghost.

Irulan turns away.

IRULAN

There are no such things as ghosts

SMASH CUT TO:

251 EXT. MOUNTAIN CAVES - NIGHT

Quiet. Lifeless. And then...

A FLARE launches from somewhere within.
Arcing into the sky with a fiery tail until...

It explodes overhead. For a moment, the desert is lit up like
daylight...REVEALING...

Paul. And Stilgar and Gurney. And other Fremmen behind them.
Observing from a nearby dune.

(CONTINUED)

251 CONTINUED:

STILGAR

They surrender. No conditions.

GURNEY

They'd be hoping for mercy, M'Lord...

But Paul says nothing. His expression is inscrutable.

252 INT. MOUNTAIN BUNKER.....MOMENTS LATER

Paul and the others are escorted by Otheym and Fedaykin to a small corral where...

A troop of Harkonnen soldiers are cowering.

OTHEYM

We were able to jam their signals. No communication escaped. But I think you should see this...

The Fedaykin create a wedge in front of Paul. Pushing the Harkonnen aside as they lead him to...

A dark-robed man. Standing apart under separate guard. When Paul gets close, the guards move aside to REVEAL...

GURNEY

A Guild Agent.

The same Guild Agent that visited Reverend Mother Mohiam at the Imperial Palace on Kaitain. A thin, ferret of a man. Hairless skin. Rheummy eyes.

STILGAR

Quite a distance from the comforts of Arrakeen.

GUILD AGENT

May I remind you, that I am protected by the Imperial Treaties for Commerce, by the CHOAM Declaration, paragraph 12, subparagraph D, and by Articles, 8 and 14 of the Great Convention which...

PAUL

Imperial law is void where Muad'Dib stands.

The Agent pales. He starts blinking rapidly.

GUILD AGENT

The...the forms must...be obeyed...

(CONTINUED)

252 CONTINUED:

PAUL
 (using the VOICE)
 Be quiet!

And the Agent instantly shuts up.

OTHEYM
 Shall we take their water now, Muad'Dib?

GUILD AGENT
 We have surrendered without resistance.
 We have put our lives at your mercy...

PAUL
 Mercy is a word I no longer understand...

GURNEY
 M'Lord...

PAUL
 (to the Agent)
 Tell me, are there many Guild Agents on
 Arrakis these days?

GUILD AGENT
 We...are neutral in the matters between
 you and the Harkonnen...

PAUL
 ARE THERE!??

The Guild Agent jerks back. Almost stumbles.

GURNEY
 Arrakis is crawling with them. Buying up
 spice as if there were precious little
 left. Why else do you think I ventured so
 far into the desert?

Paul never takes his eyes off the Guild Agent.

PAUL
 You're afraid, aren't you?

GUILD AGENT
 The spice...must flow.

And Paul nods calmly.

PAUL
 Otheym, disarm their 'thopters. Fuel them
 only as much as needed to reach Arrakeen.

(CONTINUED)

252 CONTINUED:

STILGAR

You're letting them go!?

Now it's the Fremmen who are shuffling.
Angry murmurs sweep through them.

But Paul ignores them. He moves into the prisoners.

PAUL

Take a message to your masters. Tell them
your fight is hopeless. Tell them the
forces of Muad'Dib can not be defeated.
Tell them...

(stopping at the Guild Agent)

...their days are numbered.

The Agent wilts under Paul's stare.
Paul finally turns and moves away.

STILGAR

The men are going to question your
intentions, Muad'Dib...

PAUL

The men, Stil, can't possibly imagine
what my intentions are!

And he keeps on moving. Leaving Gurney and Stilgar stunned at
this severity.

DISSOLVE TO:

253 EXT. SOUTHERN SIETCH - PREDAWN

On a rock ledge overlooking the vast loneliness of desert...

Little ALIA sits alone. Arms folded across her chest.
Unmoving. As if she were meditating.

It's an unnerving sight... this child, this toddler actually.
So still. So serene. Staring at...

A desert MOUSE. A muad'dib. On a rock only inches away...it's
long tail curling on its back. Staring back at her. Unafraid.
Until...

The mouse suddenly jumps away. And Alia's eyes blink.
She starts to focus. As if coming out of a dream.
She leans forward slightly and SEES...

Something far off. Something moving. A WORM.

254 INT. SOUTHERN SIETCH...MOMENTS LATER...SERIES OF SHOTS

Alia sprints through the dim passageways of this Fremen community. Ignoring the uneasy stares of those she passes.

255 INT. JESSICA'S QUARTERS

Jessica is playing on the carpet with a BABY BOY when... Alia comes in. Goes straight to the boy.

ALIA

Your mother is coming.

256 EXT. SOUTHERN SIETCH.....LATER

Chani and her Fedaykin bodyguards approach the rockface of the sietch. Members of the community spill out to greet them.

But Chani is interested in only one thing. And a huge, glowing smile sweeps over her when she SEES...

Jessica. On a balcony above. Holding the baby. Little Leto.

257 INT. JESSICA'S QUARTERS.....LATER - PRE-DAWN

JESSICA

Gurney...

Chani is sitting across from her. Holding little Leto.

CHANI

Your son shares a bond with this man. It runs very deep...

JESSICA

Very deep. The kind only men can have.

CHANI

(holding up little Leto)

And my little man...you're so thin. Is he being fed enough?

JESSICA

His appetite is as healthy as any I've seen.

NEARBY...Alia watches this exchange with precocious interest.

CHANI

He should be with the other children...

(CONTINUED)

257 CONTINUED:

JESSICA

I cherish the time I have with my grandson.

CHANI

He can't learn the ways of the sietch if he's kept apart.

JESSICA

There are things he must learn that extend beyond the ways of the sietch.

CHANI

There will be time enough to learn... those things.

JESSICA

Does Paul share that sentiment?

CHANI

Muad'Dib relies on my judgement where our son is concerned.

Jessica nods patiently. Then...

JESSICA

You've been a good companion to my son, Chani.

Chani looks up from Leto. Locks eyes with Jessica.

JESSICA

But he is not like other men.

CHANI

I'm sure I know that better than most.

JESSICA

He is noble born. The rightful heir to House Atreides. An alliance with one of the other Great Houses must remain a possibility...for the sake of us all.

CHANI

You don't have to worry, Reverend Mother. I will only do what's best for him.

(beat)

Just as you did...for your Duke.

And Jessica can only nod again as...
Chani leaves with Leto.

LONG DISSOLVE TO :

258 OMIT

259 EXT. BALCONY...CAVE OF RIDGES - DAWN

Fedaykin sentries are discreetly hidden among the rocks.
Eyes sharp and attentive to any nuance of the desert or sky.

SOMEWHERE...that haunting bird-like whistle of alert rings
out.

Gurney hurries out into the light. Looks down to SEE...

Paul and the others. Greeting Chani and little Leto.
And behind them...Jessica.

C.U. Gurney's face. A dark cloud sweeping over it.

260 INT. CAVE OF RIDGES.....LATER - DAWN

Paul is holding little Leto as he leads Jessica into the
sietch. Chani and Stilgar follow.

JESSICA

...of course, I would have preferred to
ride one of our captured 'thopters...

PAUL

We don't have full control of the air
yet, Mother. And we need to save fuel.

JESSICA

And once Muad'Dib gives orders on a
subject, that subject is closed...

But as they move further in...

There is a tension in the air. Jessica senses it right away.
It's in the averted stares, the hushed whispers.

261 INT. PRIVATE QUARTERS.....MOMENTS LATER

Jessica slips through the leather curtain.
Paul...alone now...follows.

As Jessica begins to unwrap her cloak...

JESSICA

They expect you to call Stilgar out.

(CONTINUED)

Note: Page 237 was missing from the script, so it has been transcribed from the TV series footage.

261 CONTINUED:

PAUL

No man recognizes leadership without the challenge of combat. Now that I've ridden the worm they think that there is nothing else in our way.

JESSICA

Is there?

PAUL

The man in a rush never sees the edge of the cliff until it's too late.

JESSICA

They don't see any cliffs, you don't allow them to.

PAUL

They have a simple religion.

JESSICA

Nothing about religion is simple.

PAUL

Isn't it a little late to be worrying about that?

JESSICA

We did...I did what I had to do to ensure our survival.

PAUL

You used them.

JESSICA

Yes...so have you.

PAUL

No! I'm fulfilling the role destiny has chosen for me.

JESSICA

You sound like you're beginning to believe the legends about you.

PAUL

Like the Kwisatz Haderach?

JESSICA

What do you know about that?

(CONTINUED)

261 CONTINUED:

PAUL

Mother Ramallo called me that. At Sietch
Tabr. Before she...died.

Jessica turns away. Conflicted. Confused. Finally...

JESSICA

I was supposed to have a daughter. One
that could be wed to the Harkonnen heir.
A way to end the feud...and...possibly...

(beat)

...produce the Kwisatz Haderach.

PAUL

"The one who can be many places at once."

JESSICA

...the ultimate achievement of centuries
of Bene Gesserit breeding. The man who
could go where we could not. The one with
perfect memory...who could provide
perfect predictability...

PAUL

(contemptuous)

And perfect power for the Bene Gesserits,
of course.

Jessica turns back to him.

JESSICA

I did what I did because I loved your
father. I only wanted to give him a son
I didn't want to create...a god!

PAUL

Then you don't believe it's true...

JESSICA

I'm your mother, Paul. I know who you
are.

PAUL

Do you?

Jessica is silenced. She doesn't have an answer anymore.

Otheym gently pushes the curtain aside.
His eyes dart from Paul to Jessica.

OTHEYM

Forgive me, Reverend Mother, can I bring
you anything...some food perhaps?

(CONTINUED)

261 CONTINUED:

JESSICA

Yes, thank you...

Otheym quickly backs out.

JESSICA

(to Paul)

...and then, I'd like to see Gurney.

Paul nods. But as he starts to go...

JESSICA

You must find a way not to lose Stilgar.

Paul leaves without answering.

Jessica watches him go...her expression a confusion of love and worry.

She finally turns away. Busies herself folding her cloak. There's a quiet knock outside.

JESSICA

Come, Otheym.

The curtain parts. But instead of Otheym...

Gurney Halleck charges into the room. Grabbing her around the chest...

...pressing a dagger hard against her throat.

GURNEY

(hissing)

Thought you had escaped, eh witch?

She knows who it is even though she can't see him.

JESSICA

Gurney....what are you doing?

GURNEY

I'm your confessor....

JESSICA

Take your hands off me...

GURNEY

...here to let you unburden your black conscience of guilt before I send you into eternity...

(CONTINUED)

261 CONTINUED:

VOICE

Gurney!

Gurney spins with Jessica. Paul is standing just inside the curtain.

GURNEY

One more step, M'Lord and I'll finish it right now.

PAUL

You had better explain yourself, Gurney.

GURNEY

Explain? I'll explain, alright. The day House Atreides fell, I swore an oath that I would survive long enough to kill the one who betrayed your father.

JESSICA

You couldn't be more wrong, Gurney.

GURNEY

I told you not to speak!

PAUL

Gurney...

GURNEY

Stand where you are, M'Lord.

PAUL

...am I capable of lying to you?

GURNEY

You never have, M'Lord.

PAUL The traitor was Yueh, Gurney.

GURNEY

No!

PAUL

We have the confession in his own hand. And as soon as you release my mother, you can read it for yourself.

There is a long beat. Gurney's face twists with indecision. Finally...he spins Jessica around. Dagger pressed to her breast. A single thrust will sever her heart.

(CONTINUED)

261 CONTINUED:

GURNEY

Look me in the eye. None of your tricks.
Tell me it wasn't you. Tell me it was
Yueh who betrayed us all. I'm no
Truthsayer, but I'll know if you're
lying. I'll know

JESSICA

I would have given my life to save Leto,
Gurney. The day he died my heart turned
to stone. It was Yueh.

(beat)

They had his wife.

Neither one moves. It's a long, uneasy moment until...

GURNEY

My God...what have I done?

But Gurney sinks to his knees...weeping. All Jessica can do
is pull him into her arms and hold him as he shudders.

JESSICA

Be still, Gurney. It's over now.

Her eyes meet Paul's. He turns away and...

262 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE JESSICA'S CHAMBERS

...slips through the curtain. Staggeres to the opposite wall
and collapses there. Shaken and stunned.

PAUL'S VOICE

(off camera)

I didn't see it coming....

263 INT. PAUL'S PRIVATE QUARTERS...CAVE OF RIDGES - DAWN

He's laying on his pallet with Chani at his side.

CHANI

You need rest, Muad'Dib.

PAUL

...I didn't know he would threaten her. I
never saw it. He could have killed her...

CHANI

This can't go on. You're asking too much
of yourself.

(CONTINUED)

263 CONTINUED:

There is a long, tense silence...until...

PAUL

I want you to take Leto and return to the southern sietch.

She pulls away from him.

PAUL

I want you safe.

CHANI

I'm safest when we're together.

PAUL

But...I'm not.

Chani wants to turn away from him. Instead...
She pulls him into her arms.

DISSOLVE TO:

264 EXT. CAVE OF RIDGES - DUSK

Paul is watching sadly at the entrance to the sietch as...

A small caravan of his dedicated Fedaykin march solemnly away into the desert. And in the middle of them...

Chani. With her baby.
She doesn't look back.

C.U. Paul's face. A frightening determination in the eyes.
He quickly moves off in the opposite direction.

THU-THUMP...THUMP...THU-THUMP...

SMASH. CUT TO:

265 EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

He is now standing alone on the crest of a wide dune.
A fremkit on his back. Scanning the desert methodically.

THU-THUMP...THUMP...THU-THUMP...

And then...he HEARS IT. The sound of sand.
Rolling, twisting. Grinding against itself.

Paul doesn't move. He just stiffens himself against the wind.
Readies the maker hooks he carries.

DISSOLVE TO:

266 OMIT

267 OMIT

268 EXT. SIETCH TABR VALLEY - NIGHT

An eerie wind sweeps through these empty rocks where only a short time ago a vibrant Fremen community thrived. Now...

It's a ghost town. A deserted and spooky monument to their culture and history.

CAMERA FINDS...

Paul. Slipping through the rocks. Wandering out into the lonely basin. Staring up at that eroded but imposing statue of Mahdi.

A deep shudder clutches him. His breathing quickens.

268 INT. WORM CHAMBER; SIETCH TABR CAVERNS

Dark. Silent...except for the gentle "swish" of a stunted worm sweeping back and forth aimlessly in its prison.

CAMERA FINDS PAUL...staring on a balcony looking down into the sand pit. Immobile. Almost trancelike. As if steeling himself.

C.U. the GATES around the water moat.
Rising noisily. Allowing the pit to be flooded.

The WORM under the sand starts to thrash.
Lurching back and forth.
Trying to escape!

Paul steps into the pit.
Sinking into the water up to his waist.

269 EXT. DEEP DESERT....ARRAKIS - NIGHT

A lone figure expertly climbs the side of a massive dune. Dragging a cloak haphazardly to erase all evidence of footsteps.

CLOSER...

It's OTHEYM. Exhausted and frightened. Scanning the horizon. And in the distance...

The mountain range that shields Sietch Tabr.

The sky is darkening over it. Something ominous about it. Something...unnatural. The atmosphere is hypercharged. Cracking and sparking with electrical chaos.

270 EXT. SIETCH TABR VALLEY - SAME

CAMERA MOVES quickly up the stone carving of the Mahdi statue to FIND...

Paul stepping out into the cup of the Mahdi hands. Eyes wide with drugged intensity. Staring out at the valley.

But that's not what he sees.

What he SEES...(POV) is a violent cosmic STORM. An endless black vortex. Exploding within with violent flashes of light. Shrieking with a deafening roar. Coming closer...closer...

This is the same maelstrom that terrified Jessica when she took the "water of life". The one Mother Ramallo warned her not to go near.

It's coming straight for Paul. Unable or unwilling to turn away.

His hair is blowing wildly about his face. His skin is being drawn back against his skull. Almost as if he's experiencing incredible G-force.

271 EXT. MOUNTAIN PASSAGES; SIETCH TABR VALLEY - SAME

Otheym makes his way. Slowly...cautiously. Confused by...

The sky. Even darker now. An ugly wind is blowing.

(CONTINUED)

271 CONTINUED:

Suddenly...a VOICE cries out in the valley.
A cry of agony...or perhaps even of ecstasy.
Hard to tell.

272 EXT. SIETCH TABR VALLEY.....MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT

Otheym rushes on to the valley floor. SEES....

Paul. Collapsing out of sight into the hands of the Mahdi statue.

OTHEYM
Muad'Dib!!?

END ACT 3

ACT 4

FADE IN:

273 OMIT

274 INT. ROYAL PALACE, PLANET KAITAIN

Fenring leads the Baron and Feyd along...

A wide, majestic corridor where courtiers move swiftly about their business under the ever-alert gaze of the palace guard...and secret police, no doubt.

The Baron seems nervous at the sight of several "ambassadors" they pass.

BARON HARKONNEN

The Emperor is entertaining other Royal Houses as well?

COUNT FENRING

There is much to discuss.

Which doesn't exactly put the Baron at ease. But Feyd is distracted by...

PRINCESS IRULAN. On a balcony overlooking the corridor. Staring down at him.

Feyd acknowledges her with a slight nod.

275 INT. IMPERIAL LIBRARY.....SOMETIME LATER

The huge council table is unoccupied except for...

The Emperor. At its head. Flanked by Count Fenring on one side and...

That GUILD AGENT Paul freed on Arrakis on the other. Reverend Mother Mohiam stands close behind the Emperor.

BARON HARKONNEN

Majesty...you must understand...

He stands alone and vulnerable at the far end of the table.

BARON HARKONNEN

...these people are mad. The women throw their babies at us...hurl themselves onto our weapons to open a wedge for their men to attack.

(CONTINUED)

275 CONTINUED:

EMPEROR

Indeed.

BARON HARKONNEN

....I could wipe the planet clean of the entire race, Majesty. But then who would mine the spice? It's a terrible dilemma...

EMPEROR

Do you have any idea where this Muad'Dib character came from? What he wants? What his price is?

BARON HARKONNEN

He's a Fremen fanatic, a religious adventurer. They crop up regularly on the fringes of civilization. Your Majesty knows this. Most simply seem bent on suicide...

EMPEROR

Have you ever stared into the eyes of a religious fanatic, Baron?

(no answer)

Suicide and martyrdom are often the same thing!

276 EXT. GARDENS...IMPERIAL PALACE.....MOMENTS LATER

Fenring, the Reverend Mother and the Guild Agent follow the Emperor.

REVEREND MOTHER

It's a dangerous game he's playing. This rebellion must be crushed. Now!

GUILD AGENT

We agree. Something must be done... although we may not suggest what that is, of course..

COUNT FENRING

(quietly; reasonably)

We can not move on House Harkonnen unilaterally, Majesty. There are...complications in our relationship, hmmm?

The Emperor knows he's right.

(CONTINUED)

276 CONTINUED:

EMPEROR

Have the Royal Houses ready their armies.
We are moving the royal palace to
Arrakis.

GUILD AGENT

We will arrange transport.

EMPEROR

It's time to draw this Muad'Dib into the
open.

LONG DISSOLVE TO:

277 SIETCH TABR MOUNTAINS - DUSK

A 'THOPTER is parked near the edge of the cliffs.
A small party of Fedaykin is moving toward the cliffs.
Among them...

Chani.

278 EXT. ROCK STEPS, SIETCH TABR.....MOMENTS LATER - DUSK

She climbs the path with her bodyguard until she's met by...
Otheym. His expression precludes all conversation.
He hurries her through the rocks.

279 EXT. SIETCH TABR VALLEY.....MOMENTS LATER

Chani makes her way on to the open valley floor.
Astonished to SEE...

Fremen warriors. Hundreds of them! And...
The elder Fremen NAIBS....

...gathered together in hushed clusters. Watching her go.
Worried looks on their faces.

280 INT. PRIVATE QUARTERS.....MOMENTS LATER

Chani slips through the curtain. Surprised to find...
Jessica. Waiting for her.

CHANI

Reverend Mother...

Jessica smiles. Comes forward to hug Chani...who can't help
notice the nervous look between her and Otheym before he
slips back into the corridor.

(CONTINUED)

280 CONTINUED:

JESSICA
 (to Chani)
 You're well.

CHANI
 I am.

JESSICA
 And my grandson?

CHANI
 Happy and safe. With Alia and the women.
 I wanted to bring him with me...

JESSICA
 No. It's best this way.

A silence descends. Jessica turns away.

JESSICA
 And the sietch? Things are well?

Chani pauses before answering. Something's going on here.

CHANI
 We try to keep busy. There are weapons to
 make. Rites to be observed...

Another uncomfortable silence. And then...

CHANI
 And so I've travelled quickly in a
 contraband 'thopter. I've arrived to find
 the Naibs of our sietches assembled here.
 I've felt their stares as I'm brought to
 you. And I begin to worry...why has
 Muad'Dib summoned me so urgently?

JESSICA
 I summoned you.
 (off Chani's look)
 I signed his name...to make sure you
 wouldn't hesitate.

Chani says nothing. Waiting for the other shoe to drop.

JESSICA
 Stilgar has convened a Gathering.

CHANI
 (stiffening)
 Muad'Dib called him out!?

(CONTINUED)

280 CONTINUED:

JESSICA

No. Stilgar thought it best they were here in case...

Chani doesn't move. Doesn't react. Doesn't say anything. But her eyes are demanding an explanation. And fast.

JESSICA

I suspect the Harkonnen have managed to slip an agent among us...to poison Paul...

(Chani gasps)

..it's the only explanation that makes any sense...

CHANI

He's...dead?

JESSICA

He's unconscious.

281 INT. CORRIDORS, SIETCH TABR.....MOMENTS LATER

Jessica leads Chani through these narrow, dim-lit passageways. Neither talks as they hurry along toward...

Fedaykin bodyguards. Standing alert and serious by a door to...

282 INT. PAUL'S CHAMBER

Empty and dark except for a muted glowglobe through soft warm light over...

Paul. Lying on a pallet under some blankets. So still he looks dead.

Chani and Jessica approach quietly, slowly. Chani is barely hanging on to her self-control.

JESSICA

He's alive. I assure you...he's alive. But the thread of life is so thin...most everyone thinks he's not.

CHANI

How long has he been this way?

JESSICA

Almost to the day you left. Otheym found him here. The experience has shaken him.

(CONTINUED)

282 CONTINUED:

Chani kneels down next to him. Reaches out tentatively to caress his face.

JESSICA

I spent a week trying to revive him. But it's been no use. There have been meetings, arguments...some of the elders think it's time to...to take his water.

CHANI

Who else knows?

JESSICA

Stilgar. The Naibs. The Fedaykin, of course.

CHANI

And what do the Fedaykin think?

JESSICA

They think he's in a sacred trance. Gathering his holy powers before the final battles.

(beat)

I've encouraged this view.

Jessica looks like she's about collapse. All her reserve, all her poise is drowning in a flood of fear for her son.

JESSICA

You have to help, Chani.
You're...my last hope. I need you...please...tell me what to do.

Chani is amazingly calm and collected. Just a front perhaps...hiding a riot of fear inside. But...

She reaches out for Jessica's hands. Holds them reassuringly. It's as if in this moment, their roles have been reversed. Chani is the Reverend Mother, Jessica the acolyte.

Chani leans down to Paul. Tries to hear his breathing. Tries to hear his heartbeat. And then...

She kisses him on the mouth. Tenderly but prolonged. And then she sits up abruptly.

Her lips are moist from his. And she can taste him. And her eyes narrow with suspicion.

CHANI

This is not poison.

(CONTINUED)

282 CONTINUED:

JESSICA

What do you mean?

A beat. Then...

CHANI

The Fedaykin are right, Reverend Mother.
Muad'Dib is in a trance. A dangerous
trance.

(beat)

He has taken the Water of Life.

This hits Jessica like a thunderbolt.

END ACT 4

ACT 5

283 EXT. DEEP SPACE

The planet ARRAKIS floats in the ebony void like a stained pearl. But poised nearby...

A fleet of HEIGHLINERS. Those colossal interstellar transports operated by the Spacing Guild. And their satellites....

War ships. Many different designs and sizes. Hovering around a magnificent IMPERIAL CRUISER. Like worker bees attending a Queen.

The collective force of the Empire...
Massed against the dreary looking planet below.

284 INT. PAUL'S QUARTERS, SIETCH TABR - DAY

Chani maintains a vigil over Paul's apparently lifeless body when...

Jessica returns with a small water-stained sack.
As she kneels next to Chani...

JESSICA
(re the sack)

The raw water of a drowned Maker. I have
not changed it yet.

The two women share an unspoken moment of utter dread.

JESSICA
It could kill him.

CHANI
It's our only hope.

And she carefully opens the sack. The pungent odor of the water makes her wince.

She dips her finger into the fluid, then puts it under Paul's nose. Waving it slowly as if it were smelling salts.

And his nostrils flare. Jessica gasps.

Chani dips her fingers again. This time she touches them to Paul's lips. And that's when...

(CONTINUED)

284 CONTINUED:

Paul suddenly sucks in a long, sobbing breath.
Jessica grabs Chani's arm.

His eyes fly open. He's staring straight at them.
But he doesn't see them.

 CHANI
 (softly)
Muad'Dib...beloved....

 JESSICA
Paul...

Slowly his eyes focus on them.

 PAUL
Chani...what are you doing here?
 (looking around; disoriented)
I was outside...just a moment ago...

 JESSICA
Otheym found you. He brought you back...

 CHANI
You drank the Water of Life.

A beat. Then...

 PAUL
Yes.

And his eyes gleam with excitement.

 JESSICA
We thought you...you were dead.

 PAUL
You have no idea...

And a strange, frightening grin sweeps over him.
He reaches out. Grabs his mother's hands and...

Jessica jerks...as if suddenly seized by electric current.

 CHANI
Reverend Mother....

Chani's voice reverberates unnaturally.
The room starts to vibrate. Colors drain away.

285 INT. SOUTHERN SIETCH - SAME

Little Alia is playing on the carpet with baby Leto when suddenly...

She freezes. Her eyes roll back in her head.
Her body trembles. She falls back in some kind of seizure.

286 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - SAME

The Emperor is standing at a huge, table studying battle plans with advisors...including Reverend Mother Mohiam...

... who must suddenly turn away. Clutching her head in pain.
All the voices are distorted. Unintelligible.
Everyone's movement is abnormally slow and labored.

287 EXT. DESERT...PLANET ARAKIS - SAME

Color is hyper-saturated. Unreal.
Dervishes of sand dance across the dunes.

The sun and moons arc through the sky in rapid succession.
Day becomes night becomes day becomes night....

And standing on the crest of a dune...buffeted by wind and sand...

Jessica and Paul. Glowing.

PAUL

I have been places you can't possibly
imagine. I have seen things there are not
words to describe...

JESSICA

(breathless)

You've seen the future...

PAUL

The NOW, Mother. The future and the past.
All at once. All the same!

The changes in the sky come faster. More violent.
The atmosphere around them is suddenly charged.

288 INT. DESERT SIETCH

Alia is on the ground. Still trembling.
A milky substance oozes from the corners of her eyes.

The Fremen women around her have no idea what's going on.

289 EXT. CORRIDOR...INMPERIAL CRUISER

Reverend Mother Mohiam staggers to a bench.
Doubles over in pain. Crying tears of...

That same milky substance.

290 EXT. ARAKIS DESERT

A great noise envelopes Paul and Jessica.
Louder and louder.

PAUL
I AM THE WHIRLWIND...

And there...in front of them... like a rip in the sky...

A giant tornado forms. Tearing a hole in the reality around
it. Dragging everything into it until there is nothing left.

This is the maelstrom that Paul went into after taking the
Water of Life. The same cosmic storm Jessica was warned of by
Mother Ramallo.

JESSICA
PAUL....I CAN'T GO THERE....I'M AFRAID...
I'M SO AFRAID...IT IS THE PLACE WE CAN
NOT GO!

PAUL
THAT IS WHY I HAVE COME!

291 EXT. CORRIDOR...IMPERIAL CRUISER

Reverend Mother Mohiam cries out in extreme agony.

292 INT. DESERT SIETCH

Little Alia is still trembling.
But with a peculiar and exhilarated smile.

293 EXT. ARRAKIS DESERT

Jessica is terrified of Paul.

JESSICA
YOU...ARE...THE KWISATZ HADERACH....

PAUL
NO, MOTHER. I AM SOMETHING MORE. I AM
SOMETHING UNEXPECTED. I AM THE FULCRUM.
THE GIVER AND THE TAKER. I AM THE ONE WHO
CAN BE MANY PLACES AT ONCE. I AM THE
MASTER OF FATE...I AM THE TOOL OF FATE.

And the sky explodes in front of them. Rings of light expand and contract all around them. Tumescient white shapes flow over...under...around...and through them.

The noise is deafening. And that's when Jessica looks down. And screams.

And there are bodies everywhere around them. A sea of them.

Jessica tries to cover her ears and her eyes.
Desperately trying to shut out the horror.
And... everything suddenly gets quiet.

CHANI'S VOICE
Reverend Mother....

Jessica finally looks up. She's back in....

294 INT. PAUL'S QUARTERS, SIETCH TABR

In exactly the same position she was when Paul took her hand.

CHANI
(to Jessica)
Are you sick?

Jessica is ashen. How can she explain what she's just seen?

(CONTINUED)

294 CONTINUED:

JESSICA

I'm fine.

Paul gently lets go of her. Falls back on his pallet with a long sigh.

PAUL

Now...you understand.

295 EXT. SIETCH TABR VALLEY.....MOMENTS LATER - DUSK

Stilgar and Gurney are sitting with the Naibs. Their conversations are hushed. Intense.

But suddenly everything gets ominously quiet when they SEE...

Paul. Emerging on to the balcony of the Mahdi statue! A little unsteady on his feet. Flanked by Jessica and Chani. Stepping out on the statues hands. Staring down at...

The men... jumping to their feet. Elated and nervous at the same time. No one says anything until...

PAUL

The Padishah Emperor is here. In the space above us. With his favorite Truthsayer and legions of his Sardaukar.

The men murmur with astonishment.

PAUL

Every Great House has its raiders here. Baron Harkonnen is with them.

STILGAR

But, Muad'Dib, how can you know this?

PAUL

I've seen them.

GURNEY

M'Lord, we got word only this morning...from our smuggler allies. They've been ordered off the planet or suffer the consequences...

STILGAR

You were unconscious...

PAUL

Not unconscious.

(CONTINUED)

295 CONTINUED:

CHANI

Muad'Dib has seen through the Water of
Life.

A collective gasp rushes among them.

STILGAR

(to Jessica)

Reverend Mother, is this true?

JESSICA

(nodding)

He has seen.

More murmurs. More whispers. And then...

VOICES/SHOUTING

Mahdi!!!!

Everyone turns. It's Otheym...and the Fedaykin.
Wild-eyed and keyed up. As if intoxicated.

OTHEYM

You are the voice from the outer world.
You are the prophet brought to us by
Shai'hulud. You must take your place,
Muad'dib. We've waited long enough. You
must do it now!

This is a frightening deja vu. A moment just like Paul's
vision earlier in the desert with Stilgar.

The men shift nervously. But Paul just surveys the valley
with calm, unblinking eyes...until...

He pulls the crysknife from his belt.
Holds it up for all to see.

PAUL

Do you live for the good of the tribe,
Stilgar?

STILGAR

(stepping forward)

There is no other way.

PAUL

For the good of the tribe, would you
stand here and let me drive this blade
into your heart?

Jessica gasps. Grabs Chani's arm.
Gurney is so stunned he can't speak.

(CONTINUED)

295 CONTINUED:

STILGAR

(resigned)

Are you calling me out?

OTHEYM

It is the way, Stilgar.

PAUL

Ways change!

And he suddenly hurls the crysknife at them.

It speeds down the statue like a missile. Slamming into the ground just millimeters from Otheym's feet.

The Fedaykin are so startled by Paul's heresy, they don't move.

OTHEYM

Hard tasks need hard ways. You must become our Naib so you can lead us into against the Harkonnen.

PAUL

And would you smash your knife before starting that war? Would you cut off your right arm and leave it bloody on the floor? Do you think the Mahdi is that STUPID!???

The men are stunned silent.

PAUL

You say I am the prophet...the voice that will lead you out of the wilderness.

(beat)

Then I ask you, is there anyone here who thinks he could best me on the killing floor. Come, now. I've seen the doubt in your eyes these past months, I've seen the impatience. Say it...if you think it. Pull that knife and step forward!

But no one speaks. No one moves.

PAUL

There isn't a man among you who could stand against me in single combat. Stilgar included!

Confusion saturates the silence.

(CONTINUED)

295 CONTINUED:

PAUL

Must I prove it by calling out the Naib of every sietch on the planet? Must I cripple myself by killing all of our strongest and wisest leaders just to satisfy some mindless ritual?

His words are getting through. Their ritual blood lust is slowly being tempered by reason.

And Paul pulls something from his pocket. Lifts it into the air so all can see.

PAUL

You say I am the Mahdi. I say, I am your DUKE!

And for the first time...Paul slips his father's ring on his finger. Then he raises his hand in the air...clenched in a fist. The ring gleams.

PAUL

And it's time NOW to wipe Arrakis clean of the awful Harkonnen stench...time to drive their name into the depths of hell so that we may reclaim this planet and create paradise. TOGETHER!

The valley is deadly quiet. The silence is brutal. Until... Chani steps up beside Paul.

CHANI

As Liet taught us.

Still, no one moves. No one says anything. And then... Stilgar steps out from the crowd.

STILGAR

As Liet taught us...

The Fedaykin shuffle aimlessly behind Otheym. Unsure how to react. But Otheym is now more impassioned than ever.

He comes forward, too. Stands with Stilgar.

OTHEYM

Long live the Duke. Long live Duke Paul Muad'Dib!

Another Fedaykin steps forward.

(CONTINUED)

295 CONTINUED:

FEDAYKIN

Ya hya chouhada! Muad'Dib! Long live the
fighters of Muad'Dib.

Another Fedaykin picks up the chant. And then another. And
another. Stabbing the air with their crysknives.

FEDAYKIN

Ya hya chouhada! Muad'Dib! Long live the
fighters of Muad'Dib.

Soon, the room is reverberating with their frenzied cries.

VOICES

Muad'Dib...Muad'Dib...MUAD'DIB...

And that's when...

An amazing thing happens. The HANDS of the Mahdi STATUE start
to bleed! WATER! Pure, clean, crystal water...

...slowly at first. Raining down into the valley.
But soon...

...pouring off the statue. A torrent. Cascading over the
rocky fingers onto the Fremmen below.

VOICES

MAHDI...MAHDI...MAHDI....

CAMERA FINDS...Jessica. Standing alone in the shadows.
Watching the messianic fever sweep the valley.
Eyes finally closing with fear.

296 INT. DESERT SIETCH - SAME

Little Alia is playing once again with Paul and Chani's son.
As if nothing had happened. If anything, she seems refreshed.
Carefree.

ALIA

(to the infant)

You're father is a great man.

Little Leto laughs and claps his hands.
And Alia smiles laughs too. A childlike giggle.

297 CORRIDORS, IMPERIAL CRUISER - SAME

Reverend Mother Mohiam has been laid out on a couch.
Bene Gesserit nuns are covering her legs with blankets.
Others are scurrying about the room in a panic.

The Emperor, himself, pushes through the crush.
The Reverend Mother grabs his cloak.

REVEREND MOTHER

(using the Voice)

You must convince the Guild not to delay
any longer. You must tell them the thing
they fear most is at hand. Tell them if
they don't allow us to attack...the spice
will not flow! They will become blind!

The Emperor is clearly shaken by this prophecy.

END ACT 5

ACT 6

FADE IN:

298 EXT. LEDGE...SIETCH TABR - DAWN

Paul is standing alone. Staring up at the sky when...
Stilgar comes out to join him.

STILGAR

The men have gathered the supplies. We're
almost ready to depart.

Paul nods. Still staring at the sky.
Stilgar looks up, too.

STILGAR

What are they waiting for?

PAUL

For permission.

(off Stilgar's look)

They know the Guild will strand any force
that lands here without its consent.

STILGAR

The Guilds protecting us?

PAUL

They're afraid, Stil. Afraid of what's
coming. They're searching for a way out.

(beat)

They're searching for me.

STILGAR

What are we going to do?

PAUL

Let them find me.

299 INT. PASSAGEWAYS, SIETCH TABR.....LATER - DAWN

Otheym makes his way purposefully through these dim tunnels
until he reaches the small curtain to a private chamber.

He hesitates. But...

PAUL'S VOICE

Come, Otheym.

300 INT. PAUL'S CHAMBERS, SIETCH TABR - SAME

Otheym steps inside to find Paul alone. Meditating. Paul gestures slightly...and Otheym sits. After a long moment...

PAUL

I want you to choose several of your best men. Ones you trust above all others. Separate them from the rest before we withdraw from here.

OTHEYM

As you wish...

PAUL

Send them to the reservoirs in the Habbanya Erg...

Otheym's eyes widen with surprise.

PAUL

...have them collect the Water of Life we've hidden there...

OTHEYM

Muad'Dib, I...I don't understand. Those are changed Waters. Hidden there in case something should happen to the Reverend Mother...

PAUL

(ignoring him)

...have the men find a pre-spice mass. As large as possible. Have them plant the Waters above the mass...and wait for my orders.

Otheym's eyes glaze with horror. His face goes ashen.

OTHEYM

Do you realize what you're asking me to do?

Paul doesn't answer. But his eyes say he knows. He knows all too well.

OTHEYM

What you've asked will be done, Muad'Dib.

And the shaken Fedaykin leaves. Quickly.

301 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - MORNING

Courtiers and clerks, ladies and their attendants, nobles and their pages, hangers-on and parasites. The sycophants of Court. Imperial groupies...along for the ride.

Music is playing. The atmosphere is almost celebratory. As if the rebellion below was but an amusing pass-time...a brief occasion to "rough it" in the hinterlands of Empire.

Seems the only person taking the moment seriously is...

Princess Irulan. Standing apart from the others. Staring out a large window at planet Arrakis... Floating in space several miles away.

Feyd slides up close to her. Intimately close. She conceals her disdain.

FEYD

I've decided were alike. You and me...

IRULAN

Have you?

FEYD

When this dusty little nuisance is over, I'll convince you.

IRULAN

I'd be confused if you didn't try.

FEYD

I know. That's why we're alike.

(off her look)

We don't like to be confused. We like to be certain.

She looks him in the eye for the first time. Seems to be suppressing a smirk.

IRULAN

Sometime, remind me to tell you about the ancient legend of the Phoenix.

She smiles vaguely, then moves off. Leaving Feyd intrigued...if not confused.

VOICE

That's it...beautiful boy...

He turns to SEE...

(CONTINUED)

301 CONTINUED:

Baron Harkonnen. Coming up behind him.

BARON HARKONNEN

...you may find a way for us yet.

FEYD

She'd make a fine trophy on Harkonnen
linen, wouldn't she...?

302 INT. COMMAND CENTER (ANOTHER ANGLE) - SAME

The Emperor and his advisors sit at a conference table
listening to...

An Imperial General who stands nervously in front of them.

EMPEROR

The Baron insists the southern areas are
uninhabitable.

GENERAL

The Baron is...mistaken.

EMPEROR

Fremen?

GENERAL

There have been reports. Only a few were
investigated, according to Harkonnen
documents. Cost to profit too high,
apparently. Many 'thopters were lost.
Even smugglers won't venture there.

(CONTINUED)

302 CONTINUED:

The advisors around the Emperor murmur quietly among themselves. The Emperor looks across the table to...

That gaunt, vampiric Guild Agent. Conferring with an associate. He meets the Emperor's stare. Nods slightly. A signal of approval.

EMPEROR

(to the General)

Send a light attack force immediately. I want ground reconnaissance. Perhaps this Muad'Dib thinks he can continue to attack us then retreat to the wilderness where we dare not follow. Well, I'm about to strangle his options.

303 EXT. HARG PASS - SUNSET

A severe cut in a mountain range surrounded by endless dunes. And in a small basin area overlooking the pass...

Paul is placing his father's skull in a tiny vault carved into the wall.

Paul seals the vault shut.

PAUL

Let all Fremmen who pass here pause and pay homage to the Shrine of Duke Leto Atreides...and to all who've died in the service of justice.

FREMEN

Bi-la kaifa.

Slowly the men disperse. But as they do...

...one remains. At first it's difficult to see who it is. But soon there's not doubt. It's DUKE LETO. Staring at his son. A tender, paternal smile on his face.

Paul doesn't look away. He's neither startled, nor afraid. And then....

Duke Leto's image evaporates. Like mist in a breeze. Was he even there?

Suddenly...Jessica is there. Moving up to Paul as...

...he turns away to stare out over the desert.

(CONTINUED)

303 CONTINUED:

PAUL

Now all we need is a storm. A great
grandmother of a storm...

JESSICA

Seems you'll have it soon enough.

PAUL

From here the future will open. The
clouds will part to reveal its glory.

(CONTINUED)

303 CONTINUED:

JESSICA

And it gives me no peace.

He turns to her. Confused by her melancholy.

JESSICA

I've seen what you've seen, Paul. I know what's coming. I know what you're about to let loose. Not just here on Arrakis... but across the entire universe.

PAUL

I am powerless to stop it.

JESSICA

Are you?

After a beat...

PAUL

A terrible purpose awaits us, Mother. This vast organism we call humanity is about to reinvent itself from the ashes of its own complacency. The sleeper has awakened. And anything that tries to stop it now will be crushed.

JESSICA

Even the innocent?

PAUL

There are no innocents anymore.

JESSICA

Your father would never have spoken this way.

PAUL

I am not my father.

JESSICA

You are his son!

A terrible sadness seems to sweep over him.

PAUL

More than his son. Much more... thanks to you.

(off her look)

Take a good look at me, Mother. Come see a thing I learned after I took the waters of life.

(CONTINUED)

303 CONTINUED:

His voice, his stare frighten her. She can't conceal it.

PAUL

Look at my eyes, Mother. Look back through them...into my blood. See Harkonnen blood...flowing in mine. It flows from you!

JESSICA

I...I won't believe it.

PAUL

Who is your father?

Jessica is speechless.

PAUL

Tell me

JESSICA

You know I can't.

PAUL

WHO?

JESSICA

I don't know. I don't know. I've never known.

PAUL

Because they hid it from you.

JESSICA

Because they took me when I was an infant..raised me in the Bene Gesserit ways... like all the others before and since. None know their mothers...or their fathers.

PAUL

The Baron Harkonnen, mother! You're his daughter! The product of a clever seduction. The handiwork of your precious Bene Gesserit breeding programs. I'm his grandson!

Jessica staggers to the wall. Braces herself there.

PAUL

They thought they could control things. But they couldn't control you. You changed everything. You had a son. And now I'm here. The one they were seeking.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

303 CONTINUED:

PAUL (cont'd)

But I've arrived before my time. And
they're just beginning to realize it.

Suddenly...a harsh, cold wind sweeps up the pass with an
unearthly howl. Jessica clutches the wall to keep her
balance.

But Paul simply turns to face it. He doesn't even sway.

JESSICA

My God, what have I done...?

304 EXT. ROCK OUTCROPPING - SUNSET

A small band of Fedaykin are gathered here.
Standing watch over a cache of barrels.

Nearby, their leader scans the rolling dunes. And he SEES...

Two more Fremmen (POV). Many miles distant.
Moving expertly across the dunes.
Probing the sand with long poles.

The leader puts down the goggles. Turns to the others.

LEADER

They've found a pre-spice mass. A large
nest...from the looks of it.

But instead of relief, extreme anxiety rushes over the men.

LEADER

Let's get ready to move.

The men reluctantly push themselves up.

FREMEN

(to the leader)

And what happens after we plant the Water?

LEADER

We do as Otheym said. We wait. Wait for
Muad'Dib to decide.

No comfort to the men, apparently.

FREMEN

Shai-hulud have mercy on us.

306 SMALL GARDEN....DESERT SIETCH - DAY

Alia is working with some small plants when...she stiffens.
The terrible concussion of 'thopter engines pounds the air.

ALIA

They're coming...

But instead of fear, a strange, resigned sadness flows into
her eyes as she looks up to see...

Imperial 'Thopters. Bearing down on the mountains from the
north.

Somewhere in the sietch a shrill whistle rings out.
There's a sudden flurry of activity. People are running.

Alia gets to her feet. Sprints for the cave entrance.
She never gets there.

BAAAVVOOOOMMMMM

A missile explodes on the wall in front of her.
Throwing her back across the garden...
...where she lands unconscious.

306 EXT. SOUTHERN SIETCH MOUNTAINS.....MOMENTS LATER

Imperial 'thopters are laying down missile cover as...

An Imperial TROOP FRIGATE lands at the foot of the mountain.
Disgoring its payload of SARDAUKAR stormtroops.

Screaming Fremen women and old men charge out of the rocks to
meet them. The fighting is brutal.

The Fremen are outmanned and out-gunned. The Sardaukar don't
hesitate to use lasguns and projectile weapons.

Even so...they're stunned by the ferociousness of their
enemy. It's all they can do to battle their way in.

Within moments, the dead and wounded are everywhere.
On both sides. The carnage is horrifying.

Even dying Fremen keep fighting...stabbing at passing
Sardaukar, tripping them, trapping them under their broken
bodies where they're savagely finished off.

307 SMALL ROOM...SOUTHERN SIETCH - SAME

A young FREMEN WOMAN is here. Shielding little LETO behind her. The boy is crying. Terrified by the noise.

Suddenly...Sardaukar troops burst into the room. The woman throws herself at them in a mad frenzy so wild they can't control her. But finally...

She's brought down. And the Sardaukar turn to the boy. And that's when...AN EYE BLINKS.

SMASH CUT TO:

PAUL'S FACE. Seeing this happen in the void of his vision.

CHANI'S VOICE

Muad'Dib?

308 INT. PRIVATE QUARTERS...ANOTHER SIETCH SOMEWHERE - SAME

Chani jerks up on the pallet. As if awakened from a horrible nightmare. She is shivering uncontrollably. Staring at...

Paul. In the doorway across the room.

CHANI

Muad'Dib...what is it?

PAUL

Our son...is dead.

END ACT 6

ACT 7

OVER BLACK:

STILGAR'S VOICE
Will you look at that thing?

FADE IN:

309 EXT. CITY OF ARRAKEEN - PREDAWN

Shimmering in the dawn a great distance away.
But what's most impressive is...

The IMPERIAL CRUISER. Parked in the airfield just outside the city. Gleaming in this early light like a platinum bauble. And attached to it...

A quilted metal building. A temporary tent-like structure of interlocking leaves. Several stories tall. Fanning out in a thousand meter circle around the Cruiser.

It's the ROYAL PALACE. The Emperor has moved it where whole!

STILGAR'S VOICE
I count nine levels.

GURNEY'S VOICE
The fools brought the whole palace with him.

REVEAL...

310 EXT. SHIELD WALL LEDGE - PREDAWN

Paul, Stilgar and Gurney.
Surveying the city with their goggles.

PAUL
My dear Emperor... I am about to shatter your sanity...and then I'm going to destroy you...

The wind is picking up.

POV...shifting to activity on the airfield. Harkonnen 'thopters next to Imperial frigates and troop carriers. Soldiers busily tethering the ships and moving supplies.

GURNEY
Not a 'thopter in the sky. Everything's being pulled in and tied down.

(CONTINUED)

310 CONTINUED:

STILGAR

They know a storms coming. Their friends
in space have told them for sure.

PAUL

They'll be counting on the mountains to
blunt it's force.

He turns to Stilgar.

PAUL

Is the city prepared?

STILGAR

As soon as we give the signal, the people
will erupt like a spice blast.

PAUL

Have the men in the flats prepare the
thumpers.

Stilgar moves back into the rocks.
Paul turns back to the city.

PAUL

Time to let them know I'm here.

311 EXT. CAVE...THE SHIELD WALL MOUNTAINS - DAWN

The SARDAUKAR ASSASSIN that was captured with Gurney, sits
alone in a cul de sac of rocks. Filthy clothes. Dishevelled
hair. A dark shadow sweeps over him.

It's Paul. Coming to sit opposite the Sardaukar.
He says nothing for a long time. Then...

PAUL

You know who I am.

SARDAUKAR

The one they call Muad'Dib. I remember.

PAUL

Good. I am about to set you free.

The Sardaukar straightens up for the first time.

PAUL

And you must take this with you.

He pulls a document from his cloak. Hands it over.
The Sardaukar reads. His hands start to shake.

(CONTINUED)

311 CONTINUED:

SARDAUKAR

This...these are terms for surrender.

PAUL

(losing control)

They...killed...my...son!

His eyes glare with madness. For a moment, he looks completely insane. Even the Sardaukar assassin is frightened.

SARDAUKAR

I...can't do this.

PAUL

(suddenly calm again)

You have no choice.

The Sardaukar stares back and forth between the document and Paul. Trying to make sense of the surreality of it all.

PAUL

Don't be afraid.

Finally, the Sardaukar folds the document up.

PAUL

Good.

Otheym hurries into the cell.

PAUL

Clean him up. Give him one of the Sardaukar uniforms we've taken. Full-rank insignia. Let him face his master with dignity.

As the Sardaukar gets up to go with Otheym...

SARDAUKAR

You're mad. You know that...

PAUL

After you return with the Emperor's answer, we can discuss who's mad.

312 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - DAWN

C.U. the EMPEROR'S HANDS. Shredding Paul's terms for surrender into ever more tiny pieces.

EMPEROR

THE ARROGANCE. THE UTTER LUNACY....

(CONTINUED)

312 CONTINUED:

The Emperor's face is beet red with fury.
He throws the scraps of paper into the face of...

The poor Sardaukar who delivered the message...now clean and shaven...desperately trying to maintain his poise.

The rest of the Court shuffles nervously at the edges of the room. Stunned silent by this outburst.

Irulan watches her father with a hyper-alert stare as...
Baron Harkonnen finally steps forward. Feyd close behind.

BARON HARKONNEN

Majesty, if I may suggest...the time has come to loose the forces of Empire against these scum. Scour the planet. Annihilate every man, woman and child of them. Let their screams echo to the very corners of the universe. A warning to all others that total genocide awaits such insolent rebellion...

EMPEROR

SHUT YOUR MOUTH!

The Baron jerks. His mouth hangs slack.

EMPEROR

It's you I have to thank for this mess.
You and your hapless family, Baron.

BARON HARKONNEN

(looking around the room)
Majesty, I really don't think this is the time to revisit old strategies...

EMPEROR

I SAID QUIET!
(turning back to the Sardaukar)
So...he wants an answer does he?

He signals to the guards at huge doors. Sardaukar stormtroopers enter. Escorting a small GIRL.

ALIA!

The room is awash with murmurs and titters. But Alia ignores them. She comes forward with a confidence that quickly quiets the room.

ON IRULAN...stiffening noticeably. Moving forward for a better look. Something about Alia frightens and excites the Princess.

(CONTINUED)

312 CONTINUED: 312

Alia stops in front of Baron Harkonnen.

ALIA

So, here he is. The fat Baron, himself.
He's not much, is he?

BARON HARKONNEN

(flabbergasted)

What is this...some kind of midget?

EMPEROR

My dear Baron. Meet the sister of the one
they call Muad'Dib.

And off the Barons stupefied look...

SMASH CUT TO :

313 EXT. SHIELD WALL LEDGE - DAWN

The wind is blowing furiously now. Paul has burrowed into a tight crevice in the rocks. Sheltered from nature's violence pounding the mountains behind him.

He surveys the city and the Emperor's palace in the distance when...

Gurney and Stilgar slip in beside him.

STILGAR

The storm attacks, Muad'dib.

PAUL

(re the city)

Their shields just went up. Looks like we
have our answer.

STILGAR

The thumpers have been activated.

Paul turns to Gurney.

PAUL

It's time, Gurney.

314 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - DAWN

Agitated murmuring still ripples through the room.

(CONTINUED)

314 CONTINUED:

EMPEROR

You see, Baron, I sent an attack force to investigate activity in the southern regions...to bring back prisoners....

BARON HARKONNEN

No. No one survives there. Too many storms. Too many wild worms....

EMPEROR

It appears these people have learned how to avoid them. Only a handful of my troops got away with their lives! Sardaukar, Baron! Almost overwhelmed by women and old men.

BARON HARKONNEN

Majesty...I had no idea.

ALIA

He's lying, of course.

EMPEROR

Quiet, child.

ALIA

(clapping her hands with glee)
Make him afraid some more.

EMPEROR

I said be quiet! It's time to bring this sorry episode to a close. Time for your brother to surrender...as the price for your life.

ALIA

No!

A collective gasp sweeps through the room.

ALIA

(turning to the Emperor)
I don't take orders from you, old man!

Her eyes are burning with a fury that visibly frightens the people in the room.

EMPEROR

It's not wise to be so impudent, child.
You do not want to feel the full force of my power...

(CONTINUED)

314 CONTINUED:

ALIA

I am beyond your power. Ask...HER!

And she points. To someone behind the Emperor.

ALIA

She knows!

A strained, hoarse voice finally calls out.

VOICE

KILL HER!

All eyes turn to SEE...

The Reverend Mother Mohiam. Eyes sunken and dark. Voice trembling. Being escorted by other Bene Gesserits.

REVEREND MOTHER

Kill her now! She is the Abomination. The one the Ancients warned us about.

EMPEROR

What is this?

The Reverend Mother staggers. Cries out in pain. And now...

Irulan steps out of the crowd. Coming up to Alia.

IRULAN

(to the Emperor)

Look at her, Father. Don't you see it? She is the daughter of Duke Leto. She is Atreides!

(to the Baron)

Her brother is the Duke's son, Paul. He is the Muad'Dib.

BARON HARKONNEN

IMPOSSIBLE!

The Emperor glares at Alia. Who simply smiles back.

315 EXT. SHIELD WALL LEDGE - DAWN

Paul is facing Stilgar and Gurney.

PAUL

Have faith. The endgame has already been written...

(CONTINUED)

315 CONTINUED:

Gurney hesitates.

PAUL

Do it, Gurney. Do it...NOW!

And Gurney finally retrieves a small TRIGGER DEVICE from his cloak. His face tightens. He jaw clenches...and...

He presses the button.

316 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - DAWN

REVEREND MOTHER

She's in my mind! Kill her...kill her!

She is waving her hands in front of her. As if trying to ward off some vile force attacking from all sides. But...

Little Alia just stands there.
Alone in the center of the room.

Everyone has backed away from her...fearing some contagion, some spell thrown off by this child/demon. And that's when...

They feel it. The trembling. The shaking.
And then they hear it. The roar of shock waves.
Surging through the ground like an earthquake.

ALIA

MY BROTHER COMES!!!!!!

A wall of the cruiser suddenly slides back to reveal...

A panoramic view of the city...
And the Shield Wall mountains beyond.

And there...in the middle of the scarred butte, a huge flume of smoke and fire rages into the sky.

GENERAL

(rushing up to the Emperor)

The Shield Wall is breached...

And now they can see it. The STORM. Surging through the blasted mountain like a tidal wave.

GENERAL

The perimeter shields won't hold against that!

317 EXT. ARRAKEEN

He's right! The storm pounds with horrendous force into the electronic dome arcing over the city.

Monstrous Jacob's Ladders of pulsating energy leap hundreds of feet into the sky.

318 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - DAWN

Emergency sirens are shrieking. People are panicked. The Emperor is frozen at the sight of the chaos around him. Until...

The sound of explosions draws his attention back to the Shield wall where he can SEE...

Ignition bursts of rockets being launched.

319 EXT. AIRFIELDS

Missiles begin to rain down everywhere. Buildings and aircraft disintegrate. The area is instant inferno.

Those Harkonnen and Sardaukar not blown to bits scatter aimlessly, some on fire...screaming hideously.

320 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - DAWN

The Emperor can't believe what he's seeing.

Over the mountains (POV)...a swarm of 'THOPTERS are bearing down on Arrakeen. All dressed with the INSIGNIA of HOUSE ATREIDES.

321 EXT. AIRFIELDS

Sardaukar and Harkonnen soldiers scramble to get fighters in the air. But blasts from the Freemen 'thopters vaporize them.

322 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - DAWN

Little Alia remains motionless in the center of the room. Impervious to the pandemonium. Lost in the exhilaration of what's to come.

(CONTINUED)

322 CONTINUED:

GENERAL

(to the Emperor)

Majesty, we must fall back to space and reform...

EMPEROR

(turning on Alia)

GIVE HER BODY TO THE STORM!

ALIA

LET THE STORM HAVE WHAT IT CAN TAKE!

And that's when Baron Harkonnen darts forward to grab her.

BARON HARKONNEN

Majesty....I have her...!!!

But Alia spins like a dervish.
Slices her hand across the Baron's neck.

He screams. Falls back into Feyd.

ALIA

Goodbye, Grandfather. You have finally met the Atreides Gorn Jabbar!

And she drops a small, dark needle from her hand.
It "clicks" loudly on the floor.

The Baron's eyes bug out of his head as he stares at it.
His neck swells instantly. He starts to gag and spasm.

Feyd drops him in horror and disgust. And that's when...

A massive explosion blows a gaping hole in the side of the building.

GENERAL

THEY'VE SHOT THE NOSE OFF OUR SHIP. WE CAN'T LIFT OFF

And that's when the Emperor SEES...

A sight so horrible as to make him speechless.
All he can do is raise his hand and point. Because...

There...in the distance (POV)...streaming through the blasted out canyon of the mountains...

A phalanx of...WORMS! Sweeping onto the plains below in disciplined wedge formation. There must a hundred of them.

323 EXT. BATTLE PLAINS...OUTSIDE CITY

The WORMS surge forward. Being driven toward the city by....
Screaming FREMEN fanatics. Thousands of them.
Their shrieks louder than the storm itself.

And in the lead...PAUL. With Gurney and Stilgar behind him.

324 INT. COMMAND CENTER, IMPERIAL CRUISER - DAWN

GENERAL

Majesty, we must retreat!

He grabs the Emperor. Drags him away into the commotion...
...tripping over the still convulsing corpse of Baron
Harkonnen. The last thing the Emperor SEES is...

The black-caped figure of Alia. Vanishing in the smoke...
...stabbing the wounded and maimed with a crysknife as she
goes!

325 OMIT

326 EXT. HARKONNEN AIRFIELDS

'Thopters strafe the grounds. Wiping out charging Harkonnen.

The Fremen drive Worms through the defensive walls and
fences. Leaping off with blood-curdling howls to engage
Sardaukar and Harkonnen.

The Sardaukar live up to their reputation.
The battle is fierce. Many Fremen fall.

CAMERA FINDS...

Paul wading into a cluster of Harkonnen.
Killing several before they even see him.

327 EXT. CITY STREETS...SERIES OF SHOTS - DAWN

Chaos and pandemonium. Citizens pour into the streets from
buildings and homes. Engaging in hand to hand combat wherever
they find Harkonnen. And even though the people are not
skilled fighters...

Their sheer numbers overwhelm and exhaust the enemy.
Each time a Harkonnen dispatches a citizen...
Three more charge in to take his place.

328 OMIT

329 OMIT

330 EXT. CITY STREET

Sardaukar troops chase a gang of teenagers through the street into...

A small PLAZA. The kids are surrounded.
The Sardaukar move in...only to discover...

The TRAP! Fremen men and women pour out of the windows and doors. Leaping down from the roofs. Emerging from manholes. Converging on the Sardaukar like a tightening net.

The Sardaukar are slaughtered.

331 EXT. ARRAKEEN PALACE

A mob of Fremen citizens is storming the gates.

332 INT. ARRAKEEN PALACE - DAY

More panic and confusion. Harkonnen troops are leaderless. Several flee into the arms of palace staff... Who mercilessly cut them down.

333 INT. BALCONY...ARRAKEEN PALACE - DAY

The Beast RABBAN is running for his life.
Cutting down anyone who gets in his way.

But he doesn't get far. He comes around the corner in time to SEE...

A flood of Fremen spewing out of the shadows.
All coming for him! He turns to flee only to SEE...

Freemen everywhere. In every shadow. Behind every pillar.
Coming at him. Screaming his name.

Even the wounded and dying drag themselves toward him.

334 OMIT

335 INT. COURTYARD...ARRAKEEN PALACE

Harkonnen soldiers fight a losing battle against the onslaught of Fremen. The yard is awash with blood.

(CONTINUED)

335 CONTINUED:

Suddenly....a hideous scream makes everyone look up.

There...on the roof...a gang of Fremmen men and women are holding RABBAN high in the air. He is bloodied and broken. His body is twisted in unnatural contortions.

With a collective shriek...the Fremmen toss Rabban into the air and...

THWAAACCCKKKK!!!!

He lands grotesquely in the middle of the courtyard. The Fremmen are on him immediately.

A blinding mass of daggers and swords stab down. Over and over until..

CAMERA FINDS....

A small boy emerging from the crowd. The one whose family hid Otheym after the raid on the spice depot.

He starts climbing the side of the building like a monkey. Carrying something precious under his arms until...

336 INT. BALCONY, ARRAKEEN PALACE

He vaults over the banister. Turns to the crowd below and with a chilling howl...

Lifts RABBAN'S SEVERED HEAD high into the air.

A deafening cheer starts to rise up. Growing louder and louder. As if...

The city itself was crying out.

337 OMIT

END ACT 7

ACT 8

FADE IN:

338 INT. COURTYARD...ARRAKEEN PALACE - EVENING

Trashed. Walls pock-marked and scorched. Furniture wrecked.
Bodies being hauled away.

The sounds of battle and death still echo sporadically in the
distance as...

Paul is escorted into the Great Hall by a wedge of Fedaykin
bodyguards. Gurney and Stilgar accompany him.

OTHEYM

(joining them)

Your mother and Chani have been brought,
Muad'Dib. Some of the dying asked for the
Reverend Mother. She is with them.

PAUL

And Chani?

339 INT. DUKE LETO'S QUARTERS.....MOMENTS LATER

She is standing by the windows. Staring blankly down at the
courtyards where Fremen servants are spreading sand over the
blood.

Paul enters silently behind her.
Comes over to stand with her.

PAUL

This was my parents' room...

(beat)

What peace they had after we came to
Arrakis...was here...

CHANI

Tell me again about the waters of your
homeland, Muad'Dib.

PAUL

(after a beat)

....where water falls from the sky....
and plants grow so thick you can't walk
between them...

(beat)

...as Arrakis will be one day.

(CONTINUED)

339 CONTINUED:

CHANI

Paid for with the blood of our people...our fathers...

(beat)

...our son.

He finally turns her to him.
Tears are streaming down her face.

PAUL

He can never be replaced, Chani. But
there will be other children. I promise
you. I promise...

And he kisses the tears from her cheeks.

CHANI

Is it over?

PAUL

Almost.

340 INT. COURTYARD...ARRAKEEN PALACE - DAY

A platform with Duke Leto's chair has been set up.
The tarnished seal of House Atreides hangs behind it.

Paul sits there. Flanked by Jessica and Chani.
Gurney and Stilgar stand close by.
The Fedaykin are everywhere.

And little Alia sits on the edge of the platform swinging her
feet.

There's a commotion across the courtyard as a procession of
people are led in under guard...

The Emperor...and Irulan.
The Reverend Mother and her aides.
Count Fenring and the Guild Agents.

Their clothes are dirty and torn.
Some are bleeding. All are disoriented.
This is not the way it was supposed to turn out.

C.U. Paul. Glaring at his vanquished. His eyes meet...

Irulan. There's a long moment between them.
A moment that's not lost on.

Chani.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

Then Paul SEES..

Feyd. Skulking insolently among the Emperor's defeated Sardaukar.

PAUL
(quietly, to Gurney)
Which one is that? The one with the Sardaukar?

GURNEY
The Baron's other nephew, M'Lord. Feyd. A cold-blooded killer.

Feyd meets Paul's stare with an arrogant sneer.

PAUL
(to himself)
So..it comes down to this...

There's a moment of excruciating silence as conquerors and conquered warily eye each other until...

EMPEROR
(stepping forward)
Perhaps my...respected kinsman thinks he has things his own way now.

Paul doesn't answer. He just stares at the Emperor with cool calculation.

EMPEROR
There is a massed armada of the Great Houses in the space over Arrakis, young Atreides. I have but to give the word...

PAUL
Your word means nothing anymore!

EMPEROR
I AM THE EMPEROR!

PAUL
Not for long.

He stands. Points to the Guild Agents. Fedaykin pull them out of the crowd.

PAUL
Dispatch orders to your Navigators. They are to depart from our space and return the fleet to its homes. Immediately.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

GUILD AGENT

(hissing)

The Guild doesn't take your orders

PAUL

(using the Voice)

Tell them to look into the future. They will see me staring back at them...ready to give the order...

(beat)

...the order to destroy all spice production on this planet.

A terrible gasp sweeps across the courtyard...broken only by the amused, self-satisfied laughter of...little Alia.

PAUL

My men are waiting in the desert. There's a particularly large and volatile pre-spice mass there. I need but raise my finger and the nest will be flooded... with the changed Water of Life....

And now cries of horror ring out.

REVEREND MOTHER

Jessica...what have you done to us?

PAUL

(ignoring her)

...spreading death among the makers... killing a cycle of life...creating a chain reaction that will grow and grow...until there are no makers left...until there is no spice left.

The Guild Agents stiffen. They are afraid of him now.

GUILD AGENT

You won't dare!

REVEREND MOTHER

Jessica...silence him!

JESSICA

Silence him yourself.

And Alia laughs some more.

EMPEROR

(to the Guild Agents)

Can he do this?

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

PAUL

They know I can do this. This is what they've feared most. They've been monitoring the signals my men have been sending. They know precisely where we are...and what we can do. Without the spice, the Navigators will be blind, the Bene Gesserit will lose their powers, all commerce among the Great Houses will cease. Civilization will end. If I'm not obeyed...the SPICE WILL NOT FLOW!

GURNEY

(quietly to Stilgar)

In the game called chess, this is what's known as checkmate.

EMPEROR

But...it would be suicide!

Paul says nothing. He just glares at the shaken Emperor. Who can't look away. Riveted by the glow in Paul's eyes. The Emperor can see the future there. He knows Paul will do it.

The room is deathly silent. It's as if time has stopped until...

Irulan steps out from the crowd.

IRULAN

I think we both know the way out of this difficulty, don't we?

JESSICA

(jerking forward)

Paul!

But Chani restrains her. Decisively.

CHANI

Do not interfere...Mother. This is for the good of us all.

EMPEROR

NEVER! An adventurer like him...a traitor to the Empire...

IRULAN

Father...here's a man fit to be your son.

ACROSS THE ROOM....Feyd's eyes are burning with fury.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

EMPEROR

Do you really think I'd agree to such a thing?

IRULAN

What choice do you have?

The courtyard is abuzz. Only Irulan stands passively. Facing Paul. Flushed with excitement and fear.

The Emperor spins around. Searching faces for some form of support. All he gets in return are averted gazes and lowered eyes. Except for....

FEYD

KANLY!

All eyes turn toward him.

FEYD

I INVOKE KANLY. IT IS MY RIGHT! AS THE BARON NOW OF HOUSE HARKONNEN...I DEMAND SATISFACTION...

Paul steps forward to the edge of the platform.

PAUL

So you are what's left of the House that killed my father.

FEYD

It's down to us. Here, we settle this vendetta once and for all.

The Emperor seizes the opportunity Feyd has offered him.

EMPEROR

There are strict rules for a call of Kanly!

STILGAR

This is a Harkonnen animal, Muad'Dib.

GURNEY

He's right, M'Lord. Let me kill him. It would be my gift to you...

FEYD

Is the great Muad'Dib such a coward he must send others to do his dirty work?

Fedaykin start moving across the courtyard toward Feyd.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

PAUL

HOLD!

JESSICA

Paul...don't do this...

PAUL

Does this one fight in the Emperor's name?

EMPEROR

If Feyd wishes it, he will meet you with my blade in his hand.

FEYD

I WISH IT!

And the silence is broken finally by little Alia's laughter. Even Feyd is unnerved by it. But he puffs himself up.

FEYD

Is the Atreides ready then!?

PAUL

May thy knife chip and shatter!

That's it. The challenge has been joined.

Feyd quickly strips down. A blade is thrust into his hand. And he's shoved into the center of the courtyard.

Paul turns to Chani. Takes off his robe and hands it to her. She takes his hands in hers. Kisses them tenderly.

CHANI

I'm not afraid.

A calm, peaceful smile sweeps over Paul. And... He steps off the platform to meet Feyd.

The only one who doesn't seem nervous is Alia...who continues to swing her legs back and forth at the edge of the platform.

FEYD

Would you like the Emperors Truthsayer to prepare your spirit for its journey?
(circling Paul)

Or have you gone too "native"? Maybe you'd like that little pet up there...the pretty one...to say a few pagan rites, eh...before I claim her...

Paul studies him. Watching every twitch, every blink.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

FEYD

Nothing to say, Atreides?
Perhaps you'll answer THIS...

And he lunges.

Paul feints left to block. Then counters right. But...

Feyd anticipates the move. Shifts mid-step.
Slashes Paul's arm as he passes.

Paul hisses with pain, but stifles a cry.

The sight of Paul's blood emboldens Feyd.
He charges again. And this time...

Paul meets him head on. There's a blinding flurry of swipes
and blocks, kicks and thrusts.

Suddenly...they separate. Both bloodied and cut.
Sweat carries red streams down their arms, their chests.

Feyd's seems almost sexually aroused by the encounter.
He lunges again. But Paul ducks and...

Elbows Feyd square in the face.
The Harkonnen jerks back.

But when Paul moves in...Feyd kicks his knees out.
Paul goes down. Feyd pounces.

The two of them struggle in each other's arms.
Blades millimeters from each other's face.

And that's when Paul HEARS....

CLICK

...and he looks down to SEE...

A tiny NEEDLE. Protruding from the edge of Feyd's belt.

FEYD

(hissing)

So you see it, Atreides? Your death,
fool. The poison'll stop your muscles and
my knife will finish you...

And he twists the needle closer...closer...
Paul strains against him. Trying to avoid a prick.

But Feyd's hip keeps pushing...closer...closer.
The needle is only a whisper away from Paul's skin.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

PAUL

It's over...Cousin.

Feyd blinks. "Cousin?" Just a split second of pause.
And it's all Paul needs. And this happens all at once....

Paul slips his leg under Feyd's. Throwing Feyd off balance.
The Harkonnen twists one last time.
But Paul ducks away and...

CLICK

The needle sticks in the floor. And for a split second...
Feyd is caught.

Paul rams his knife forward. Into Feyd's jaw.
Up through the skull...into the brain.

Feyd's eyes roll back. His body convulses violently as he
falls.

Paul pulls himself free.

The courtyard is silent. No one moves. Except for...
...Alia. Who giggles. Claps her hands with glee.

The Emperor trembles. Scanning the crowd...
Looking for some way...any way out of this.

But even Count Fenring looks away. And when the Emperor turns
to the Guild Agents....

They step away from him. Moving subtly but symbolically
toward Paul's side of the courtyard.

And that's when...Irulan steps forward.
Away from her father's entourage.

EMPEROR

Irulan!

But a bony hand comes down on his.

REVEREND MOTHER

You can not stop this thing. The spice
must flow...

And Irulan continues across the courtyard. Past Paul...
To the platform where she is about to mount the stairs
when...

CHANI

You will remain there.

(CONTINUED)

340 CONTINUED:

Her voice is almost a whisper. But Irulan jerks to a stop when she hears it. The two women lock eyes. But...

Irulan finally turns and remains at the foot of the platform. Chani behind and over her.

And that's when...Alia starts to laugh again. A laugh of joy. A laugh of triumph. Getting louder and louder until it becomes...

A deafening cheer erupting in the courtyard until...

341 EXT. CITY OF ARRAKEEN

...it sounds like the entire city is cheering.

LONG DISSOLVE TO:

342 EXT. ARRAKEEN PALACE.....SOMETIME LATER - EVENING

Jessica is standing on the Palace steps. With Alia. And Stilgar and Gurney. Looking down at...

The Emperor. Being ushered into a shuttle vehicle. Part of a heavily guarded convoy.

The Emperor pauses to look back at the Palace. And he SEES....

The Princess Irulan. In an upper balcony. Watching the departure. Alone.

The Emperors eyes seem almost pleading. But...

Otheym summarily urges him forward into his carriage. And as it speeds away...

Jessica turns to see Irulan backing off the balcony. Vanishing into the shadows of her room.

JESSICA

She may have my sons name...

343 EXT. DESERT... PLANET ARRAKIS - NIGHT

The twin moons frame the night sky. Bathing this wind-rippled sand sea in a cool, serene haze.

JESSICA'S VOICE

...but it is we...who carry the name of concubine...that history will call wives.

(CONTINUED)

343 CONTINUED:

CAMERA SKIMS this vast repetition of merciless beauty until
it FINDS...

Movement. There...in the distance. Two figures.
A man and a woman.

CLOSER...

PAUL and CHANI. Walking gracefully, effortlessly across these
eternal sands together. Finally disappearing...

...behind a dune.

THE END

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