## **STAR WARS** EPISODE IX

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Based on characters created by George Lucas

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A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

### EPISODE IX DUEL OF THE FATES

The iron grip of the FIRST ORDER has spread to the farthest reaches of the galaxy. Only a few scattered planets remain unoccupied. Traitorous acts are punishable by death.

Determined to suffocate a growing unrest, Supreme Leader KYLO REN has silenced all communication between neighboring systems.

Led by GENERAL LEIA ORGANA, the Resistance has planned a secret mission to prevent their annihilation and forge a path to freedom... EXT. SPACE

A rich tapestry of stars, reaching beyond all we know.

Two sharp points of a space station enclose the sides of the frame as we drift backwards into the glowing rectangular entrance of a DOCKING BAY.

INT. KUAT ORBITAL RING - DOCKING BAY - DAY

A FIRST ORDER TRANSPORT touches down. A wide platform descends, revealing a variety of DROIDS.

A GRAPHITE BB UNIT carefully splits off from the group.

INT. KUAT ORBITAL RING - CORRIDOR - DAY

The graphite BB Unit swerves to avoid a brutish LABOR DROID, scraping BB's spherical side against the wall.

His head tilts down, checking a scuff in his paint, revealing ORANGE beneath. It's BB-8, DEEP UNDERCOVER.

He lets out a familiar "uh-oh" and rotates the orange scuff beneath his head.

INT. SURVEILLANCE DEN - KUAT MOON - DAY

A comm device blinks in a cramped room stacked with recycled Imperial gear. ROSE TICO, adventure-worn and battle ready, grabs it with gloved hands.

#### ROSE

BB-8, you in?

BB-8 BEEPS affirmative. Rose looks up through the broken roof at the ORBITAL RING in the sky above. Star Destroyers protrude from it like spikes on a punk bracelet.

> ROSE (CONT'D) I need eyes on the checkpoint.

INT. KUAT ORBITAL RING - DAY

BB-8 plugs into a scomp terminal, anxious, tense. Out the window, the glowing KUAT MOON, sun cresting its horizon.

A holomonitor grid lights up, blurred and scrambled. Rose straps electrogoggles over her cracked leather flight helmet.

ROSE

Atta boy.

ROSE'S POV: The images unscramble, revealing a SECURITY CHECKPOINT. The HUD zooms on an approaching DROPSHIP.

ROSE (CONT'D) Here they come.

EXT. KUAT MOON - SECURITY CHECKPOINT - DAY

The Dropship touches down in a canyon of white and blue sedimentary rock, kicking up a storm of silver sand.

STORMTROOPERS shield their eyes as the craft spits out a new batch of MIGRANT WORKERS from all corners of the galaxy-- aliens and humans submitting to the First Order in exchange for safety and a scrap of food.

Stormtroopers funnel the migrants toward a Weapons Detector.

We notice FINN disguised in rags among them.

FINN Checkpoint. Keep your head down.

A ROBED HUMAN nods, face hidden under dusty headwear.

A bottleneck quickly forms. The ragged aliens bark at each other in a dozen languages. A beast-like DROVIAN shoves Finn.

FINN (CONT'D) Whoa, hey. No trouble here.

The Drovian grabs Finn's neck with a single hand and lifts him up, teeth bared.

FINN (CONT'D) Trouble. TROUBLE!

The robed human steps between them. POE DAMERON.

POE

Easy, pal.

Poe pulls a dried three-eyed Peckto fish from a leather pouch beneath his robe.

POE (CONT'D) Here. I couldn't finish it.

The Drovian eyes the fish, drops Finn, eats.

We notice Poe's hand on a CONCEALED BLASTER beneath his robe. Finn regains his footing, clenching his neck.

#### FINN

Thanks.

Poe shoots him a tense look. They move toward the scanner.

FINN (CONT'D) How'll we know if BB-8 hacked the mainframe?

The weapons scanner ALARMS. Stormtroopers pull a mangy GOTAL out of the group. He pleads, pointing desperately to his metallic horns. Blasters FIRE.

POE We'll know.

Poe and Finn step into the weapons scanner. Just as they enter, the machine SHUDDERS AND CLICKS OFF.

STORMTROOPER #1 We lost power. Hold the line.

Stormtroopers step in front of the scanner, blasters smoking. Finn and Poe eye each other, tense.

INT. KUAT ORBITAL RING - DAY

BB-8's scomp link stutters and spins. A Stormtrooper drops a crate of spanners nearby. BB-8 STARTLES as they clatter across the floor. Droid sweat.

EXT. KUAT MOON - SECURITY CHECKPOINT - DAY

The Stormtrooper smacks the console. It powers up again with our armed infiltrators standing inside it. No alarm.

## STORMTROOPER

Go on, get moving.

Our guys exhale. Still alive.

EXT. KUAT WORKERS COLONY - DAY

Poe and Finn pass through the border wall to reveal a VAST MIGRANT SETTLEMENT. Modular housing painted with colorful symbols from each worker's home world, a vibrant melting pot.

The Orbital Ring looms above, connected to the planet's surface by a massive POWERSHAFT plunged directly into the core. It glows blue with the ship-fueling energy mined here.

Poe locks eyes with BISS KOVA, a furry alien watching from a machine shop. Biss taps his cheek.

POE That's our guy.

Nearby, a suspicious TUSKEN, face wrapped. The Tusken eyes Finn and Poe as they follow Biss Kova inside a hut.

INT. MIGRANT HUT - DAY

A big-cheeked, hairless ALIEN BABY bounces in a hanging sea cow stomach while Biss' partner DAL KOVA brushes an unappetizing roast with melted fat.

Rose emerges from behind a beaded curtain in the back.

ROSE You said two days, I've been here two weeks.

FINN This place doesn't seem so bad.

ROSE Good people. Terrible food.

Rose rolls a canvas map onto the table.

ROSE (CONT'D) This is our access point.

She drops a holochip. It projects the Orbital Ring and the powershaft plunging from it into the moon's core.

ROSE (CONT'D) This powershaft delivers raw ore to orbital ring. A detonation directly into the energy stream, here, will cause a chain reaction--

A blinking holographic light shoots up into the Orbital Ring, causing a series of explosions around the entire structure.

POE -- and take the whole thing down.

Finn looks up through the broken roof at the ORBITAL RING above. A dozen Star Destroyers fueling up.

FINN Along with their new fleet.

POE How do we know they haven't detected BB-8's signature?

The alien baby starts to CRY. Rose picks up a rattle and shakes it.

POE (CONT'D) There's a lot we don't know. That's why I voted for the other plan.

FINN <u>This</u> is when we second guess the plan? Right now?

Rose sticks a finger into the alien baby's mouth.

ROSE We can take out the enemy's fuel source and be light years away before they know what hit them. But we have to move now.

Finn and Poe regard this odd moment. Rose really has been down here awhile.

POE Okay, let's blow this thing and go home.

EXT. KUAT COLONY - DAY

Poe, Finn and Rose move past migrant workers toward the massive POWERSHAFT BASE extending to the sky.

The Tusken follows them in the deep background.

POE BB-8? Don't worry, I'm alive. Unlock the powershaft doors and get ready with that shuttle. INT. KUAT ORBITAL RING - DAY

BB-8 detatches his scomp link and speeds down the corridor.

EXT. KUAT COLONY - POWERSHAFT BASE - DAY

A trio of space-gray MECHTROOPERS guard the door.

WHACK! Poe makes short work of the first Mechtrooper, knocking him unconscious. Finn and Rose quietly take down the other two with electric SHOCK PRODS.

Poe unlatches a device from the Mechtrooper's belt, throws it to Finn. He SCANS IT on the wall.

INT. POWERSHAFT BASE - DAY

A massive cylinder of particle energy rushing upwards.

Finn, Poe and Rose approach it and gaze up, dwarfed.

POE We'll have twenty seconds before detonation. Give or take.

ROSE Give or take how long?

Poe hands out three FLYING THERMAL DETONATORS.

POE Nice and easy. Just like pitching Pilmetto Stick.

FINN We didn't have that... (Poe activates his charge) Oh we're going now?!

Poe underhand tosses his charge into the stream where it ROCKETS UPWARDS in the particle flow. Rose throws hers.

Finn chucks his like a live grenade and runs.

POE (into comm) BB-8, bombs are away. We'll meet you at the relay point. INT. MAINTENANCE SHUTTLE DOCK - DAY

BB-8 rolls into the droid slot of a tiny Maintenance Shuttle, old and forgotten.

The ship POWERS UP.

EXT. KUAT COLONY - POWERSHAFT BASE - DAY

Our heroes exit through the maintance door ...

... to find themselves face-to-face with a platoon of STORMTROOPERS and MECHTROOPERS.

#### STORMTROOPER

Drop your weapons!

Migrant workers crane their necks from the village. The masked Tusken lurks among them.

Poe eyes the orbital ring, anticipating the explosion.

POE Distraction in three, two, one...now!

Poe dives, rolls, head covered...but nothing happens.

INT. KUAT ORBITAL - COMMAND CENTER - DAY

A FIRST ORDER OFFICER rushes to alert steely ADMIRAL VONN. Screen graphics show a contained blast in the powershaft.

> OFFICER Blast shields have contained the explosion, Admiral. All systems stable.

Vonn looks down at the glowing Kuat moon below, scoffs.

ADMIRAL VONN Their outdated tactics are pitiful.

EXT. KUAT COLONY - POWERSHAFT BASE - DAY

Rose and Finn look up at the Orbital Ring, fully intact.

## POE

Any second now.

Suddenly a high-pitched WAIL spins them around.

The HOODED TUSKEN steps forward. Blades of blue light flash from its gloved hands.

It's holding a DUAL LIGHTSABER.

The Tusken TAKES DOWN EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH, lithe and deadly with the blade.

Finn, Rose and Poe duck and FIRE AWAY until they are surrounded by bodies, blasters smoking.

The Tusken's mask hits the ground.

It's REY.

Not the girl we last saw. A grown woman. Powerful. Strong.

FINN What are you doing here?

Rey spins and BLOCKS A LASER BLAST we didn't see coming. Her robes fall from her shoulders, revealing a battle-ready outfit of ALL BLACK.

REY A simple "thank you" would do.

She THROWS THE DOUBLE-BLADE LIKE A BOOMERANG, ducks behind a power regulator as the spinning saber slices all in its path, then rises in time to CATCH IT.

This is a new weapon of her own design, made from the pieces of Anakin's broken lightsaber and her own staff. She wields it with grace.

Poe ducks behind a generator, yells through lasers at Rey.

POE You shouldn't have come here.

REY You'd rather be killed?

POE If it means you're safe, yeah.

There's something more behind those words.

REY Now's not the time.

POE Definitely not the time. She FORCE PUSHES a pack of eight, sending them clattering.

The Migrant Workers point to Rey in awe, whispering, <u>reverent</u>. The children cheer, speaking a word they all know.

#### MIGRANT CHILDREN

Jedi! Jedi!

More Stormtroopers flood into the square--

--but the MIGRANTS BLOCK THEIR PATH TO PROTECT REY. Some throw rocks. Others swing with hammers and tools.

It's inspiring. A promise of revolution.

POE Rey, we gotta go!

Rey hesitates, wanting to fight alongside these people.

REY I have to help them!

Poe eyes more troop transports and INCOMING TIE FIGHTERS.

POE Not here. Not now.

Rey knows he's right, but it kills her inside. She reluctantly follows her friends through the blast door.

Finn moves to follow them, but his ankle is grabbed by a FALLEN STORMTROOPER, helmet blasted open.

They lock eyes. RECOGNITION. A memory from long ago.

Finn pulls free and continues on. But he's SHAKEN.

INT. KUAT ORBITAL - COMMAND CENTER - DAY

An Officer races to Admiral Vonn.

ADMIRAL VONN What happened down there?

OFFICER The last Jedi is with them, sir.

Vonn's confidence turns to fear.

ADMIRAL VONN Alert the Knights of Ren. EXT. POWERSHAFT CORE - DAY

Rey, Poe, Finn and Rose race toward a MAINTENANCE TURBOLIFT that runs the length of the powershaft to the ring above.

POE (into comm link) BB-8 we're coming up to you! Plan's gone sideways.

EXT. SPACE

BB-8 has already left the Orbital Ring in the shuttle, on his way down to their rendezvous point on the planet's surface, per the plan. He BEEPS incredulously.

EXT. POWERSHAFT CORE - DAY

Poe looks up at the ring above.

POE We're gonna need another ship.

His eyes settle on THE ECLIPSE, a colossal star destroyer docked just above them, an ivory pirate ship in space.

REY You're not serious.

FINN That's a Eclipse Class Dreadnaught. You can't fly--

POE I can fly anything.

Rose hacks into the turbolift. The glass door opens.

ROSE We're in.

INT. TURBOLIFT - DAY

The door SLIDES SHUT, cutting off the sound.

ROSE Clench. Everything.

The turbolift capsule ROCKETS UP INTO THE TUBE, traveling from the planet's surface to the Orbital Ring in seconds.

The Turbolift door opens to find the stern of the Eclipse Dreadnaught right in front of them, miles wide.

Thick fuel lines attach to the propulsion engines. GLIDE ROVERS shuttle supplies to the ship.

REY You sure about this?

POE

Nope.

ROSE We had better odds on Raxus Prime.

FINN That was not my fault, you need to let Raxus Prime go.

They hop into a Glide Rover and SPEED OFF.

INT. OBSERVATION TOWER - DAY

Admiral Vonn watches the Glide Rover race toward the Eclipse.

ADMIRAL VONN Where are they going?

The Glide Rover disappears inside the docked destroyer. Admiral Vonn cracks slightly as their plan dawns on him.

ADMIRAL VONN (CONT'D) They can't possibly.

Admiral Vonn leans over a FIRST ORDER TECH.

ADMIRAL VONN (CONT'D) How many men on that ship?

FIRST ORDER TECH Just the bridge crew, sir. The rest are on dock leave.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE

A massive navigational bridge dense with FIRST ORDER CREW.

A laser blast spins them around. Rose cocks her heavy weapon. Finn seals the door.

POE Who's in charge here? DECK OFFICER (brave) I am. POE Great. I'm your new pilot. (improvising) Where does the pilot sit? Rey loses patience, waves her palm toward the Officer. REY You will set a course for the Nirauan System. DECK OFFICER Set a course for the Nirauan System! The Crewmen turn and take their positions at the console, mind-tricked en masse. Poe and Rey take the helm, pressing buttons, guessing. REY Cold start the engines. We can jump right to hyperspace if we overheat the laser cannon drive. POE REY (CONT'D) The exhaust will spill over----into the propulsion systems. We can freeze the chamber. Poe looks to Rey as they flip switches, a gleam in his eye. POE (CONT'D) Don't you see? You and I? How we--REY Not the time. Finn sits at a massive control board with a hundred buttons. FINN Okay, I'm going to need very specific instructions. Rose goes to work at the NAV CONSOLE.

ROSE Shields up. Setting calculations for lightspeed. POE Let's go! ROSE Don't rush me. I mess this up and we'll fly right into the sun. Finn taps a screen in front of him. The ship's EXTERIOR LIGHTS click on. FTNN I found the lights. I turned on the lights! One of the Crewmen SNAPS OUT OF HIS MIND TRICK, eyes Finn. CREWMAN Who are you--WHACK! Finn knocks him out cold. FTNN Let's get somewhere else fast! POE Working on it ... Poe eases his hands into the steering rig. POE (CONT'D) Who uses an inverted control yoke? EXT. KUAT ORBITAL - SPACE The Eclipse roughly disengages and SCRAPES ITS WAY OUT. Fuel conduits unhinge and SPIT BLUE ENERGY, slicing through the dock's infrastructure. The ship's exterior lights blink on and off in patch grids.

Heavy cannons FIRE on the Eclipse's shields.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - SPACE

Poe leans back, the craft dips DOWN.

REY The black empty part is where we should be pointed!

POE I'm trying! Everything's backwards!

Finn looks out the window at the planet rising into view as they tilt further down.

FINN
 (mocking)
"I can fly anything."

Poe gains control of the craft's trajectory but not its axis. They are INVERTING. The planet ROLLS from the bottom of the massive front window to the top.

REY Okay, we're rolling now.

POE Do we have the droid?

EXT. SPACE

BB-8's Maintenance craft is HIT, burning, engineless, fifty feet from the dock. He'll never make it.

REY (ON COMM)

BB-8 now!

BB-8 has to act.

He EJECTS HIMSELF from the droid socket, floats fifty feet through cold empty space, passes through the oxygen shield and LANDS INSIDE THE HANGAR with a clank.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

BB-8 BEEPS affirmative on the commlink.

REY

We got him!

Rose's console flashes.

ROSE Good for lightspeed!

Rey leans past Poe and SHOVES the hyperdrive helve forward. Bars of light STRETCH OUT BEFORE THEM. EXT. KUAT ORBITAL RING - SPACE

The Eclipse blurs and VANISHES. Silence.

We TILT UP, stars raining down... WHOOMMMM. A jagged, sinister ship appears from hyperspace.

KNIFE 9. Shaped like an arrowhead with adjustable wings. We follow it back toward the Orbital Ring...

EXT/INT. KUAT ORBITAL - EXTERNAL LANDING AREA - SPACE

Knife 9 lands on an exposed landing pad, protected by a quantum shield from the cold dangers of space.

The KNIGHTS OF REN appear from their ship.

HATTASKA REN, the leader, armored and caped in black. OTT REN and LORL REN seem to work as a duo. JAEDEC REN is the rogue, his mask evoking an angry ghost.

Hattaska eyes the scene in studied silence. He turns his ominous, masked gaze to Admiral Vonn, here to meet him.

ADMIRAL VONN W-we uploaded a veil cipher to the droid. You'll have her location the moment a probe is within range.

Hattaska Ren draws his Darksaber AND CUTS VONN DOWN.

A few Stormtroopers instinctively raise their weapons. The other Knights RAISE THEIR HEAVY BLASTERS.

Officers and Stormtroopers back away. Tense, afraid.

The Knights holster their weapons and return to their ship, leaving Admiral Vonn's body in their wake.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORUSCANT - DAY

A dense cloud layer pierced with skyscrapers.

We follow a SECURITY CRAFT down through the fog to reveal the city, unrecognizable from its halcyon days.

New structures built atop the deco architecture of the Old Republic, growing older as we descend to the decrepit streets below--sedimentary layers of progress. EXT. CORUSCANT - IMPERIAL BOULEVARD - DAY

The Security Craft lands on a broad avenue rife with despair. Immigrants from a thousand systems, all seeking a better future for their children.

The Cruiser unloads a squad of eight Stormtroopers on hovering NIGHTSISTER SPEEDERBIKES. They disappear down long alleys, spreading out into the populace.

One buzzes past a dirty propaganda billboard with the familiar First Order symbol and a message: JOIN TODAY. Someone has painted DON'T above the JOIN.

A street kid, DADE, 12, eyes a pair of patrolling Stormtroopers as they rough up a limbless alien.

He picks up a piece of broken cement, aims, throws. It hits the Trooper in the head. Both spin, blasters up. But the kid is long gone.

A BANTHA HORN sounds on high.

Dade races through plumes of smoke, past buildings with shocks of Old Republic-era technology, revealing...

EXT. MONUMENT SQUARE - DAY

A massive open plaza connected by a web of boulevards. The FIRST ORDER CAPITOL towers over it, a jagged structure balancing on the surface like a spinning top.

Thousands are gathered here. All eyes are on a dais where CAPITOL GUARDS hold a ragged, hooded figure before the crowd.

The people look to the sky at a HOLOGRAM OF CHANCELLOR HUX, four stories tall. Dade weaves closer.

CHANCELLOR HUX (HOLOGRAM) Today, another conspirator stands charged with treason.

The Guards remove the conspirator's hood, revealing BISS KOVA, our alien on the ground from the Kuat Colony.

CHANCELLOR HUX (HOLOGRAM) (CONT'D) Though support for his cause has all but vanished, let this day remind us of the consequences for defying our Supreme Leader.

The Capitol Guards lead Biss Kova to a guillotine with a hissing LIGHTBLADE poised above. He stares silently ahead.

CHANCELLOR HUX (HOLOGRAM) (CONT'D) Kylo Ren is not without pity, just as the traitor before you is not without remorse. And so he offers to spare this man's life in exchange for the location of the Resistance Base.

Biss Kova remains defiant. Hux's hologram grows irritated.

BISS KOVA Kofa rebiva tora famlia...

CHANCELLOR HUX (HOLOGRAM)

So be it.

Biss Kova is placed in the lightblade guillotine.

BISS KOVA Kofa rebiva tora famlia... Kofa rebiva tora famila...

A woman in the crowd covers Dade's eyes. He peels her fingers away, an anger burning within.

The lightblade FALLS.

INT. CAPITOL CORRIDOR - DAY

CHANCELLOR HUX, hair streaked with gray, looks down at the thousands gathered in Monument Square.

The people are a distant blur from here.

Bootheels click, revealing COMMANDER SELLIK, Hux's second in military command.

COMMANDER SELLIK Sir? They're here.

INT. CAPITOL WAR ROOM - DAY

A clawed hand reaches into a silver tureen of BABY SHAAKS, huddling together for warmth. We follow the squealing animal into the mouth of LORD GHERLID, an alien with razor teeth.

He sits at a table of GALACTIC WARLORDS--tribal, wealthy, coated in elaborate robes and stolen jewels.

Chancellor Hux speaks to them, nostrils flared at the smell.

#### CHANCELLOR HUX

I assure you, the stolen Destroyer will be found. Our probe droids are scouring the galaxy as we speak.

### LORD GHERLID

(mouth full)

A Dreadnaught class warship just slipped through your fingers, Hux. Your words don't inspire confidence.

CHANCELLOR HUX A lone signal won't be difficult to find. Our transmissions blockade has silenced millions of systems.

#### LORD GHERLID

You can silence planets, not people. There have been uprisings. We must not allow the seeds of revolution to take root.

#### CHANCELLOR HUX

The First Order will punish those who defy your rule. Submit your youth for conditioning. They will teach their elders the rule of law.

JOR NULT, a nasty dreadlocked Weequay.

#### JOR NULT

It's Skywalker they believe in, not the law. And his apprentice, this girl, this *Jedi*. She's become a symbol of hope.

RAYKAR SHEN, a species with curved spider fangs for teeth.

RAYKAR SHEN The people believe she will destroy you, Hux. And your Master.

CHANCELLOR HUX Kylo Ren is no Master, certainly not mine.

UGGMOT, a shapeless Noid, pounds the table with his tiny hands.

UGGMOT (subtitles) We must kill the last Jedi! CHANCELLOR HUX The Knights of Ren have been dispatched to eliminate her.

LORD GHERLID Our fate in the hands of zealots? You ask for our confidence, yet provide nothing to inspire it. Where is Kylo Ren?

CHANCELLOR HUX The Supreme Leader will return when he acquires the knowledge he seeks.

The warlords eye each other, not satisfied with that.

JOR NULT

When?

Hux seethes, speaking through his teeth.

CHANCELLOR HUX

Soon.

EXT. MUSTAFAR - DAY

The terrain is obsidian-like, black and reflective. Jagged mountains spike in the distance.

A cloaked figure in tattered robes rises into frame.

KYLO REN, bearded and weary. He checks the stars for navigation, climbs over a rock precipice...

... to reveal VADER'S ABANDONED CASTLE in the distance.

A drone droid, VX-20, floats just behind him.

#### KYLO

Stay here.

INT. VADER'S CHAMBER - NIGHT

A forgotten, decrepit cathedral. Crumbling. Pieces of structure litter the ground, untouched for decades.

Kylo lights his red crossguard lightsaber, holds it up as a torch. Tiny creatures scurry at the disturbance.

A haunting WIND blows against his cheek, chilling him.

LUKE (VO) This is where the dark path leads. An empty tomb.

LUKE SKYWALKER'S VOICE. Haunting his nephew like a spirit.

KYLO And where did your path lead? You're a ghost.

LUKE (VO) I know what you're searching for, Ben. Your Master promised you strength, but you feel hollow.

KYLO Soon I will be more powerful than any Jedi. Even you.

LUKE (VO) Are you sure?

Kylo SNAPS, spins and swings his lightsaber at empty space. With a billow of cold wind, Luke's spirit is GONE.

> LUKE (VO) (CONT'D) Go home, Ben...go home to Leia...

Kylo is shaken. But on the altar beyond, the artifact he came here to find.

A SITH HOLOCRON.

He kneels before it. Holds out his palm, channels the Force.

The three sides of the pyramid pull away, revealing an energy within. It grows in intensity and PROJECTS A HOLOGRAM.

EMPEROR PALPATINE, recorded decades ago.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (HOLOGRAM) Lord Vader. Young Skywalker will soon be ours, I have foreseen it. But we must prepare for the unforeseen. Should he strike me down, you will take him to the Remnicore System. There you will find Tor Valum, Master of the Sith Lord who instructed me. The Holocron's blue light swirls RED. It emits a laser that SCANS KYLO'S BODY.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (HOLOGRAM) (CONT'D) Here the son of Skywalker will acquire a great ability--beyond what you could hope to command in your damaged state. With it, he will harness the untapped power of Mortis. At last we will realize--

The holocron ALARMS--Kylo Ren is not Darth Vader. Palpatine's image stutters.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (HOLOGRAM) (CONT'D) (breaking up) -- the d-destiny...po-potential--

A blast of RED LIGHTNING shoots from the pyramidal device into Kylo's eyes.

The invasive pulse of energy SPREADS OVER HIS FACE like a cancer. Horrible, raw purple veins streak through his skin.

He SCREAMS in deep, unbearable pain.

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - KORILEV - DAY

A pair of blue eyes SNAP OPEN.

LEIA

Ben.

LEIA ORGANA grips a stone wall, regaining balance.

Her hair is long and grey, her robes white. A wise and elegant leader, Leia has suffered more loss than a human can endure. But she remains a rock in a raging river.

She stands overlooking a terrain of rainforest dusted with crisp white snow. KORILEV, the Resistance's secret base.

She senses a presence behind her.

LEIA (CONT'D)

Speak.

CHEWBACCA (OS) BRWWWGGHHGHGH!!!

CHEWBACCA approaches with LT. CONNIX, wounded in battle since we last saw her. She now has a visible scar.

CONNIX The team has returned, General.

LEIA Mission accomplished?

# CONNIX

Not exactly.

Connix nods to the sky beyond.

Leia turns to see the ECLIPSE DESTROYER descending to planetfall over the snowy jungle, escorted by X-Wings.

They look like flies next to it.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

Leia storms onto the bridge as the First Order Officers are escorted out in handcuffs.

FIRST ORDER OFFICER You are in strict violation of the Corellian Accords!

POE Yeah, put it on my tab.

Rose rips the Officer's ID BARS off his uniform.

ROSE You mind? I collect these.

CONNIX What should we do with them, General?

LEIA Cook them dinner. They look thin.

FIRST ORDER OFFICER The punishment for your act of rebellion will be swift--

The doors shut in his face.

LEIA Scan the ship. This thing could be crawling with enemy troops. (to Poe, speaks louder) But our team didn't consider that, did they? POE Come on, tell me you haven't always wanted one of these.

Leia gives him a look. Insufferable.

LEIA Prepare for evacuation. We're leaving.

POE What? Why?

LEIA You stole a Star Destroyer.

ROSE I disabled their homing beacon. We're free and clear.

LEIA Would you bet your life on that?

That stops them both. Leia looks past them to Rey, in a corridor off the bridge, alone.

LEIA (CONT'D)

Go.

Leia approaches Finn.

LEIA (CONT'D) How's she doing?

FINN Hard to tell. Maybe you can talk to her?

LEIA She doesn't need a master right now. She needs a friend.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS
Finn approaches Rey, tentative.

FINN

You okay?

REY I failed.

FINN Don't say that. They know our tactics. We've been fighting this war for too long. REY Those people, the children. I saw hope in their eyes. FINN They believe in you. We all do. Those words add more weight to Rey's heavy shoulders. REY I can't be who they need me to be. I'm not strong enough. FINN That's not true. REY Every night I wake up screaming. Every night, another bad dream. FINN Is it him? REY There's something between us. I can't explain it. FINN You have to shut him out. He can't change, it's too late. REY It's never too late to change. You taught me that. Chewbacca BRAYS, excited. He's looking out a small rectangular porthole into the hull of the ship. FINN What is it, buddy? INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - WEAPONS ARSENAL - DAY

Chewie opens the blast door, revealing a mile-long arsenal of DECOMMISSIONED IMPERIAL WEAPONRY. Ships, walkers, urban assault vehicles, mounds of heavy artillery.

Finn's eyes light up.

FINN This is enough firepower to take the Capitol. (calls out) Poe, you need to see this!

Poe and Rose join them on the overlook. It's a game changer.

POE See? When have I ever come back empty handed? (slaps Finn's back) This. This was the plan.

ROSE

Was it?

FINN We have ships. Weapons. All we need is an army.

POE How? Nobody can hear us. We're in the dark.

We push in on Rey...those words resonating with her...

REY We don't have to be.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - DAY

Rey opens the ancient Jedi text from Ach-To, laid out on the holochess table. Finn, Poe, Rose, Chewie gathered around.

REY The Jedi had a communications system. Before the Old Republic. It was powered by a nexus beneath the temple.

Sketches of a TOWER in the old Jedi Temple on Coruscant. Light flowing from the spire into space.

> REY (CONT'D) A Force beacon, engineered to call the outlying systems to war.

FINN No way it still works. POE Old Republic tech is better than the junk we have today.

ROSE That frequency pre-dates the Empire by a thousand years. The First Order's blockade couldn't disrupt the signal.

FINN It's worth a shot.

They look to Poe. The de-facto leader.

POE Anything's worth a shot. (Chewie ROARS) Yeah, I hope so too. Rey?

Rey hesitates for a reason she doesn't yet understand. A dark, ominous feeling.

POE (CONT'D)

<u>Rey.</u>

She snaps back to them.

REY Hope is all we have left.

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - JEDI DOJO - DAY

WHACK! A wooden bo-stick hits a pillar, coughing dust.

Light pours through an open sinkhole onto an elaborate wooden JEDI SPARRING POST. Extensions on all sides, like branches of a tree. It MOVES--rotating at the base, limbs spinning.

Rey combats it with aggressive elegance, BLINDFOLDED. She spins, ducks, leaps, climbing while fighting.

THUMP. A swinging post connects with Rey's back. She hits the ground hard, winces in pain.

LUKE'S VOICE (VO) Your pain is an illusion.

REY It isn't actually.

She braces herself and ATTACKS THE POST again. A double flip and Rey STICKS THE LANDING.

EXT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - LANDING PAD - NIGHT

A pair of porcine UGNAUGHTS push a levitating stretcher away from the TIE Silencer.

On it, KYLO, in worse shape than we left him, damaged veins stretching down his neck.

INT. MEDICAL BAY - NIGHT

Kylo screams on an operating table, surrounded by MEDICAL DROIDS. Layers of Mandalorian Iron are smelted to his face.

A discomfiting SIZZLE as they work. Kylo grits his teeth.

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - JEDI DOJO - DAY

Rey touches her cheek. Feeling a sharp but distant pain.

INT. MEDICAL BAY - NIGHT

Kylo screams as a jolt of electricity flows into the iron on his face, finishing the job.

He is suddenly WRACKED BY A VISION ...

A MOUNTAIN

Snow on the jagged peaks. A TEMPLE older than all known time.

AN ANCIENT CHAMBER

Two massive thrones built into the rock. A WELL OF LIGHT, pulsing from deep below.

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - JEDI DOJO - DAY

Rey is wracked by the same vision...but it continues...

A DARK FIGURE

Hooded, masked. Kylo Ren. He activates his red lightsaber, facing off with Rey before the two thrones.

They fight, vicious, intense.

With a sharp swing Kylo STRIKES HER DOWN.

BACK TO REY

She tears off the blindfold, breathless.

LUKE'S VOICE (VO) What did you see?

REY I saw a mountain. Two thrones in the rock. Kylo Ren was...changed.

LUKE SKYWALKER steps into the light. A more tangible form of Force Ghost, similar to his projected self on Crait.

LUKE You saw the future.

REY Kylo saw it too. I could feel him. Like he was...there with me.

LUKE

Where?

REY

Mortis.

Luke turns grave. He sits, as Obi-Wan once sat beside him.

LUKE

What do you know of Mortis?

REY

It's an ancient place. From a time before the Jedi, before the Sith. Two thrones, two powerful beings. One of darkness, the other of light. Together, they brought balance. (disbelief) But it's a myth.

LUKE So was I, if you remember.

Luke is almost present now. All traces of blue light are gone.

LUKE (CONT'D) Beneath the Temple of Mortis lies a power beyond anything the Jedi have ever known. If Kylo reaches the Temple, all we've fought for will be lost. You have to confront him. REY

You want me to...kill Leia's son?

LUKE The Force guides us toward balance. It doesn't always show us what we want to see.

Rey scoffs, petulant, angry.

REY "Balance". Dark suffocates the light. Light extinguishes the dark. Over and over. How is that balance?

LUKE I know that anger. I had it. My father had it too.

REY So says my master. And his master before him. A thousand masters, so eager to tell us how to live.

She looks through an arched opening at the Resistance Base below. FINN AND ROSE, calibrating a grappling cannon...POE AND CHEWIE working on the Falcon...

REY (CONT'D) I spent my whole life wanting a family. Now I've got one. I won't abandon them.

LUKE The Force is speaking to you, Rey.

REY Maybe I'm not who it thinks I am.

LUKE Who are you?

REY

I'm no one.

LUKE If that's what you believe, the last Jedi is dead.

Rey sets her practice staff alongside a line of others.

REY Maybe he is. INT. MEDICAL BAY - NIGHT

Kylo's medical slab rises vertical. He looks into a mirror at his altered face--half covered with smelted iron, a monster.

## KYLO

Finish it.

A NEW MASK lowers onto his head and locks into place, spitting steam. We don't see the front of it, not yet.

A strip of glowing buttons light up the underside of his forearm. The Med Droid presses a code. The helmet beeps.

#### MED DROID

Breathe.

He does. A new sound, different than Vader's. Gutteral. Deep.

INT. CHANCELLOR HUX'S CHAMBER - NIGHT

Ornate drapes and an indoor fountain. A huge throne-like chair faces the city through a massive circular window.

Hux removes his trenchcoat, pointed hat. Catches himself in the mirror, touches the streak of grey hair.

He peers into a glass case at an object of his affection--a LIGHTSABER, resting on a pedestal. A collector's item. He gazes at it with envy.

Hux removes a few coins from his pocket. Places one on the table. Extends his hand...

...and tries to USE THE FORCE TO MOVE IT. It doesn't budge. His face grows red from trying.

CHANCELLOR HUX Nnnnnnggghhh...

KYLO (OS) (voice distorted) Has all been well in my absence?

Hux STARTLES, embarrassed. Kylo's masked face is in shadow.

CHANCELLOR HUX Supreme Leader. You've returned. If I'd known--

KYLO I don't need grand displays and processions. Or titles. *Chancellor*. Kylo steps into the light. The new mask is reminiscent of his first but sharper, nastier. SCARIER.

KYLO (CONT'D) My knights tell me the girl was within your grasp.

CHANCELLOR HUX Apparently your knights took it upon themselves to deal with my General's failure.

KYLO And how should I address your failure?

Hux turns whiter. Takes a small step back.

CHANCELLOR HUX What happened to your--

KYLO She's beloved, isn't she?

CHANCELLOR HUX Belief is the solace of peasants. The people cling to folklore, but they fear the First Order.

KYLO

They fear ME. Soon I will command the Force in ways unseen since the Ancients.

CHANCELLOR HUX The power described in the Sith Texts. You've found it?

KYLO It is within my reach. The ability to destroy a planet will be... insignificant.

CHANCELLOR HUX What are your orders?

KYLO Find the Resistance, wipe them out.

CHANCELLOR HUX And the girl?

KYLO Leave her to me. INT. RESISTANCE BASE - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

A HOLOGRAM OF THE CAPITOL lights up.

Poe stands before the Resistance leadership, Leia nearby.

POE

As you know, the First Order has silenced communication between all neighboring systems. The source of the blockade is a transmission jammer deep in the First Order Capitol on Coruscant, here.

The Capitol hologram BLINKS, zooms. A CUBE within.

POE (CONT'D) So far we've been unable to find a weakness. No thermal exhaust port, no oscillator. In other words, they're onto us.

Leia smiles. He's great.

POE (CONT'D) Our forces are too depleted to mount a direct assault, but we've found an alternative.

The Capitol hologram dissipates to make way for a new structure: THE JEDI TEMPLE, a familiar five-spired building.

POE (CONT'D) An analog system, from the days of the Old Republic.

Schematics of an ANCIENT MACHINE, powered by Kyber crystal.

POE (CONT'D) A small team will activate the beacon and summon the galaxy to war.

The hologram demonstrates -- a light SHOOTS FROM THE CENTER SPIRE and connects fifty other planets like dots.

POE (CONT'D) When they succeed...the rest of us will be ready.

Finn steps forward, eyes alive.

FINN I'll lead the team, General. ROSE I'll lead the team, General. But I'll let him think he's doing it. Leia eyes Rey, sensing her conflict.

LEIA

Rey?

REY They're looking for me, it's dangerous enough as it is. (conflicted) I can't go with you.

Poe's smile fades. Leia doesn't press it, reading the room.

LEIA Prepare to evacuate. We'll reconvene at the rendezvous point.

ON R2-D2 AND C-3PO

on the edges of the room. R2 BEEPS.

C-3PO Coruscant? Finally a good idea from those scrambled circuits of yours. Coruscant will be quite pleasant this time of year.

R2 garbles and rolls off. C-3PO follows.

C-3PO (CONT'D) Yes, a properly refined city will be welcome after hoveling down here like a Gundark.

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - CORRIDOR - DAY

Poe catches up with Rey.

POE Hey. What was that about?

REY

I have to bring an end to all this. I have to confront him.

POE Mmmhmm. You're just gonna "confront him"? Who talks like that?

REY Jedi do. I'm new to this. POE Okay, I'm going with you. REY No. I have to go alone. POE Is that in your book too? Where is this confrontation going to happen? REY Mortis. In the unknown regions. POE Mortis is a myth. REY It isn't. I saw it. POE Oh you saw it. And how do plan on finding it? Rey hesitates, unsure. REY I'll...figure it out. She walks away. Poe follows, determined. POE REY (CONT'D) Hey. Look, I know you think Please stop calling me that. I'm wasted air on any mission, Master Jedi--POE (CONT'D) REY (CONT'D) --but the thing is, I know If it's one of your Flight someone who can find the Academy friends, I swear-system you're looking for. POE (CONT'D) REY (CONT'D) It's not one of those guys. --because they are unreliable at best. And I am being nice. But those guys are great. POE (CONT'D) She's a navigator, lives on Bonadan. Force sensitive, like you. (off her look) Not exactly like you. Spice diggers used to pay her to find deposits on asteroids.

REY Do you trust her?

POE She's a little off, but if this place exists, she can find it.

Rey softens. Poe is standing closer than he's ever been.

POE (CONT'D) Hey. I get it. No attachments, Jedi path, I've read that story too. But... (catches himself) I'm just saying you don't have to do this alone.

ON LEIA

Through layers of pilots, notices Rey and Poe in the corridor. Recognizes the romantic tension.

Her knowing look quickly turns to concern.

ON POE AND ROSE

Finn tightens a bolt on the grappling cannon. A loud CLANK startles him. He closes his eyes, left hand shaking.

ROSE

Hey. It's okay.

Finn's past has followed him for years. Memories of friends kidnapped and conditioned to serve.

FINN One of the Stormtroopers on Kuat. I knew him. We trained together, when we were kids. He looked so scared. I remember that feeling.

ROSE I don't think that feeling ever goes away.

FINN I can't let more of them end up like me. It has to stop.

Rose puts a calming hand on his. He breathes easier.

ROSE That's what we're fighting for. INT. KYLO REN'S CHAMBER - NIGHT

Kylo gazes down at Darth Vader's burned mask, speaking once more to the grandfather he never knew.

KYLO I understand you now. Your weakness. Your pain. You allowed love to cloud your judgement. I will succeed where you failed.

He grips Vader's mask and exits onto his balcony.

A thousand feet up, a layer of clouds below, stars above. Kylo holds Vader's mask out over the edge...

...and lets it go. It plunges below the clouds and SHATTERS.

INT. TIE SILENCER - NIGHT

Kylo Ren lowers into the cockpit. His drone, VX-20, settles into the data dock over his right shoulder.

KYLO (amplified, distorted) Set a course for Remnicore.

VX-20 beeps in affirmation.

INT. WAR ROOM - NIGHT

Hux watches Kylo's TIE Silencer fly into the starfield above.

CHANCELLOR HUX

Goodbye Ren.

Commander Sellik approaches.

COMMANDER SELLIK Sir, one of our probes picked up the droid's signal. We've found them.

CHANCELLOR HUX Ready my ship, I want to witness their extinction myself.

COMMANDER SELLIK Shall I inform the Supreme Leader?

# CHANCELLOR HUX

No. Let Kylo and the girl fulfill the empty promises of their ancient religion. In the end they'll destroy each other, as Jedi and Sith always have. Then we will rise. Strong, *decisive*. Ready to bring true order to the galaxy.

Commander Sellik eyes Hux, unnerved by him.

CHANCELLOR HUX (CONT'D) Prepare the attack.

EXT. RESISTANCE BASE - SPACECRAFT HANGAR - DAY

Buzzing energy as the Resistance evacuates the base. Poe and Chewbacca load up the Millennium Falcon.

POE Because I'm not sending her out there alone, that's why. (BRAAGGGHH!!!) Will you trust me?

Nearby, Rose and Finn load up the PHANTOM HAWK, her junky but reliable ship, pieced together from parts.

Rose has the hood open, tinkering with the innards.

ROSE This is a Corellian hyperdrive. R2, do we have a keycode for this?

R2-D2 projects a hologram of KEYCODES. Finds a match.

ROSE (CONT'D) This is every hyperdrive key in the old Imperial fleet. They still use these. R2, where'd you get this?

R2-D2 beeps.

C-3PO I told you to erase the data from Bespin's central computer. You don't know where it's been.

Finn looks past the droids to REY, loading up the Falcon with Poe and Chewie. He approaches her.

FINN Guess this is goodbye.

REY Don't say that. FINN You've come a long way since Jakku. REY So have you. (eyes the Resistance) They trust you. They should. Finn and Rey HUG. They say nothing, but it means everything. Poe appears, BB-8 rolling alongside him. POE We should get outta here before--(awkward intrusion) Oh, I uh --Finn pulls Poe in strongly and hugs him. FINN (to Rey) Take care of him. REY I will. Finn swallows his emotion and forces himself away to the Phantom Hawk, where Rose sweats under the engine bay. ROSE No, hop onboard, relax. I'll handle all of this...work. Rey watches Finn board the ship. Nothing but love for her friend. Beyond the Phantom Hawk, Leia approaches. REY Leia. I... LEIA You don't have to say it. Right. Force-sensitive. REY I can save your son. LEIA I believed that once, like you.

38.

REY There's good in him.

LEIA There's good in all of us. But the boy I knew is gone. (a heartbreaking beat) Rey, be careful.

REY Master Luke trained me well.

LEIA Some things you can't train for.

Rey follows Leia's eyes to POE, caught staring at her just as Chewbacca tosses him a wrench.

REY I don't-- What?

LEIA Come on. I know how complicated this is.

REY I can't. There are rules. Jedi rules.

LEIA (scoffs) Written by who? Some old man, a thousand years before you were born.

Leia speaks to Rey like her own daughter.

LEIA (CONT'D) My whole life, I heard one word. Balance. I never really understood what it meant. Until the first time I saw you. I heard that word again. Like it was whispered to me. Balance.

Leia takes her hand. Intimate. Close.

LEIA (CONT'D) You're not like my father. Or my brother. You're *new*. Whatever happens, remember: the Force chose you, Rey. Your story isn't written by anyone else. BOOOOOMMMM. A massive blast shakes the mountain. Dust crumbles, alarms blare. Massive blips on radar screens.

RESISTANCE TECH Resurgent Class Star Destroyer detected, we're taking fire!

## EXT. SPACE - KORILEV ORBIT

The Finalizer bears down on the planet while two other FIRST ORDER STARSHIPS arrive from lightspeed, flanking it.

INT. FINALIZER DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

Hux looks out at the glowing planet beyond.

CHANCELLOR HUX Decimate any ships leaving the planet! (to Weapons Op) Charge the primary weapon!

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - SPACECRAFT HANGAR - DAY

BOOOOOM!! Alarm lights FLASH. Pilots run for their ships.

COMMAND INTERCOM (VO) Emergency evac. All personnel and craft to Rendezvous Point Crimson.

RESISTANCE GUARDS surround Leia.

LEIA Route all unarmored transports to the Eclipse, it's our only way out.

Leia locks eyes with Rey as she goes.

POE Rey! We have to go! (she's focused on Leia) Rey!

Rey races up the Falcon ramp. Poe yells to Finn.

POE (CONT'D) Go! Get out of here!

Finn and Rose hurry into the Phantom Hawk.

Transports and fighters fly out of the hangar toward the waiting Eclipse, hidden in a deep canyon.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT - DAY

Rey and Poe instinctively spin into the pilot seats. Chewie doesn't like it. He ROARS.

POE I know, I know. Your seat.

Chewie bangs the walls. That's his damn chair.

REY (flipping switches) Can we talk about this later?

# INT. PHANTOM HAWK - DAY

Rose reverses their ship out of the hangar. Another BLAST from the Star Destroyer pulses the shields.

C-3PO I'm afraid our shields cannot withstand a superlaser of this magnitude--

ROSE Tell me the odds, Threepio. I like numbers.

Finn watches the Millennium Falcon rise out of the sinkhole.

FINN Good luck, Rey.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT - DAY

Rey answers Finn as if he's next to her.

REY (to Finn) You too.

The Falcon rises out of the deep sinkhole to the surface, where the jungle is ON FIRE. Laser blasts pound the mountain base from above, relentless.

Just inside the shield barrier, transports and fighters fly into the open docking bays of the Eclipse Destroyer, like bees into a hive, safe inside. INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

Leia takes her command position on the bridge, now fully manned by Resistance personnel.

CONNIX Shields are at eight percent, General. We can't wait any longer.

She takes one last look at Korilev. Another home taken from her.

INT. FINALIZER DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

Hux's pale face glows from superlaser fire.

WEAPONS OPERATOR Primary weapon charged, sir.

#### CHANCELLOR HUX

Fire!

INT. PHANTOM HAWK - SPACE

Finn and Rose feel the heat of the explosion all around them as the light bends ahead and they ESCAPE INTO HYPERSPACE.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

Leia closes her eyes, feeling the loss of the men and women left behind as the Eclipse MAKES THE JUMP TO LIGHTSPEED.

EXT. KORILEV - DAY

The Eclipse VANISHES in an instant.

The Finalizer's superlaser finally cracks the shields. The base ERUPTS.

The entire planet EXPLODES IN HELLFIRE. From the ring of destruction, the Millennium Falcon rockets out into space.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT - SPACE

The ship RATTLES. Mountainous chunks of space rock spin away from the exploded planet, creating a field of obstacles all around them. Chewbacca WHINES. POE

I know!
 (to Rey)
We can't make the jump with all
this debris.

REY Neither can that Destroyer.

POE Chewie, cloak our signal!

BOOOOOOMMMM! The Falcon quakes. Damage alarms blare.

They swerve and dodge through chunks of destroyed planet-some pieces still intact with mountains, jungle valleys and waterfalls frozen by the cold of space.

A familiar ship enters frame in blazing pursuit.

The dark and jagged KNIFE 9.

INT. KNIFE 9 - COCKPIT

Jaedec Ren at the helm. Ott and Lorl flank him in elevated gunchairs. In the deep background, Hattaska floats in an electro-oxygen chamber, tubes weaving around his body.

Ott and Lorl unload waves of targeted blasts on the Falcon, exploding remnants of planet when they miss the ship.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT

BOOM !! The Falcon is hammered with laser fire. Relentless.

POE Who's this?

Rey eyes the pursuing ship on the rearview graphic monitor.

REY Let me fly.

POE I've got the yoke. My yoke!

REY

My SHIP!

Chewie ROARS. Both wrong.

EXT. PLANET DEBRIS FIELD - SPACE

Knife 9 pursues the Falcon through the spinning pieces of Korilev, trying to avoid collision without losing the target.

The Falcon gets close to one of the planetary fragments and buzzes the surface, dodging blasts as it flies UP THE FACE OF A FROSTED JUNGLE MOUNTAIN IN SPACE.

The horizon spins as the fragment spirals above both ships, spinning out on its chaotic trajectory--suddenly the mountain is inverted above them with the blackness of space below.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT

Poe fires on the jagged mountain peak, hanging above them now like a stalactite.

The mountain peak blasts apart, sending projectiles spinning into the path of the pursuing craft.

Knife 9 is HIT by a sharp piece of rocky mountaintop, sending it wildly off course.

REY We're clear!

POE

Punch it!

Light bends ahead and they ROCKET INTO HYPERSPACE.

INT. KNIFE 9 - COCKPIT

Alarms blare as they spin out. Jaedec Ren regains control, righting the ship. The Falcon is gone.

Jaedec approaches the electro-oxygen chamber, eyeing Hattaska through the glass. Wires protrude from his mask into the main computer. He's in some kind of induced sleep.

JAEDEC REN What do you see, brother?

Jaedec places hand on the glass. Suddenly Hattaska does the same, hand flat on the glass against Jaedec's.

Lorl and Ott look on, waiting for the answer. Jaedec's head tilts up. He nods, removes his hand from the glass.

JAEDEC REN (CONT'D) Set a course for Bonadan. EXT. REMNICORE - NIGHT

Kylo's TIE Silencer enters the atmosphere of a cold black planet veined with silver.

It touches down on a ridge overlooking a wide valley of obsidian-like terrain. Frozen trees in windswept shapes. Floes of white lava.

EXT. REMNICORE FORTRESS - NIGHT

Kylo approaches an ancient stone military battlement consumed by time. Skeletons of fallen WAR BEASTS litter the terrain. Whatever battle happened here, it ended centuries ago.

He passes empty suits of armor. Robes draped over broken shields. Flags flutter in the wind.

A Sith helmet on the ground, skull visible within. A reminder that while the Jedi live on, the Sith become dust.

His tracking beacon flashes a single red dot.

Lifeform detected.

INT. REMNICORE FORTRESS - COURTYARD - NIGHT

The door OPENS TOWARD US, revealing Kylo, hand extended.

He enters a circular chamber stacked with broken spacecraft parts, ancient military technology and piles of silver ore. A glowing white fire crackles in a stone pit.

A voice WHISPERS as he draws closer to the flame.

TOR VALUM (OS) Reveal yourself.

Kylo's lightsaber IGNITES. A reflex action.

KYLO I seek the Sith Master Tor Valum.

TOR VALUM (OS) I am no master.

The mountain of junk MOVES. From it, as if disguised within, comes TOR VALUM, 7000-years-old, an alien of unknown origin. Spindly and tense, sinew and muscle pulled tight.

TOR VALUM (CONT'D) But I was once called Tor Valum. Kylo remains steadfast. Dominant.

KYLO You trained Darth Plagueis?

TOR VALUM That name means nothing to me.

Kylo's lightsaber FLASHES in anger, settling inches from Tor Valum's taut, leathery skin.

KYLO Does your life?

Tor Valum regards Kylo, smiles with sharp teeth.

TOR VALUM You threaten me with death. How amusing.

KYLO You are weak. I feel nothing.

TOR VALUM You feel what I allow you to feel. Child.

The creature extends a long finger. Pointing to Kylo's mask.

TOR VALUM (CONT'D) Reveal yourself.

Kylo removes his mask. His face is veined, corrupted worse than we remember. Tor Valum appears oddly entertained.

TOR VALUM (CONT'D) Mmmmm. You wish to obtain the power of those who came before. Take your place among the Gods of Mortis.

KYLO

I do.

TOR VALUM To rule the galaxy without armies, without starships.

KYLO

Yes.

TOR VALUM Yet you fear the frailty of your vessel. You need this power. Kylo's jaw tenses. He nods.

TOR VALUM (CONT'D) Kneel before me.

Miraculously, Kylo KNEELS.

TOR VALUM (CONT'D) You call yourself a Sith. But the Sith are unrepentant, remorseless. You're haunted by the past, your very existence.

KYLO I have no regrets.

TOR VALUM You lie. Until you sever yourself from the past, your fate will be the same as theirs.

Tor Valum motions to the battlefield in the valley below. Empty JEDI KNIGHT ARMOR. Vacant SITH MARAUDER ARMOR beside it. Withered husks of animals and men.

> TOR VALUM (CONT'D) The Living Force is nourishment. The more one consumes, the stronger one becomes. To take life...is to cheat death.

The creature lifts his body with his arms and WALKS ON THEM.

Kylo eyes his strange new master.

KYLO

Teach me.

CUT TO:

EXT. BONADAN - SUNSET

The Falcon descends into a valley of cylindrical mountains rising over water spotted with junk boats. This planet exists in permanent sunset, lit by its bustling NIGHTMARKETS.

The Falcon lands on a multi-leveled DOCKING ARRAY. It feels like a tower of lilypads, a visiting ship on each.

EXT. BONADAN - DOCKING ARRAY - SUNSET

Poe argues with two stumpy Langoles, OKE and SOKKO, at the base of the Millennium Falcon's ramp.

POE I know it's a Corellian light freighter but you're gonna say it's a Praddor Cruiser in the registry. That's why I winked when I gave you the money. Understand what's happening here?

Oke and Sokko CHATTER in their alien language, voices rising.

POE (CONT'D) Okay, which one of you is in charge because you're both the size of children where I come from.

Rey exits the Falcon. Poe stops her.

POE (CONT'D) Whoa, whoa. You can't go out like that. You look like a (low) Jedi.

REY What's that supposed to mean?

POE Just tone it down a little. (to Chewie) Chewie, will you straighten these guys out?

Chewbacca takes over negotiations with the Langoles.

The landing pads ROTATE AND DESCEND, lowering the Falcon's platform to water level. An elegant and fluid system.

Poe leads Rey toward a TOOTHLESS MERCHANT selling jewelry and sari-like robes.

POE (CONT'D) How much for this one?

Rey takes out her credits. The Merchant shakes her head, closes Rey's hand around the money.

REY

Thank you.

BRAAAGGGHH!! Chewbacca has one of the Langoles lifted off the ground, using him as a bargaining chip against the other one.

POE Aw, Chewie! <u>Negotiate</u>. Persuade, quietly.

Chewbacca shakes his head and WHINES: I am.

EXT. BONADAN NIGHTMARKET - SUNSET

Rey and Poe step off a junk boat ferry into a sensory overload of lights, smells and tastes.

Aliens and humans haggle over prices of artisan crafts and live animals. Packs of teenagers eat bizarre street food from market stalls. Kids laugh at buskers and street performers.

A FREAK SHOW HAWKER beckons them to a curtained booth.

HAWKER Come witness the frothing eye of Loyyil Karn!

They walk among the oddities and wonders, undercover. Rey's colorful sari gives her an exotic elegance we've never seen.

She uncomfortably adjusts her incognito hooded pullover.

POE I like it. You look like a local.

REY You've been here before?

POE With my grandfather. I used to sail, right out there. You've never seen so many lights.

He eyes her.

POE (CONT'D) What do you remember?

Rey digs for a memory before her abandonment.

REY My father and I would build starships out of wood. They could fit in your hand. POE Anything else?

REY I remember love. That's why I waited for so long. (doubt creeps in) But I must have imagined it. They were no one.

Poe looks at her in the setting sunlight. Wishing he could change the past for her, but unable.

POE No one is no one.

Rey takes that in. Then she spots a trio of MECHTROOPERS scanning the crowd ahead.

Poe follows her eyes, puts his hand on his blaster.

REY

No.

She pulls Poe into a market stall, eyeing them through hanging cloth. An old, female UTAI PEDDLER barks at them to taste the spicy clawfish soup she's selling.

UTAI PEDDLER Cassasan! Nep. Nep.

POE No. Not hungry.

She holds out the steaming ladle to Poe, encouraging.

UTAI PEDDLER (offended) Depee casssasan!

One of the Mechtroopers looks in their direction.

POE Okay. Here. Just shh.

Poe drinks from the soup ladle.

REY Mmm. See? Mmmm.

His face turns red. He COUGHS from the intense heat. The Utai and her friends LAUGH.

POE No, it's good.

He coughs harder, getting worse. The Mechtrooper moves in their direction, hearing the violent coughing...

Rey grabs Poe by the shirt and pulls him into a KISS, hiding his face behind her headscarf.

The Mechtrooper sees the two lovers from afar while the Utai women applaud in the background. He moves on.

Rey and Poe pull apart. He takes a moment to recover. He's never kissed a Jedi.

REY Did it work?

POE I mean, <u>I</u> think so.

Rey looks past him at the Mechtroopers walking away.

POE (CONT'D) Oh. So that wasn't--REY

(lying) No.

They eye each other, wishing the Force could stop time.

REY (CONT'D) We should--

POE Right. Yeah.

INT. BONADAN - NAVIGATOR'S DEN

A circular room draped with colorful silks. Devoted FOLLOWERS sit around the edges, smoking all manner of pipes and vaporizer devices. An ELECTROHARPIST plays ethereal music.

NOMI, a tiny alien child who appears no older than 5, sits on a pillow at the center of a floor made of marbles.

She consults quietly with an ALIEN COUPLE on the brink of divorce. They cry, touching foreheads.

Rey and Poe enter through hanging beads.

POE Easy on the details. She doesn't have to know who or why. Just what.

Nomi senses Rey and smiles past the couple in front of her.

NOMI A Jedi. The last.

All eyes turn to Poe and Rey.

POE Or this. We can do it this way.

Nomi nods to the couple before her, touching their chests.

NOMI

Go. (to Rey) Come. Sit. The Jedi and the man.

Conspiratorial asides in the gallery. Rey and Poe walk barefoot over the marbles fitted into the stone floor.

NOMI (CONT'D) You seek a place.

REY A planet.

NOMI Mortis is the place.

REY Yes, I saw it in --

NOMI The mouth on the Jedi stops and the mind makes the picture. The Force fills the Jedi and reveals the destination.

Poe nods encouragingly. Rey closes her eyes and breathes.

The tiny marbles in the floor RISE INTO THE AIR, taking the three-dimensional shape of the galaxy all around them.

NOMI (CONT'D) The destination is very old. The first to know the Force. The first where the good was done. And the evil too. Rey opens her eyes, surrounded by FLOATING MARBLES.

REY Which one?

NOMI The destination lies within.

POE Look, we're in a hurry--

NOMI The man will not speak.

The marbles swirl above Rey, a galaxy around her.

NOMI (CONT'D) The eyes close. Only the Jedi knows the path...

Nomi's voice grows distant as Rey falls deep into meditation.

FLASH TO:

# MORTIS

Snow on the peak. Autumn leaves in the valley below.

NOMI (VO) (CONT'D) There the two will meet. Drawn together by the Force.

THE TEMPLE

Two thrones in the rock. A well of light, pulsing from deep within the mountain below.

NOMI (VO) (CONT'D) The dark side and the light.

A CLOAKED FIGURE

Standing before Rey. His mask unmistakable.

NOMI (VO) (CONT'D) There she will make the sacrifice.

THE FLASH OF A RED LIGHTSABER

Jarring, violent as Kylo Ren STRIKES REY DOWN.

Rey SNAPS OUT OF HER VISION.

POE Wait, what?

A flat black oval stone at the center of the marble array falls from orbit into Nomi's palm.

POE (CONT'D) What do you mean, sacrifice?

She hands it to a rabbit-sized astroscrivener, GEB, seated at a tiny easel. He paints a starmap of the chosen location.

NOMI The Jedi must go alone.

POE No, hold on a second.

Geb the Astroscrivener tears the drawn planetary map off his easel, limps to Rey and hands it over.

REY

Thank you.

POE We're not leaving. What did she see? (to Rey) What did you see?

NOMI The Jedi will make the journey. The journey will answer the question.

POE <u>What question</u>? Can we all just take a deep breath and talk about this.

Rey stops at the door.

REY Is there another path?

Nomi looks at Rey with wide, unreadable eyes.

NOMI

There is always another path.

EXT. CORUSCANT - NIGHT

Rose's Phantom Hawk descends through the skyscraper canyons. The city plunges underground below them, dense and alive, like roots of a tree. INT. PHANTOM HAWK - NIGHT

Finn and Rose observe through the cockpit panel.

FINN So many people living underground.

ROSE Rich folks don't spend much time thinking about what they're standing on.

Finn eyes the darkened JEDI TEMPLE in the distance.

FINN That's it. Drop R2 and Threepio at street level.

C-3PO I'm afraid all my knowledge of Coruscant is limited to the upper levels.

R2-D2 BEEPS.

C-3PO (CONT'D) Elitist? Where do you even learn these words?

EXT. CORUSCANT - NIGHT

The Phantom Hawk rises from the streets, leaving R2 and C-3PO behind. The ship ascends on the darkened roof of a skyscraper in skeletal stage, lights off.

INT. ABANDONED SKYSCRAPER - NIGHT

An unfinished floor, beams and girders only. Rose and Finn open a case, fold out their GRAPPLING CANNON.

THUNK! THUNK! Rose bolts the gun into the concrete floor.

Finn attaches a sniper scope to the muzzle of the cannon. Aims at the top of the JEDI TEMPLE SPIRE a quarter-mile away.

FINN

Ready?

The grappling cannon FIRES. Sticks. They harness in.

ROSE You don't have a fear of heights, do you?

FINN It's not the height I'm afraid of, it's hitting the ground.

ROSE So you'll be fine if we don't fall.

They unlatch and ZIPLINE A THOUSAND FEET above the city.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE SPIRE - NIGHT

Finn and Rose crash through the shattered window and unbuckle. The chamber is barely recognizable, long forgotten.

FINN (into comm) R2, you have that message ready?

EXT. JEDI TEMPLE COURTYARD - NIGHT

R2-D2 beeps, leading C-3PO through the decrepit courtyard at the base of the temple. A sad reminder of a better time.

C-3PO This doesn't look like the Jedi Temple to me.

They move past oil drum fires and covetous looks from the city's DWELLERS, the poorest of the poor.

C-3PO (CONT'D) What do you mean I stand out? (R2 beeps) Gold is not ostentatious. Leave the vocabulary to me you glorified mechanic.

A VAGABOND ALIEN steps in front of Threepio. Several others appear from behind, rubbing their hands across his wares.

C-3PO (CONT'D) Excuse me! Oh my.

A STROBE LIGHT blinds them.

STORMTROOPER VOICE Get away from that droid!

The dwellers scatter. The strobe shuts off, revealing the light and the audio recording came from R2-D2.

C-3PO Thank goodness. Don't ever leave me again.

R2-D2 leads them through a crumbled wall inside the temple, revealing the GRAND ENTRANCE HALL-gothic arched ceilings over a massive Kyber Crystal mounted like a holy sculpture.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE SPIRE - NIGHT

Rose and Finn run their fingers along the smooth walls. Rose finds a pyramid-shaped socket.

FINN

Found one.

Finn finds another identical panel across the room. He unwraps a pair of CRYSTALS. Throws her one.

ROSE

No!

She CATCHES IT.

ROSE (CONT'D) Five thousand year old Kyber crystal. Very rare. You hand it to me.

FINN

Sorry.

They insert their crystals into the sockets.

FINN (CONT'D) Ready? Three two...

CLICK. The spire RUMBLES. The floor opens. A HUGE COPPER MACHINE rises up, Old Republic tech around a central conducting chamber. Power flows through it, humming. Grand.

Then it SHORTS OUT, sparks fall. The machine goes dark.

ROSE Can't it be easy? Just one time. EXT. REMNICORE - NIGHT

A three-tusked GRONK BOAR squeals, struggling to run in place. The animal's eyes roll back as <u>the Living Force is</u> drained into Kylo's open hand, reducing it to a husk.

Kylo opens his eyes. His face has more life, his eyes brighter, scars receded. Empowered. Grateful.

Tor Valum smiles like a parent who just taught his child to ride a bicycle.

### KYLO

More.

TOR VALUM There is no more. You have consumed all that remains.

A wind cuts from an ice cave beyond. A faint glow within.

KYLO What's down there?

TOR VALUM

A vergence.

KYLO I can feel it.

TOR VALUM There is more within. Go.

Kylo puts on his mask and enters.

INT. VERGENCE CAVE - NIGHT

The light from Kylo's red saber refracts in the vast walls. The cave is empty. But not silent.

There is a sound from the darkness. BREATHING.

From the shadows comes the hulking presence of DARTH VADER.

Kylo stands his ground, lightsaber up, unsure what is happening. Vader ignites his own weapon, swings...

Kylo BLOCKS. Vader strikes again, forcing the descendant of Skywalker to defend himself.

It's a brutal fight. Intense lightsaber combat between two iconic villains.

But Kylo is no match. Vader STRIKES HIM DOWN. He screams in pain, falls to the ground.

Kylo struggles to remove his mask. Breathless. Looks down at his chest wound. It no longer exists.

He is alone.

EXT. REMNICORE - NIGHT

Kylo staggers from the cave. Angry, disoriented.

KYLO Where is Mortis?

TOR VALUM The well of the Living Force. The source of the galaxy's birth.

KYLO I want to be stronger than those who came before. Where is it?

Kylo's eyes are alive. Hungry.

TOR VALUM You are not worthy of its power. Not yet.

Kylo reaches out his arm and FORCE HOLDS Tor Valum, delving deep into his mind...

KYLO Where is Mortis?

Tor Valum's smile goes away. He grits his teeth, pained as Kylo probes and extracts.

TOR VALUM

Release me.

# KYLO

I see it.

TOR VALUM Betrayer...I gave you knowledge...

KYLO A mountain in winter. No, fall.

TOR VALUM I gave you everything... KYLO

I know. You've given me so much.

The light of the Living Force drains from Tor Valum into Kylo's open hand.

## KYLO (CONT'D)

Thank you.

The ancient being falls dead, reduced to a withered shell.

EXT. BONADAN - OUTSIDE NAVIGATOR'S HUT - NIGHT

Rey COLLAPSES, a powerful disturbance coursing through her.

POE What is it?

REY He's growing stronger.

Poe looks around the market, as if Kylo is nearby.

REY (CONT'D) We don't have much time.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE SPIRE - NIGHT

Sparks fly as Rose welds the broken conductor into place.

FINN Will this old thing work with modern droids?

ROSE You're asking me about the mechanics of a Force-powered antenna.

FINN Out of your realm of expertise?

ROSE Out of anyone's realm of expertise.

She closes the panel, flips a rusted lever. Silence.

FINN So is there like an "on" button, or--

THMMMM. A light IGNITES within the machine.

ROSE Listen, if this goes sideways-- I just want to say--

FINN

Say what?

A column of light SHOOTS down the hollow spire.

INT. TEMPLE SPIRE BASE - NIGHT

C-3PO lurches as the ground VIBRATES. The column of light from the spire above <u>connects with the Kyber crystal below</u>. It GLOWS.

R2-D2 wheels next to the column of light and projects a HOLOGRAM MESSAGE directly into the datastream.

EXT. CORUSCANT - NIGHT

The light beam shoots up into the sky, visible for miles.

The poor and downtrodden look up at the beacon, faces warmed by its light. Among them, Dade smiles, hopeful.

EXT. DEEP SPACE

The LIGHT leaves Coruscant and connects to a nearby planet.

EXT. AGORA SIX - DAY

Hills rise above a dense layer of palm jungle. Atop one, a THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD RECEIVER from the Old Republic. The light hits the receiver, disappearing within.

INT. AGORA SIX RECEIVER - DAY

An old copper machine consumes the light. The gears spin and whirl. Monitors come to life with ARABESH CODE.

An ancient BENDU MONK rises to his feet, looks to the sky. He's been waiting for this a long time.

Lights blink and flash as the machine decodes the datastream back into an image: LEIA, elegant in her white robes.

PEASANTS in a bread line look up at the light hitting the receiver in the distance.

Suddenly a nearby R4 Unit droid beeps wildly and PROJECTS THE HOLOGRAM OF LEIA.

LEIA (hologram) This is General Leia Organa of the Resistance...

The Receiver sends another BEAM OF LIGHT from its core, angled on a different trajectory into the sky.

EXT. DEEP SPACE

The beacon of light leaves the Agora system and connects to WAVETT, a light blue planet further into space.

EXT. WAVETT - SHIPYARD - DAY

WORKERS look up as the light hits a Receiver perched on a cliff overlooking the ocean.

Suddenly every DROID in the yard simultaneously PROJECTS the hologram message from Leia.

LEIA

(hologram) The time has come to forge a path to freedom.

INT. MON CALA - FISH BAR - DAY

MON CALAMARI pause to listen to the hologram emanating from several droid servers inside the floating eatery.

LEIA

(hologram) The forces of oppression have ruled our galaxy for too long.

EXT. GRIA - DAY

A village of floating straw huts on water. The light hits a man-made STONE TOWER on the horizon.

LEIA (hologram) We must join together and fight. Send your fastest ships...

EXT. BOTHAWUI CITY - DAY

Muscular canine BOTHANS look up.

LEIA (hologram) All your warriors...

INT. TRANDOSHA PALACE - NIGHT

BOSSK, sitting like a sultan in his den of pleasures, turns angrily toward the hologram projected from his SERVANT DROID.

LEIA (hologram) Our voices will not be silenced.

Bossk looks out his window at the light connecting to a red rock spire in the distance. He clenches his fist.

EXT. TATOOINE - MOISTURE FARM - DAY

Setting suns against a BOY and his SISTER at the base of a vaporator tower watching their R6 unit play the hologram.

LEIA (hologram) We can no longer live in the shadow of the First Order.

EXT. BONADAN MARKET - SUNSET

Rey and Poe step through a dense, captivated crowd as droids project the end of the message.

LEIA (hologram) We must step into the light.

## INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER BRIDGE

Leia stands on the bridge, watching the light connecting planets. A familiar group of Resistance fighters join her, their eyes wide and hopeful. EXT. REMNICORE TUNDRA - NIGHT

As he approaches his ship, Kylo Ren feels the light in the sky. It's visible in the stars above.

He moves to a rocky overlook. Closes his eyes, concentrates. Holds out his hand.

The rocks around him VIBRATE. Deep.

The light in the sky HALTS. Stopped by an immoveable force.

EXT. SPACE

The light is frozen in place like a suspended laser blast, thrumming as pressure builds.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE SPIRE - NIGHT

The beam grows in intensity. The receiver QUAKES.

ROSE Something's wrong.

FINN

Go. GO.

Rose and Finn dive away as the ancient device EXPLODES.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE

The light GOES DARK, the fire of revolution extinguished.

Leia is overcome with an ominous feeling of loss.

EXT. BONADAN NIGHTMARKET - SUNSET

The holograms DISAPPEAR. Rey's hope turns to alarm.

#### REY

We have to get to the ship.

### POE

What is it?

Rey is already moving, pushing through the crowd.

Rose and Finn climb from the rubble, coughing on dust.

ROSE

You okay?

They are suddenly SURROUNDED BY A TRIO OF TIE FIGHTERS, laser cannons aimed through the open arched windows.

FINN

Come on!

Finn clips onto the zip wire. Rose grabs on. They zip away from the tower as the Temple Spire EXPLODES behind them.

In the courtyard below, R2-D2 and C-3PO hurry out of the collapsing temple, swallowed by a cloud of dust.

EXT. ABOVE CORUSCANT - NIGHT

Finn and Rose escape the fireball, but the TIE Fighters turn and PURSUE THEM, blasting away.

Rose draws her weapon and shoots at the enemy ships in midair. She shatters the front windshield of one, hitting the pilot. It spins out and CRASHES.

Rose is grazed by a laser blast. She screams in pain.

The zipline SNAPS as the temple spire CRUMBLES. Rose FALLS INTO DARKNESS.

FINN

Rose!!

Finn swings into open floor of the unfinished skyscraper. Struggles to unhook himself.

The TIE Fighters hover around the skeletal structure on either side and FIRE INTO IT. Finn runs for his life as the blasts ricochet off steel girders all around him.

He slides into a stairwell under heavy fire.

EXT. BONADAN NIGHTMARKET - SUNSET

Rey crumbles, emotional, feeling Finn's pain.

REY

Finn...

She looks up at Poe, the crushing feeling of loss growing heavier. But Poe is looking at something behind her.

HATTASKA REN, through the separating crowd.

OTT AND LORL REN on either side, menacing amidst the carnival lights and box lanterns.

Rey rises, backing away from the oncoming Knights of Ren.

POE Okay I'm with you. We gotta get to the ship.

She reaches for her lightsaber...

POE (CONT'D)

Not here.

Rey eyes the children and peasants in the market. Poe's right, they can't take more casualties.

Rey clenches her fist and FORCE PUSHES EVERYTHING AROUND HER-a powerful concussion blast that knocks everything away, including Poe.

He flies off the edge of the market wall and plunges into the water below.

Rey jumps onto the dock, and unhooks a RAZORSAIL, powered by a Dyson-like air cannon.

REY

Get on!

Poe swims to the boat's ladder.

POE Can you sail?

Rey channels the Force and FILLS THE SAIL with a gust of wind that launches them into the bay.

EXT. BONADAN BAY - SUNSET

Poe and Rey speed across the bay toward the landing array. This boat is VERY FAST.

Something fires from above, exploding the water all around. Rey looks up.

Knife 9 SPEEDS OVER THE WATER TOWARD THEM.

Get to the bow cannon. I'll drive.

Poe takes the helm while Rey activates the laser harpoon mounted on the front.

She BLASTS AWAY at Knife 9 while Poe steers them toward the Falcon's docking array.

INT. KNIFE 9

Hattaska Ren pilots with cold precision. Jaedec, Ott and Lorl sit in surrounding cockpit chairs.

EXT. BONADAN BAY - SUNSET

The Razorsail now takes fire from all sides. Rey thinks fast, turns the harpoon and SHOOTS THE SAIL CORD.

She reaches out to Poe.

#### REY

Hold on!

Poe joins her and holds on tight.

The disconnected sail lifts them up like parasailers onto the first revolving landing pad of the docking array.

The Razorsail hits the shore and EXPLODES.

Knife 9 banks away from the explosion, but turns right around. They're not done yet.

EXT. LANDING PLATFORM - SUNSET

Chewbacca is waiting by the ship.

POE Chewie, we drew some attention!

An adjacent landing pad lowers into view.

Knife 9 rests on it. The four Knights of Ren stand ominously out front, their platform rising even with the Falcon's.

Rey activates her lightsaber.

REY Stand back. Rey leaps onto their landing pad and takes them on, spinning and striking fast, outmatched but relentless.

Poe and Chewbacca unload their blasters at Jaedec, who deflects with skill while firing a pistol with one free hand.

Rey fights Hattaska--lightsaber vs darksaber--then FORCE PUSHES him off the edge of the landing array. He falls fifty feet to the next pad below.

Ott and Lorl stay on her, moving in coordination, an unseen hive communication keeping their deadly attacks in sync.

Poe and Chewie can't get a shot in on Jaedec--his blaster fires FAST, fully-automatic.

Poe is GRAZED, he screams in pain.

ON REY AND THE KNIGHTS

Rey hears Poe's scream. It brings RAGE. She kicks Lorl away, buying a moment of one-on-one with Ott.

She slices through him, dropping him cold. Then she spins on Lorl, reaches out...

... and FORCE PULLS HIM INTO HER LIGHTSABER, impaling him.

A ghostly screech as Hattaska RETURNS, swinging wildly.

Rey disconnects her double saber and BLOCKS HIS STRIKE--one saber blade still impaled in Lorl's chest, the other clenched with Hattaska.

BENEATH THE FALCON

Chewbacca peppers Jaedec Ren with bowcaster fire. Jaedec struggles to deflect the shots while Chewbacca advances.

He reaches Jaedec, grabs him by the neck and HURLS him off the landing pad.

Then he lifts his bowcaster and FIRES, hitting Jaedec in midair like a clay pigeon.

HATTASKA STRIKES AT REY

Brutal swings, his darksaber sparking when it hits the concrete. He grazes her. She drops her lightsaber and falls back. Unarmed.

Hattaska stands over her. Raises his darksaber for the kill. When he does, Rey gets a good look at his MASK...

FORCEBACK TO:

Dark figures in the rain. Voices SCREAMING.

Lightning flashes, revealing HATTASKA REN.

BACK TO:

EXT. BONADAN DOCKING ARRAY - SUNSET

This vision stirs a deep, vengeful ANGER in Rey. One she can't yet explain but knows to be true.

Hattaska brings his saber down...but she extends her good hand, teeth clenched, eyes burning.

PURPLE FORCE LIGHTNING flows from her fingertips.

Hattaska Ren's skull flashes within his helmet as the electricity destroys him.

The body falls, smoking.

Rey rises. Poe and Chewbacca are watching her, disturbed.

REY I- I had no choice.

POE It's okay. Jedi do that. Right?

REY I've seen that mask before. All of them.

Poe and Chewie head for the Falcon...but Rey does not follow.

POE Rey, let's go.

REY No. You can't go where I'm going.

POE What are you talking about? This was the plan.

REY The Resistance needs you. Finn and Rose need you. POE Rey. Get on the ship. Please.

REY You have to leave this place.

POE I'm not leaving you.

Rey knows what she has to do. Hates it.

REY You will leave this place and go back to help the Resistance.

POE I'm not...don't do this...

She approaches Poe. Delicately brushes her fingertips over his bleeding forehead.

REY You will leave this place and go back to help the Resistance.

Chewbacca HOWLS.

POE No...you can't...

Poe feels his mind slipping away from him.

REY You will leave this place and go back to help the Resistance.

Rey takes Poe's face in her hands and KISSES HIM.

When she pulls away, Poe looks distraught. Saddened.

POE I...I have to leave this place. I have to help the Resistance.

Poe turns and walks up the ramp. Chewbacca follows. BB-8 looks up at Rey, ever faithful. She's purposefully cold.

REY

Go!

BB-8 BEEPS mournfully and follows them onboard.

Rey watches as the Falcon's ramp RISES, obscuring Poe and Chewbacca from her sight.

Strangely, as it closes, Poe holds up a hand goodbye. His sentience breaking through the mind trick.

The Falcon rises into the sky, Rey's sari robes whipping in the wind.

INT. KNIFE 9 - SUNSET

Rey enters the cockpit. Places Nomi's hand-drawn map on the console. Rests her lightsaber on top of it.

Her left hand is cut and bleeding. She wraps it with the sash from her sari, then removes the civilian robes to reveal the black warrior's clothing beneath.

She catches her reflection in the mirror.

A Jedi.

EXT. BONADAN - LANDING ARRAY - SUNSET

Knife 9 rises into the air and rockets into space.

INT. TIE SILENCER - NIGHT

Kylo Ren leaves Remnicore's orbit, mask off.

A holocom transmission from Hux appears on his dash.

CHANCELLOR HUX (holocom) Supreme Leader. The Resistance

attempted to override the communications blockade.

KYLO Do you really not know who stopped them?

Hux's face betrays him. He didn't know.

CHANCELLOR HUX Such treachery cannot stand. We must respond swiftly.

KYLO Our Empire is strong. Show them.

CHANCELLOR HUX Your absence emboldens them. If you've acquired the power you seek, show it. KYLO Snoke was right about you, Hux. Without faith, you serve only yourself. Kylo shuts the holocom off. Sets new coordinates manually. BLASTS INTO LIGHTSPEED. INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - SPACE Leia looks out at the blue swirl of hyperspace. CONNIX (distant) General... (clear, present) General? We're approaching the rendezvous point. Leia makes a decision. LEIA Prepare an Imperial shuttle. I'll need a valid code clearance. CONNTX But we're light years from--(gets the look) Yes, General. Connix exits, leaving Leia alone. She removes the General's bars from her robes, pulls a hood over her head. LUKE (VO) He's in pain. She responds to Luke as if he speaks to her often. LETA I feel it too. Luke's Force Ghost steps forward, at her side. LUKE He'll soon be more powerful than our father.

LEIA So will she.

LUKE She feels too much. Love. Anger.

LEIA Don't we all?

LUKE This is why the Jedi live in isolation. The pain of loss only leads to the Dark Side.

LEIA I've lost everything, and everyone. But I'd still choose to love.

Leia regards her brother. Missing him.

LEIA (CONT'D) Trust her instincts. She may not follow the path of the Jedi, but she's our only hope.

EXT. CORUSCANT - UNDERGROUND - NIGHT

Finn sneaks out of the skyscraper, bleeding, disoriented. Voices echo, flashlights searching for him, bearings lost.

Down the alley, Stormtroopers on AT-LT's--single-rider walkers--scan the dark with flood lights.

A small light up ahead. He ducks into shadow.

A Stormtrooper, RK-514, approaches, scanning the tunnel with his blaster-mounted flashlight.

Finn appears behind him, shoves a handheld device in the back of his neck and STUNS HIM.

The Stormtrooper collapses. Finn confiscates his weapon and holds him at blaster-point.

FINN

Look at me.

The Stormtrooper moans, half-conscious.

FINN (CONT'D) Take off your helmet. The Trooper follows the order. His eyes are scared, disillusioned. Vulnerable.

FINN (CONT'D) What do you remember? How far back?

RK-514

Huh?

FINN Do you remember when you were taken? Remember your parents?

RK-514 I. I don't know.

FINN Yeah you do. You remember everything. Conditioning camp. Blind fires.

RK-514 It was t-training.

FINN That's what they tell you.

Finn's face finds the light. RK-514 recognizes him.

RK-514 You're him. The traitor.

FINN That's right. We're brothers. All of us.

Finn tosses the Stormtrooper's helmet out of reach.

FINN (CONT'D) Give me your comm link.

RK-514 hands him his First Order comm.

FINN (CONT'D) It's not what they said it would be, is it? The things we're ordered to do. It's not right.

RK-514 takes that in. Torn. Breaking.

FINN (CONT'D) You had a name once. Do you remember it? He shakes his head no.

FINN (CONT'D) Get a name. That's the first step.

Finn shoulders RK-514's blaster and kicks open a sewer grate.

RK-514

Then what?

FINN Find something worth fighting for.

Finn DROPS into the dark sewer, leaving RK-514 changed.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - INQUISITION CHAMBER - DAY

Chancellor Hux stands over a prisoner strapped to a vertical torture rack. Rose.

CHANCELLOR HUX Are you comfortable?

ROSE Yeah, I have one of these at home.

CHANCELLOR HUX You changed the stolen Destroyer's signature codes so we couldn't trace it. Give me the new codes.

#### ROSE

You know, they told me to pick something easy to remember, like Life Day but...

CHANCELLOR HUX You think this is funny. Very well.

Hux holds out his hand. Shuts his eyes, concentrating deep.

ROSE Are you? Are you trying to use the Force on me?

CHANCELLOR HUX

Be quiet.

ROSE Oh no, see...you're not special. I mean, at all.

#### CHANCELLOR HUX

Shut up!

He calms his fury, restraining himself.

CHANCELLOR HUX (CONT'D) We have other ways to extract information.

Hux opens a blast door to reveal an ELECTRIC TORTURE DEVICE. New tech, built to work quickly.

Rose braces for a more painful kind of defiance.

CUT TO:

EXT. OLLAFORN - DAWN

Leia's shuttle descends among plumes of earth-hued steam shooting up like skyscrapers from surface cracks.

ALIENS soak in sulfur baths, sweating from the steam.

INT. OLLAFORN VILLAGE STREET - DAY

A trio of drunken FIRST ORDER OFFICERS stumble down a side street on leave. Two hold up the blitzed third, singing.

FIRST ORDER OFFICER Sing it how my mother sang it!

A white-robed figure walks past them. We glimpse LEIA'S face as she maneuvers through the enemy's midst.

She eyes an unmarked door lit by a single lamp. When the coast is clear, she heads in.

INT. OLLFORN CABARET CLUB - DAY

Classy, smoke-filled. Lampshades on every table. No customers left, only ALIEN SERVERS cleaning up and cashing out.

A slovenly BAND MANAGER divides up credits between a pair of quad-armed XEXTOS at the two pianos on stage.

The Servers leave their night's take to be counted by the owner, LANDO CALRISSIAN, 70, smooth as ever.

Leia's shadow falls over the pile of credits.

LEIA A man in his element.

Lando looks up, smiles big.

LANDO

Leia.

Lando is quickly on his feet, brings her hand to his lips.

LEIA Alright, alright.

The band manager eyes them from the stage.

LANDO You shouldn't be seen here.

LEIA For your sake or mine?

LANDO

Both.

INT. OLLAFORN CABARET CLUB - PRIVATE LOUNGE - DAY

Lando pours a warm cup of tea.

LANDO

The clientele are mostly First Order, but what can I do? The grip of this Empire is tighter than the last. Smuggling's a matter of life and death.

LEIA I need your help.

LANDO

(wary) Leia...

LEIA We need ships. Pilots. You know every smuggler in the galaxy--

LANDO Look, I promised Han I'd take care of you if something happened--

LEIA Oh <u>you'd</u> take care of me? LANDO

I know, you deserve better. But helping your new friends crash into the First Order's machine isn't what he would've wanted.

LEIA

Lando, the galaxy needs you.

Lando eyes something of concern on the cabaret floor. A trio of STORMTROOPERS talking to that skeezy Band Manager. They look up in Lando's direction.

He takes Leia's hand and heads for a private elevator.

LANDO Remind me never to make promises.

INT. OLLAFORN - DOCKING BAY - SPACE

Lando brings Leia to her shuttle ready for departure.

LANDO You need to go. I can't protect you here.

LEIA Come with me. Fight with us.

LANDO We won a war once already, what good did that do?

LEIA We proved it could be done.

LANDO Leia. I'd do anything for you.

Lando puts a loving hand on Leia's cheek. Leans forward and kisses her tenderly on the forehead.

LANDO (CONT'D)

I'm sorry.

IN THE SHUTTLE

Leia watches Lando grow small as the shuttle flies away, his cape dusting behind him.

LEIA Rey. Help us. EXT. DEEP SPACE - DAY

Rey drops out of lightspeed to find herself in swirling clouds, half red, half blue. An ominous and violent atmosphere surrounding a black circle.

The Galactic Void.

Suddenly the navigational equipment blinks out. The ship rattles. Alarms sound.

Rey braces herself, re-calculates for lightspeed and MAKES THE JUMP INTO THE VOID.

The stars streak into infinite straight lines ahead, then TWIST AND BEND as she passes through the black hole.

Rey's face becomes a echo of itself, in fifteen places at once, like the mirrorcave on Ahch-To.

NEARLY-SUBLIMINAL FLASHBACKS:

--Finn taking her hand on Jakku.

--Han Solo handing her a blaster on Takodana.

--Kylo reaching into her mind on Starkiller Base.

--Leia smiling fondly on her return to D'Quar.

--Luke taking the lightsaber on Ahch-To.

--Snoke snarling at her in the moments before his death.

-- Poe yelling out her name on Bonadan.

--Hattaska Ren's Force-electrified mask.

... until it all STOPS.

Rey opens her eyes. There is a planet ahead. No stars visible around it, only deep black.

Heavy clouds swirl over one third. Another third is a rich green. Another orange and red.

Suddenly the power DROPS OUT. Lights on the dashboard go dark. The ship goes into free fall.

EXT. MORTIS - WESTERN WOODS - DAY

Knife 9 skims over treetops and CRASH LANDS in a riverbed. Tiny fish leap out of the water and run away. Rey pries herself out of the wreckage and sloshes to land. She looks back at the smoking ship. No turning back.

She hikes into the leafy forest, SUMMER TURNING TO FALL at an accelerated pace around her.

The trees clear to a steep ledge. A towering mountain ahead. A TEMPLE barely visible at the summit. The valley below is alive with autumnal oranges, yellows and reds.

She journeys on.

EXT. MORTIS - EASTERN PLATEAU - DAY

Kylo's Silencer lands in a clearing of dead trees. No leaves on the branches, covered in snow.

He looks up at the mountain ahead. Visibility is low.

A NATURAL STONE BRIDGE over a deep precipice. Tall granite on either side, vaguely shaped into primitive faces.

It feels like a gate.

A WHISPER ON THE WIND swirls around him, fluttering his cape in the air. The Force is strong here.

He journeys on.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORUSCANT - IMPERIAL BOULEVARD - DAWN

Empty. Silent.

R2-D2 and C-3PO emerges from an abandoned building. Two small figures swallowed by the desolate urban landscape. R2 BEEPS.

C-3PO I agree, R2. We may not survive this time.

A shadow falls over them both. A battalion of FIRST ORDER TRANSPORTS descend through the morning mist.

They touch down, releasing an army of BRUTETROOPERS.

Thick, muscular mercenary enforcers, chrome armor and masks, reminiscent of Phasma. These guys make the Stormtroopers look like the neighborhood watch.

INT. TENEMENT BLOCK - DAWN

The Brutetroopers bark orders, flashing lights and weapons as families are forced from their homes.

A horrified, waist-high CHADRA-FAN begs for mercy.

CHADRA-FAN Beeeek! Beeeek naaat!

A Brutetrooper shoves his rifle into the alien's stomach, doubling him over. A trio of infants WAIL from their perch on the ceiling.

A few nearby Stormtroopers look at one another, disturbed by the violence. Next-level vicious.

The Brutetroopers push frightened citizens into prison crafts. Children are separated from their parents, herded into transports en route to the conditioning camps.

They scream, reaching through steel bars as the crafts RISE.

R2-D2 and C-3PO watch in horror as it plays out around them.

C-3PO I can't watch. How horrible.

R2 beeps, melancholy.

C-3PO (CONT'D) We'll never find Master Finn now.

INT. SEWER UNDERGROUND - DAY

Sludge water spurts out of multiple chutes into a gelatinous sewer cake of repulsive, mysterious contents.

Finn JETS out of a chute and SPLASHES DOWN, sputtering.

FINN

Ughh.

A pack of SEWER WOMP RATS feed on the refuse encased in the gelatinous mass. One approaches and sniffs, hideous whiskers brushing his face.

Finn tries to dislodge his arms from the gel.

FINN (CONT'D)
Hey! Get away! Ugghgh!

It takes a lick of his face before he can pull an arm out and SWAT it away. The womp rats SCATTER.

Then he sees why the rats scattered.

The colossal GRYOCK, a white eyeless larva the width of the tunnel it's emerging from. It feeds on the sewage, gaping mouth slowly sucking the gelatinous mass into its body.

FINN (CONT'D) Oh no. No, no no!

Finn dislodges himself enough to get stuck again. The Gryock closes in, slow as the sludge he's stuck in. This is the worst of bad nightmares.

The Gryock's jaws open, dripping saliva, teeth like knives...

Just as Finn is about to get eaten by this thing, a hatch above him OPENS, pouring light.

It's DADE.

DADE

Give me your hand!

Finn grabs the kid's hand and pulls himself up into the hatch just as the Gryock CHOMPS down.

INT. SEWER TUNNEL - DAY

Finn collapses, shaking, traumatized for life.

FINN That was. So many disgusting things. All at once.

DADE I've seen worse. (offers a hand) Dade.

FINN Just one name?

DADE What's wrong with that, Finn?

FINN You know me. DADE We've been tracking you since you landed.

FINN

We?

A distant SCREECHING sound.

FINN (CONT'D) What was that?

DADE You don't want to find out. Come on.

Dade shows Finn his RESISTANCE RING.

DADE (CONT'D)

Trust me.

EXT. UNDERGROUND TUNNEL - DAY

Finn follows Dade down a tight tunnel, boots splashing in the shallow water. Light up ahead.

DADE First Order purged a ten mile radius around the Capitol after the galaxy went dark. Took most able bodies to the conditioning camps.

FINN

Did anyone escape?

DADE

Just us.

Dade opens a rusty door to reveal...

INT. ABANDONED UNDERGROUND PRISON - DAY

Hundreds of compartment-like dwelling units connected by catwalks to a central control tower.

Living here, a thousand escaped citizens, aged 12 to 60. Finn is stunned.

FINN How many people are down here? DADE Ten thousand. Maybe more.

FINN You have weapons?

DADE Whole city's got weapons. That's what they're afraid of. A million of us rise up, the First Order's finished.

Finn lets that idea burrow deep.

FINN You're right.

He's caught up, fervent, brave.

FINN (CONT'D) This revolution starts here. Right now.

DADE Sure. All we need is ships, weapons. An army.

Finn looks out at the massive underground cavern of humanity. A thousand faces. Waiting for a leader.

FINN

We have one.

Finn eyes the old prison Command Tower in the center.

INT. PRISON COMMAND TOWER - DAY

Finn kicks open the door and fires up the comm system. He looks out at the downtrodden faces.

FINN My name is Finn. I bring a message from the Resistance.

An OLDER WOMAN exits her cell. Tired and worn, kept down by this war since the Rebel Alliance days.

FINN (CONT'D) The First Order rules by fear. They build ships to intimidate us. Wear masks to frighten us. But they're the ones who are scared. The Older Woman takes her wooden spoon and RAPS IT rhythmically against the bars of the old prison.

FINN (CONT'D) This is not the time to hide underground. If we take the Capitol, the galaxy will join us!

An ALIEN joins. Then another.

FINN (CONT'D) Together we can strike back! Together we can resist!

Hundreds, then thousands of people CLANKING THEIR POSSESSIONS TOGETHER IN UNISON.

Finn stands tall. From traitor to deserter to revolutionary leader--his journey has led to this.

EXT. MORTIS - WESTERN CLIFFS - DAY

Rey scales the icy peak, blasted by wind and sleet. She reaches a plateau, finds her footing.

There are statues of ROBED ANCIENTS here. Not Jedi.

A STORM OF SNOWDUST obscures her vision. Voices ECHO.

Suddenly she's back in the bright, warm sands of

THE JAKKU DESERT

Wind sweeps over the dunes. A child's voice screams out.

Through the storm of sand, a little girl is dragged away from her MOTHER and FATHER.

It's YOUNG REY at the moment her parents abandoned her. The little girl screams, reaching out her hand.

YOUNG REY Come back! Wait!

Rey steps toward them, feet digging in the sand.

REY

Wait...

The Mother breaks from the Father's grasp and runs toward Young Rey, but the Father holds her back.

The Mother relents. Calls to her daughter. Heartbroken.

MOTHER Stay here! Wait for us! We'll come back. Understand? I promise we'll come back.

Young Rey SCREAMS.

Rey's watery eyes match her younger self as the ship rises, casting a shadow over them both.

The sandstorm kicks up, obscuring them. It turns from yellow sand to SNOW.

Rey catches her breath, devastated.

REY They were afraid. Why were they afraid?

No response. Only wind.

REY (CONT'D) Luke! Tell me! Why were they afraid?

He doesn't answer. She grows furious. SCREAMS. Her lightsaber flashes as she CUTS AN ANCIENT STATUE IN HALF.

It falls, cracks in half.

She looks up at the Temple above, anger burning in her eyes.

EXT. MORTIS - EASTERN FOREST - DAY

Kylo hikes through winter. Glimpses of the Temple break through the canopy above.

Suddenly the wind dies. There's something ahead.

A HOUSE IN THE WOODS. Smoke from the chimney.

His younger self, BEN SOLO, approaches the house. He wears all black robes. A hood.

This is clearly some kind of Force-induced vision, a sign of this planet's strength.

Kylo watches from the shadows as Ben nears the house.

When he puts his hand on the iron door handle, it opens.

HAN SOLO stands in the doorway. He looks at his son with sadness and fear.

HAN SOLO What are you doing, Ben?

BEN That's not my name anymore.

HAN SOLO You're mother can't see you here. Not like that.

Ben pulls his hood down. He's maybe seventeen.

BEN I'm not coming back. There's a greater destiny for me.

### HAN SOLO

They're lies, son. Empty promises. You have everything you need right here.

BEN What, <u>you?</u> Her? My Master says I have unequaled power. Neither of you understand.

HAN SOLO Your mother understands more than anyone.

BEN She sent me away.

HAN SOLO To learn. To grow.

#### BEN

I have grown.

Kylo watches Han approach his son, strikingly similar to their confrontation on the catwalk on Starkiller Base.

HAN SOLO Your mother loves you.

BEN She's afraid of me.

Han eyes the lightsaber in Kylo's hand.

Han reaches for the lightsaber.

BEN You know I can't.

ON THE STARKILLER BASE CATWALK

Kylo is back in the moments just before he killed his father.

He watches as he plunges the blade through Han Solo, his father's eyes full of love even as the life drains from him.

IN THE MORTIS EASTERN FOREST

Kylo, disturbed and shaken, alone again in the snow.

Determined, he takes his first steps up the mountain.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORUSCANT STREETS - DAWN

Empty. Silent.

R2-D2 and C-3PO emerge from a side street. Two small figures swallowed by the desolate urban landscape. R2 BEEPS.

C-3PO I agree. This isn't the Coruscant I remember.

A shadow falls over them both.

A towering AT-MT WALKER rounds onto the boulevard. They watch it pass, dwarfed by it.

It stops--a smoking, charred FIRST ORDER TANK in its path.

C-3PO and R2-D2 look on, curious.

INT. AT-MT WALKER - COCKPIT - DAY

The AT-MT PILOTS look down at the burning tank.

AT-MT PILOT Any life forms?

AT-MT COPILOT

Nope.

## INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - SIMULTANEOUS

Finn and a hundred PEOPLE'S RESISTANCE FIGHTERS hunker down inside this empty building. The AT-MT's head is positioned just below them outside.

FINN

Now.

Floor-mounted GRAPPLING GUNS fire hooks that STICK into the opposite building, creating several ziplines over the AT-MT.

Finn clips on a carabiner...

EXT. CORUSCANT STREETS - DAY

Twenty Resistance fighters SWING ONTO THE AT-MT LIKE PIRATES BOARDING A SHIP.

Finn drops onto the top of the AT-MT's body. Dozens more land beside him. They run along its back to the head.

A Resistance Fighter cuts through the hatch with a vibrasaw. Finn tosses a shock detonator inside.

FINN

Clear!

An electric FLASH within. The Pilots slump over the controls.

Finn drops in, pushes the Pilots aside, takes the helm.

A familiar alien, SIX-EYES, takes the co-pilot seat.

FINN (CONT'D)

Load up!

The side panels of the Walker slide open, allowing the Resistance fighters to rappel into the cavity.

More armed citizens pour out of the alleys to escort the steel beast as it WALKS DOWN THE BOULEVARD, knocking aside the flipped tank as it passes.

A pair of TIE CHOPPERS zip around the corner and square off against the AT-MT.

The Walker BLASTS THEM OUT OF THE SKY.

INT. CAPITOL - INQUISITION CHAMBER HALLWAY - NIGHT

Hux paces. In the next room, Rose SCREAMS IN PAIN between electric jabs and shocks.

COMMANDER SELLIK Chancellor. There's been an insurrection. Word has spread to other districts.

CHANCELLOR HUX Decimate them.

COMMANDER SELLIK Sir...the leader is a former FN unit. He was aided by a regiment of our own.

Hux twitches.

CHANCELLOR HUX Impossible.

COMMANDER SELLIK We're dispatching additional units to address the revolt.

CHANCELLOR HUX NO. No. Recall the FN units from active duty.

COMMANDER SELLIK

Sir?

CHANCELLOR HUX If there is a flaw in their programming, we must correct it. Deploy more Brutetroopers.

COMMANDER SELLIK Those mercenaries are undisciplined. And expensive.

CHANCELLOR HUX Perhaps money is all that inspires loyalty anymore. Do it.

INT. CAPITOL - INTERROGATION CHAMBER - DAY

Rose's eyes are sunken, clothes ripped, blood peeking through the torn fabric. She hears COMMOTION, the barking of orders.

Two Officers enter, in a hurry.

FIRST ORDER OFFICERS Transfer to cell block 6. They want her in maxiumum security.

One officer releases her from the rack. She slumps forward, dead weight. They drag her toward the door.

As they move, Rose opens her eyes, eyeing the electric taser on the Officer's hilt.

When they reach the door she HITS THE LIGHTS.

She grabs the taser, shocks them both. Clamps both their wrists to the iron shackles.

ROSE So long, boys.

Rose shuts the door behind her, leaving the two unconscious Officers in here alone.

EXT. IMPERIAL BOULEVARD - DAY

The AT-MT turns the corner onto Imperial Boulevard.

Inside, Finn stokes revolt via loudspeaker.

FINN (into comm) We will no longer live in silence! Gather your weapons! Rise up! Strike back!

Finn squints out the window at a GOLD DROID wandering among the cheering revolutionaries, unsure how he got here.

FINN (CONT'D)

Threepio?

Finn climbs out of the AT-MT hatch for a better look.

Suddenly he's YANKED UPWARDS. A BRUTEROOPER lifts him out of the hatch and THROWS HIM ONTO THE BACK OF THE WALKER.

Finn is locked in a FISTFIGHT on the back of a moving Walker, 50 feet off the ground.

Finn takes BRUTAL HITS from the Brutetrooper's steel gloves-it's like fighting a medieval knight with his bare hands.

A powerful TACKLE and they BOTH ROLL OFF THE EDGE OF THE MOVING WALKER...

...SLAM! They land on the Brutetrooper's back. He KEEPS FIGHTING, unharmed.

Finn spots the Walker's foot coming down on them, they ROLL AWAY just as it lands.

The Brutetrooper grabs a fallen blaster, puts a heavy foot on his chest, aims for Finn's heart.

#### BRUTETROOPER Last words, FN-2187?

Suddenly laser fire TAKES HIM OUT.

Finn looks up...at a UNIT OF STORMTROOPERS.

The leader takes off his helmet, extends his hand.

It's RK-514.

He lifts Finn to his feet. Hands him a blaster.

RK-514

Rafe.

FINN

I like it.

The other Stormtroopers take off their helmets and throw them aside. Diverse faces with a new purpose.

Freedom.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER BRIDGE - SPACE

Connix escorts Leia to a terminal.

CONNIX The message is from an First Order transmitter. Finn is alive. He has an army ready to storm the Capitol. They need reinforcements.

LEIA All we have is what's on this ship. You can't win a war with a hundred pilots.

POE

Plus one.

Chewbacca GROWLS.

POE (CONT'D) Sorry, plus two. BB-8 beeps. POE (CONT'D) Okay, I get it. Leia's face falls from relief to dread. LEIA Where's Rey? POE She went on alone. Her choice, not mine. What about the others? LEIA We lost contact with Rose. (BB-8 beeps sadly) Finn is alive. He says he has an army on the ground. POE Then we put our pilots in the sky and back him up. (off her look) What? This is what we've been waiting for. If we take the Capitol, we can destroy that jammer and call the galaxy to war. LEIA They'll kill millions. I've seen it. It's too reckless. POE Resistance is reckless! Passion is the greatest weapon we have! Poe appeals to Leia. Their history together laid bare.

> POE (CONT'D) The Rebels fought the Empire and won. You showed us it could be done. But that was your war. This one's ours. Let us fight it.

Leia looks out at the Resistance Fleet. Young. Ready.

LEIA Set a course for Coruscant. Ready all weapons and attack ships. This is a full assault. Resistance Soldiers load into transports. Pilots lower their droids into place.

URBAN ASSAULT VEHICLES roll into the open cargo holds of massive heavy transports.

EXT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - SPACE

The Eclipse tacks toward a distant point. The hyperdrive FIRES, rocketing the massive craft deep into space.

CUT TO:

EXT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - DAY

Kylo Ren ascends the steps to a sealed stone door.

The Temple is cut into the mountaintop. Uninterpretable carvings, runes and statues allude to civilization and knowledge long lost.

He reaches out. The door bends to his will and OPENS. A millennium of dust spills from its cracks.

But he does not enter. He knows he's not alone.

KYLO I knew you'd come.

Kylo turns to face REY.

His mask surprises her. She's only seen the projection of his ideal self in their connections. Not this.

KYLO (CONT'D) The Force is strong in this place. Can you feel it?

A low RUMBLE. She's digging into his mind.

REY You're in pain. Beneath that mask.

KYLO Get out of my head. You won't like what you find.

He FORCE-PUSHES HER BACK. Her feet slide back a few inches, but she withstands it, steadfast.

KYLO (CONT'D) I'm stronger than Anakin Skywalker. Stronger than his son.

REY But you're still afraid.

KYLO Of what? You?

REY Of what you've become. The Dark Side has left you empty. Alone.

KYLO I don't have to be alone. With the power of this place, we could rule the galaxy as the Ancients did. The Dark Side and the Light.

REY You still think I'd join you. After what you did to my family?

Kylo falters a bit.

REY (CONT'D) We're you going to tell me here? Weaken me with the truth? I know what you did. Deep down, I've always known.

She circles him like a lion.

REY (CONT'D) My parents didn't sell me for drinking money. <u>They were hiding me</u> <u>from you.</u>

KYLO So you remember.

FLASH TO

The Knights of Ren in the rain--the image from Rey's Force vision when she first touched the lightsaber.

A distant child SCREAMS.

KYLO (CONT'D) Snoke made his orders clear. Find anyone who could destroy him. It didn't take us long to find you. REY You killed my parents.

KYLO You blame me for your life on Jakku. You should thank me for it. You were safe.

REY Say it! Did you kill them?

KYLO

I did.

A blast of powerful energy EXPLODES AROUND HER, clearing the temple mount of loose rocks.

REY You murdered Han Solo...

KYLO I'm not here for you, Rey.

REY Millions of people...

KYLO All I want is behind that door.

Rey IGNITES HER DUAL-LIGHTSABER.

REY Then you'll have to kill me.

Kylo lights his own saber.

KYLO

I know.

Kylo ATTACKS. They CLASH on the steps of the Temple. Both far more powerful than the last time they met.

One of these two will not survive.

CUT TO:

EXT. CORUSCANT - SPACE

The Eclipse appears from lightspeed. The city glows beneath.

First Order SENTINEL SHIPS protect the Capitol from space.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - SPACE

Leia spins around in the chair once occupied by Ackbar.

LEIA Send the fleet to planetfall. Surprise is the only advantage we have.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - DOCKING BAY - SPACE

X-WINGS and RAZORCRAFT FIGHTERS speed out of the bay, followed by troop transports and cargo dropships.

Poe races toward the Falcon. Chewie and BB-8 follow.

POE No! We don't have enough pilots. Get out there and do some damage.

### CHEWBACCA

BRAAAGGGGH!

POE I don't know, pick one!

Chewie looks around, spots an ORANGE X-WING. Cocks his head.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - COMMAND DECK - DAY

Hux enters the command deck overlooking the Boulevard. Smoke rises between the buildings.

COMMANDER SELLIK Chancellor, we've detected a ship in orbit. One of ours but with unrecognized signature codes.

CHANCELLOR HUX It's the stolen Eclipse. Summon all Destroyers to the Capitol. We can end this uprising and eliminate the Resistance in one triumphant day.

EXT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - SPACE

The Millennium Falcon rockets out of the bay and joins the Resistance attack fleet. The Sentinels unleash hell, assisted by a squadron of TIE HUNTERS launching from within.

Poe is inundated with blasts from the larger ships. A trio of Hunters bear down on the Falcon...then EXPLODE IN SUCCESSION.

CHEWBACCA'S X-WING zips overhead, eliminating the enemy ships with precise, focused shots.

INT. CHEWBACCA'S X-WING - COCKPIT

Chewie wears no helmet.

### CHEWBACCA BRAAAAGGGGHH!!!!!

BB-8 CHIRPS from the droid socket.

INT. FALCON - COCKPIT

Poe raises his eyebrows, impressed.

POE That's one hell of a pilot.

EXT. ABOVE CORUSCANT - SPACE

The Eclipse unloads a SUPERLASER on the Sentinels.

They EXPLODE as our attack fighters and transports descend through the billowing fire to planetfall.

EXT. CORUSCANT - IMPERIAL BOULEVARD - DAY

WHOMP! The AT-MT Walker's foot stomps down the boulevard toward the First Order Capitol.

The new Resistance army moves with it. Thousands now. Some with blasters, others with nothing but clubs and passion.

Finn marches out front with Rafe and his Rebel Troopers.

Dade rides out of the top hatch of the head of the AT-MT, speaking through the booming broadcast speaker.

## DADE Rise up! Join the fight!

Small bands of REVOLUTIONARIES appear from side alleys. A trickle building to a stream, building to a river...

But a distant sound silences them. LOCKSTEPPED BOOTS.

A THOUSAND RIOT-SUPPRESSING MANDALORIAN BRUTETROOPERS. Bulky armored mercenaries with heavy shields and arm cannons.

Sun cuts through the fog, revealing the extent of the Capitol's defenses: ADVANCED TANKS and WALKERS. New designs we've never seen.

Finn holds the line at the sight of the oncoming forces.

FINN Stand your ground!

Finn and the Stormtroopers are HIT WITH FIRE FROM ALL SIDES.

ON R2-D2 AND C-3PO

Walking through lasers.

A First Order Astromech Droid, R8-O8, rolls to a scomp terminal on the side of a flipped tank and plugs in.

R2 BEEPS urgently.

C-3PO He's sending a distress signal! Stop him!

Nobody's listening to C-3PO. R2 beeps furiously.

C-3PO (CONT'D) Me? I'm not programmed for violence, R2.

BEEEEEP! C-3PO steels himself, hustles through laser fire and rips open the back panel of R8-O8.

C-3PO (CONT'D) I do apologize for this.

He reaches into the droid's innards and PULLS circuits out. R8-08 BEEPS in distress, adding to C-3PO's horror.

C-3PO (CONT'D) Please go quietly.

One last YANK and R8-08 sparks out. Tips, hits the ground.

R2 quickly plugs into the vacated scomp link. Sends his own command. The belly Rail Gun stops, spins, resets and FIRES ON THE BRUTETROOPERS.

Finn climbs up onto the flipped tank, past C-3PO who frets over the inanimate shell of R8-O8.

Shadows glide over the long boulevard.

A squadron of TIE BOMBERS CRATER the boulevard ahead of them. Geysers of concrete spew upward. They're about to be decimated...

...when a fleet of X-Wings and B-Wings dive from the sky.

The Resistance ships FLY THROUGH THE TRENCH OF BUILDINGS and hammer the Bombers, spinning them into explosive collisions.

Finn, Rafe and the Stormtroopers CHEER THE SKIES.

Resistance transports land on the boulevard behind them.

Stolen First Order AT-ATs, AT-STs, and ATTACK SPEEDERS emerge from the cargo doors. <u>They are heavily modded</u>, painted with revolutionary colors, eyes and teeth.

Resistance Troops pour out of landing transports.

FINN You feel that?

Finn swells with hope.

FINN (CONT'D) We are the Resistance! All of us!

CUT TO:

EXT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Rain pounds the grey stone, lit by flashes of blue and red.

Lightsabers CLASH as Rey and Kylo fight mercilessly on the steps of the Temple. Ancient statues crumble--Rey stops them in midair, pushing them back.

KYLO

I could have been your teacher.

Rey loses ground. Doubts herself. Stumbles.

KYLO (CONT'D) I could have ended your pain.

Rey SLICES KYLO'S MASK, shearing the bottom right half clean off, revealing the flesh beneath.

He REMOVES IT. Eye to eye now. She parries and ATTACKS.

KYLO (CONT'D) You're weakening.

Kylo allows Rey's barrage to hammer him, taking careful, controlled counter strikes through her wild assaults.

KYLO (CONT'D) The last glimmer of a dying light.

Kylo STRIKES--a wicked blow across her face that instantly cauterizes a scar from her left cheek to her forehead.

Rey's lightsaber drops to the stone.

She falls to her knees and SCREAMS, CLUTCHING HER EYES.

When she opens them, the world is an abstract blur of light.

She's BLINDED.

Kylo stands over her, lightsaber pointed to her heart.

Rey looks up. CRYING BLOOD.

Rey falls backwards down the stone steps. Motionless.

KYLO (CONT'D) Goodbye, scavenger.

Kylo enters the Temple of Mortis, leaving Rey blind and bleeding on the steps.

# CUT TO:

EXT. ABOVE CORUSCANT - SPACE

The Falcon buzzes the surface of the Eclipse, picking off attackers. Chewbacca's X-Wing flies right with it.

WHOOMMMM. A FINALIZER STAR DESTROYER arrives from hyperspace.

It FIRES ON THE ECLIPSE, hitting the deflector shields.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE

Leia swivels in her chair, conducting the revolution.

LEIA Engage starboard cannons! Gun ports on the side of the Eclipse open, pushing out twenty massive ION CANNONS like a pirate ship. They fire in unison.

The Finalizer stutters from the barrage and EXPLODES.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE

Leia clenches her fist amidst cheers of victory.

WHOOMMM WHOOMMM WHOOMMMM. Ten more Destroyers arrive at once. An armada of sizes and classes.

Her confidence drains.

#### LEIA

Come about!

The Eclipse TURNS ON ITS AXIS and UNLEASHES HELL. The lasers light up the dark like Christmas.

The First Order Destroyers fire back, faster and more propulsive than we're used to--<u>their relative scale to the Eclipse lets us feel their SPEED for the first time.</u>

EXT. CORUSCANT - AIR BATTLE - DAY

The Resistance ships weave and glide between buildings, firing on TIE Hunters at window-level of the profiteers who financed this conflict.

A tight squadron reaches the Capitol itself. Their leader, ELLO ASTY, sends a pair of HOMING MISSILES into the structure. They HIT BIG.

ION CANNONS on motorized swivels rise up from the structure's roof, blasting ships out of the sky with deadly precision.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - WAR ROOM - NIGHT

Chancellor Hux watches a HOLOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF THE AIR BATTLE.

CHANCELLOR HUX How is this not over?

COMMANDER SELLIK It's the stolen Dreadnaught, sir. Our fleet isn't equipped to engage a ship of that magnitude-- BOOM. An explosion ROCKS THE CAPITOL, flickering the lights.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Rose sneaks through the crisp white hallway. She ducks into a recess--a procession approaching, Commander Sellik in the center of it.

COMMANDER SELLIK Ready the hyperdrive.

Rose holds a gasp. The Capitol is a SHIP.

COMMANDER SELLIK (CONT'D) In the unlikely event our defenses are breached we'll make the jump to lightspeed.

She watches the First Order Techs break away. They scan the ID bars on their uniforms and disappear through a door.

Rose sneaks to a window overlooking A VAST ARCHITECTONIC ABYSS encircling the spine of the Capitol.

Attached to the spine like a vertebra, the cubed TRANSMISSION JAMMER. Completely encased in armor with no bridges or access points. She can't reach it.

Removes those confiscated First Order ID bars from a hidden pocket. Scans the door. It OPENS.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - NAVIGATION ROOM - DAY

Rose creeps into a control room stacked with nav consoles.

FIRST ORDER TECH Prepare for surface disengagement. Ready engines for hyperspace. (off the NAV TECH's look) Purely precautionary.

She slips behind consoles and opens a panel in the floor.

INT. NAVIGATION SUBSPACE - DAY

Rose crawls down into the subspace beneath the control room, surrounded by the wired computer towers that power the hyperdrive. The Techs are still audible above.

NAV TECH (OS) Ready to set coordinates, sir.

TECH (OS) Plot a course for the Forve System.

Rose opens a panel to hyperdrive computer's motherboard and goes to work.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT - SPACE

Poe zips between a pair of burning Destroyers as they COLLIDE BEHIND HIM. Swarming TIES and chaos outside his cockpit.

POE Chewie, get down there, they need you! I've got this under control.

He doesn't.

INT. CHEWBACCA'S X-WING - SPACE

BB-8 beeps frenetically.

CHEWBACCA RWOOAARGGHGH!

Chewbacca spins and DIVES, breaking into the atmosphere.

EXT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - DAY

Chewbacca's X-Wing descends to the Capitol, weaving through the grid of lasers fired upwards by the Ion Cannons.

He makes an ATTACK RUN over the cannon arrays, taking out several turrets with one continuous, dizzying display of aeronautical badassery.

INT. CHEWBACCA'S X-WING - DAY

Alarm warnings. Multiple lock-ons. TIE Fighters swarm around Chewie, ganging up.

BB-8 CHIRPS, concerned. Chewie ROARS, also concerned.

BLAM! They're HIT. Chewie maneuvers over Monument Square, spinning into a DIVE.

EXT. MONUMENT SQUARE - DAY

The Orange X-Wing makes a distressed landing, knocking over Brutetroopers in its path as it comes to a screeching stop.

# FINN

Save that pilot!

Finn and his squad blast their way toward the crashed ship. He climbs onto the wing, BB-8 beeps frantically.

FINN (CONT'D)

BB-8?

The cockpit pops open. Chewbacca ROARS.

FINN (CONT'D) Chewie! Where'd you learn to fly like that?

CHEWBACCA (before you were born) WRARRRWRRRGGGHH!

## RAFE

Incoming!

A fresh batch of HEAVY AT-MTs emerge. Cannon fire rains down from the Capitol above.

This revolution may not last long.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - DAY

Leia is weary but steadfast.

LEIA Change our plane of attack! Don't let them line up on us!

Connix interrupts urgently.

CONNIX General, our agent on the inside is contacting you.

LEIA We have an agent on the inside?

Connix activates her comm speaker.

LEIA Rose? Slow down.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - CONTROL SUBSPACE - DAY

Rose is patched into a comm terminal, sparks falling around her. Hotwired cables string between CPU towers.

ROSE They're going to leave the planet! I can disable the hyperdrive but I need the keycodes in R2's memory drive.

INTERCUT WITH ECLIPSE

LEIA R2's with Finn. (to Connix) Patch her through.

ROSE (lights up) Finn's alive?!

EXT. MONUMENT SQUARE - DAY

Finn takes cover behind a fallen AT-ST. Yells into his comm.

FINN (into comm) Rose, you're alive! Stay where you are, we're coming for you!

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - CONTROL SUBSPACE - DAY

Rose rolls her eyes, about to save everyone's ass.

ROSE Great! Listen carefully. I need R2 to transfer me the hyperdrive keys before this thing takes off.

FINN (COMM) Hyperdrive? Where are you? ROSE

There's a scomp link terminal at the base of the Capitol. I'll have a direct connection to him from there. Got it?

EXT. MONUMENT SQUARE - DAY

Finn looks around frantically.

FINN R2!! Where are you!

He spots C-3PO and R2-D2 behind a flipped tank. Races to them, grabs R2-D2.

FINN (CONT'D) We need to get you to the Capitol.

C-3PO Master Finn, we're more suited for rear unit duty.

Finn looks out at the battlefield, eyeing the path to the base terminal. First Order transports touch down ahead. Even more Brutetroopers spill out into the Square.

FINN None of this matters if we don't reach that terminal.

R2 BEEPS, determined.

C-3PO For glory? What are you saying, R2? There is no glory for droids!

BLAM! R2-D2 takes a direct hit from a cannon blast. He hits the side of the tank and falls hard.

No comical squeal. He's silent and scorched black. Unmoving.

C-3PO (CONT'D)

R2? R2!

FINN Chewie cover us!

Finn hunkers over R2. Chewbacca stands tall, firing away.

C-3PO R2! R2 say something! Finn waves smoke away from R2's burnt body. The droid's circuits are dead, no power.

FINN Those codes are in here somewhere.

Finn opens a panel and removes R2's MEMORY DRIVE.

FINN (CONT'D) I'm sorry, buddy. (yells) BB-8!

BB-8 rolls up, ready for duty. Finn opens a compartment in the droid's round body and inserts R2's memory drive.

FINN (CONT'D)
It's all up to you now. Okay?
 (into comm)
Rose, send BB-8 the terminal
coordinates. He's got this.
 (to BB-8, confident)
You got this. Right?

BB-8 nods. Silent. Focused. His moment.

FINN (CONT'D)
Covering fire!

Finn, Chewbacca and the Stormtroopers cover as best they can.

FINN (CONT'D)

Go! Go!

BB-8 DASHES INTO THE BATTLE.

We stay right with him, tracking past a barrage of explosions and laser blasts, through moving AT-MT legs, narrowly missing craters and fallen Brutetroopers.

Finn watches the little guy from afar, inspired.

He looks around at the wounded Resistance, cut off and surrounded, fighting for survival.

BOOOMMM! An explosion knocks Finn off his feet. Ears ringing.

RAFE

Fall back!

Finn yells to C-3PO, still kneeling over R2-D2's fallen body.

FINN Threepio! We have to move! C-3PO looks up. Hand on R2's scorched head. Emotion like we've never seen from him.

### C-3PO <u>I can't leave him.</u>

Finn is speechless. Crushed by it all.

Chewbacca reaches down and HEAVES R2-D2'S SCORCHED SHELL UP ONTO HIS BACK.

#### CHEWBACCA RWWORRRRRGHH!!!!

With one arm blasting and the other securing R2, he and Finn race toward cover.

Chewbacca gets hit, STUMBLES. Keeps going.

Chewbacca is HIT AGAIN. Falls to one knee, almost drops R2. Stands up.

Finn's eyes tear up as they fire back at impossible odds.

This is how it ends.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - SPACE

Poe watches enemy ships slip through their strafing attack formations and descend toward Coruscant.

POE We'll have no chance down there if these reinforcements make it through! We need more ships!

INT. ECLIPSE - BRIDGE - SPACE

Another Star Destroyer appears from hyperspace. And another. Leia watches the numbers shift even more out of favor.

LEIA Luke...I'm sorry.

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Kylo Ren's long shadow precedes him into the cavern of stone.

Statues of the ANCIENTS look down into a deep void in the center, sealed with a slab of unpolished marble.

Kylo reaches out. The stone slab slides off and falls to the ground with a THUD.

He looks down into the well beneath the temple, deep into the heart of Mortis, eager for his reward...

It's EMPTY. Nothing. A hole in the ground.

# KYLO

No...no....

Kylo searches the rune-covered walls for answers. He finds only arcane sculpted faces looking down at him.

He fires his saber and SLASHES AT THE STATUES, scarring the Ancients with his rage.

LUKE (VO) You've lost, Ben.

LUKE SKYWALKER steps into the light. A thin blue glow traces his form.

KYLO You're dead! The Jedi are ghosts!

LUKE The Dark Side has failed you, like it failed my father.

KYLO Your father was weak!

LUKE His love for his family saved him. I wish it could save you.

Luke looks deep into his former student's pained eyes.

KYLO I did what I had to do.

LUKE You chose hate.

#### KYLO

I chose power!

Kylo FIRES his saber and ATTACKS. But Luke CATCHES THE BLADE WITH HIS GLOVED HAND, stopping it in midair, stronger than Kylo could possibly imagine.

Their faces are inches away, separated by the red blade.

LUKE You are no Skywalker.

EXT. TEMPLE MOUNT - NIGHT

Rey lies motionless on the stone steps, blind and bleeding in the rain.

Then her hand MOVES. Her eyes flutter open.

REY

Luke...

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Luke's expression changes, sensing her.

LUKE Let go, Kylo. You can't defeat us.

KYLO

<u>Us</u>?

LUKE I am not alone. Obi Wan was right.

EXT. TEMPLE MOUNT - NIGHT

Rey drags her shattered body up the Temple steps. Her arm gives out. She collapses. The pain is too much.

LUKE (VO) We're connected. All living things.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - BRIDGE - SPACE

Leia looks beyond the battle, feeling Rey's pain.

LEIA

Rey.

LUKE (VO) The Force surrounds us. Rose winces from spark as she rewires the hyperdrive on the Capitol, fingertips bleeding. She LOOKS UP. A feeling.

LUKE (VO) It penetrates us.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - NIGHT

Poe flies through a barrage of laser fire.

LUKE (VO) It binds the galaxy together.

He feels the connection from across the galaxy.

POE

Rey...

EXT. TEMPLE MOUNT - NIGHT

Rey into the rain.

REY Poe... (gathers her strength) Finn...

EXT. CORUSCANT - IMPERIAL BOULEVARD - SUNSET

Finn is crouched low behind cover, lasers flying overhead.

LUKE (VO) We are one. Bound by the Force.

Finn feels the connection. A surge of hope.

FINN Fight, Rey. Fight.

EXT. TEMPLE MOUNT - NIGHT Rey HEARS HIM. He's there with her. They all are.

> FINN (VO) (a distant echo) Fight...

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Luke gives his former student a faint smile.

LUKE And we will not be broken.

EXT. TEMPLE MOUNT - NIGHT

With all her strength, the Last Jedi rises.

She unwraps a strip of cloth from the bandage on her hand.

Uses it to BLINDFOLD HER EYES.

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Luke VANISHES.

Beyond him, REY STANDS TALL IN THE ARCHED DOORWAY.

Blind, bruised, determined.

REY Our Masters were wrong. I will not deny my anger. And I will not reject my love.

Her fallen lightsaber flies into her hands.

REY (CONT'D) I am the darkness. And I am the light.

KYLO You are nothing! You are no one!

She ignites the blades. They crackle.

REY No one is no one.

Kylo CHARGES. Their blades meet and SIZZLE.

Rey fights him BLINDFOLDED. Guided by the Force.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - SPACE

Burning Resistance cruisers plummet to landfall. Leia watches the fiery carnage out her observation window. It's over.

CONNIX More ships arriving from the Outer Rim, General.

LEIA Prepare to retreat.

CONNIX These aren't First Order ships.

Leia looks out at the starfield ahead. Off her surprise--

A THOUSAND SHIPS APPEAR FROM HYPERSPACE.

A massive fleet of smugglers and thieves flying tricked-out, junkyard-bound personal cruisers. The pirates Han Solo spent half his life running from.

In the lead is Lando's personal starship, THE LADY LUCK.

INT. LADY LUCK - SPACE

Lando Calrissian helms the controls.

LANDO Thought you could use a few scoundrels.

NY NYLIN, an aging alien in a vintage bomber jacket, shakes his head the co-pilot's chair.

NY NYLIN (I'm too old for this shit) Neyyid ubb nud wunn.

Lando's ragtag fleet ATTACKS, covering for the larger battleships as they lay waste to the enemy.

EXT. CORUSCANT - IMPERIAL BOULEVARD - DAY

A burning Tie Hunter CRASHES into the army of Brutetroopers and tanks in the square.

Finn looks up. A battalion of ships he's never seen before join the firefight in the sky.

FINN What? YEAH!!!

He raises his rifle in the air, yelling to all who can hear.

FINN (CONT'D) Chewie! (thrilled declaration) We got company!

EXT. CAPITOL BASE TERMINAL - DAY

BB-8 reaches the Capitol base and PLUGS INTO THE TERMINAL.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - CONTROL SUBSPACE - DAY

Rose receives the feed on her hacked CPU tower. The panel lights up with a flood of keycodes.

ROSE Atta boy.

INT. ECLIPSE - BRIDGE - SPACE

The First Order fleet takes a beating.

CONNIX First Order forces are in retreat! Send more ships to the Capitol!

Leia smiles as relief washes over her.

LEIA (into comm) Poe, get down there.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - SPACE

Poe steers the Falcon into a steep descent straight down.

POE

Copy that.

The Falcon starts ONE LONG DESCENT FROM SPACE INTO THE CITY.

Poe takes out TIE Hunters as he goes, firing the Falcon's forward cannons until they JAM DRY.

The ship dives into the canyon of buildings, leveling out on a trajectory toward the legion of AT-MTs on the Boulevard.

The Falcon BUZZES over the heads of Poe and Chewbacca...

The ship grinds to a stop at the base of the Capitol. The accumulated pile of fallen walkers and crashed ships creates a BARRICADE ON THE FRONT STEPS.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - DAY

Alarms blare. Commanding Officers frantically prepare for departure. Hux eyes the crashed Falcon in the square below.

CHANCELLOR HUX Bomb the city! Decimate every last being!

COMMANDER SELLIK Our forces are outnumbered, sir.

Hux realizes the tragic truth. He lost the star wars.

INT. CHANCELLOR HUX'S CHAMBER - DAY

Hux storms into his lush chamber.

Goes to the collector's case. Removes one of his prized vintage lightsabers.

He activates it and IMPALES HIMSELF WITH THE PURPLE BLADE.

Hux kneels, the glowing saber protruding from his chest as First Order ships descend in smoke and fire out the window.

CUT TO:

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Kylo counters Rey's every move. They are evenly matched, two sides of a coin, flame and shadow. Fighting to the death.

A vicious swing and Kylo's lightsaber SHATTERS at the hilt. DESTROYED, along with several fingers on his left hand, cut across the palm.

He looks at it with disbelief, stumbles back toward the empty Well of Mortis. Falls to one knee.

Rey stands over him. Anger flowing.

She separates her dual-lightsaber. Holds one blade pointed to Kylo's chest.

Kylo is stunned by powerful being before him. She's almost glowing. Unfathomable LIVING FORCE within.

Kylo clenches his teeth...eyes furious...

A rage like we haven't seen since Anakin...

He reaches out the open palm of his good hand ...

....and EXTRACTS THE LIVING FORCE FROM REY as Tor Valum taught him.

She RISES, energy flowing from her body into Kylo's hand as the life DRAINS FROM HER.

She pulls her blindfold off and SCREAMS TO THE SKY.

Kylo stands tall. Energized. His face has RETURNED TO NORMAL. Healed. He pulls the iron plates off his skin--they fall away, healthy flesh underneath.

He looks beyond Rey to the empty Well of Mortis.

KYLO The were wrong. All of them. The power of this place can't be taken.

REY

Ben...

KYLO But it's nothing compared to you.

Kylo TAKES MORE FROM HER.

Rey is almost gone. Drained of life. She summons all her strength. Reaches out.

With the last of herself, she OFFERS HIM HER HAND.

REY Ben...please...

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER BRIDGE - SPACE

Leia feels the disturbance. It PAINS her. Into the vastness of space, she says her son's name.

LEIA

Ben...

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Then Kylo hears HIS MOTHER'S VOICE, carried by the Force.

LEIA (VO)

Ben.

He STOPS. Hearing her. Feeling her close.

LEIA (VO) (CONT'D) Come back. Come home.

Something HAPPENS to Kylo when he hears his mother's voice.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER BRIDGE - SPACE

Leia speaks to her son through the Force.

LEIA

Help us.

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Kylo feels the very thing that destroyed Anakin. But doesn't make him feel weak.

He looks at Rey's outstretched hand...and TAKES IT.

THE LIVING FORCE FLOWS BACK INTO HER.

Both light and dark swirl within Rey as Kylo is reduced to an empty shell. A man without power. A frightened boy.

Kylo and Rey collapse into one another, each propping the other up on their knees.

Rey is close to him now. Their foreheads touching.

He is weakened, spent. In the last moments of his life.

KYLO

Solana.

Rey is stunned to hear her name. Distant, like a memory.

KYLO (CONT'D) Your name. (last breath) Rey Solana.

Those words are Ben Solo's last.

Rey watches the light dim in his eyes. But it is the light.

# REY

Goodbye Ben.

With a look that could be perceived as love, BEN SOLO DIES. Rey releases her hold. Collapses. Barely alive herself. They've fought to the death.

EXT. CAPITOL STEPS - SUNSET

Finn appears through smoke. Blood-stained, dirty. A hero. Rafe and the other renegade Stormtroopers behind him.

Poe climbs out of the Falcon cockpit. Chewbacca helps him.

Finn regards his old friend, amazed at his transformation.

He spots a fallen RESISTANCE FLAG on the ground. Picks it up. Hands it to Finn.

Finn takes the flag, climbs up the angled bow of the crashed Midnight Oiler to the top of the barricade of ships.

Poe and Chewbacca scale it with him.

Finn WAVES THE FLAG FOR ALL TO SEE.

The ground SHAKES. They all look up as the First Order Capitol leaves its moorings.

POE Everybody get back!

A thunderous BOOM as the Capitol RISES INTO THE SKY.

FINN Rose is still in there!

Finn spots BB-8 rolling toward them from the quaking base.

FINN (CONT'D) BB-8! Where is she?

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - ESCAPE POD BAYS - DAY

Rose races through the quaking Capitol. Checks a hand-drawn map on her hand, rounds a corner toward a bay of ESCAPE PODS.

Climbs inside one, shuts the door.

It LAUNCHES as the Capitol RISES. A short trip before it CRASH LANDS onto the battlefield.

INT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - COMMAND DECK - DAY

Commander Sellik looks down at the shrinking metropolis below. The massive structure casts a shadow over the city.

SELLIK Ready for lightspeed.

EXT. FIRST ORDER CAPITOL - DAY

Finn rushes to Rose's crashed escape pod.

FINN

Rose! (touches her face) Are you okay?

Touches his hand, affectionately.

#### ROSE

I'm fine.

She looks up at the rising Capitol, backlit against the setting sun. Poe, Chewie, BB-8 and C-3PO follow her eyes.

C-3PO They're getting away!

FINN Did you disable the hyperdrive?

ROSE I couldn't figure it out.

Hope falls away. The war is lost.

ROSE (CONT'D) So I made some adjustments to their navacomputer. Without precise calculations that thing could--

The Capitol JUMPS TO LIGHTSPEED. The moment it vanishes:

BOOOOMMMMMMMM!!!!!!

It COLLIDES WITH A DISTANT PLANET. The impact is so massive, so galaxy-shaking, it's visible for light years.

ROSE (CONT'D) ...fly right into a star.

INT. ECLIPSE DESTROYER - SPACE

Leia shields her eyes at the enormous EXPLOSION in deep space, pulsating in the starry twilight.

A beacon of hope.

Radio communications instantly CRACKLE TO LIFE.

A CACOPHONY OF VOICES fill the frequency waves, calling on their brethren to fight.

EXT. MONUMENT SQUARE - DAY

Finn, Poe, Rose, Chewie and the droids all look up. Awed, inspired. But they can't celebrate. Not yet.

He looks at Finn. Speaking volumes.

FINN You feel it too.

Poe nods, affirming their connection. Rey is gone.

INT. TEMPLE OF MORTIS - NIGHT

Rey lies flat on the stone.

Silence.

Light fills the space around her, particles of energy floating up. She RISES with them...

The light engulfs the frame until we reach a place beyond what we know.

THE ASTRAL PLANE

Glimmers of energy flicker like fireflies in darkness.

Rey opens her eyes. Clear again. Unburdened.

Three of the distant glimmers grow larger than the others. She moves toward them.

YODA, LUKE SKYWALKER and OBI-WAN KENOBI.

REY Is this death?

OBI-WAN In this place, there is no such thing as death.

REY I can see.

OBI-WAN Your true self is free of suffering. Free of pain.

YODA Taught us much, you have.

REY I've taught you?

YODA Mmm. Succeeded where we have failed. Narrow was our point of view.

LUKE You chose to embrace the Dark Side and the Light. To find balance within.

YODA Co-exist, they must, as such feelings do in all of us.

REY But if I'm here...with you...

YODA A choice, you must make. To return, or to remain.

LUKE Here, there is serenity. Knowledge. Peace. Those lost, but not forgotten.

She looks beyond them at the shimmering flecks of energy.

REY And there?

OBI-WAN There you will face a galaxy in turmoil. Pain, suffering. The loss of those you love. YODA But living you will be. Love, you shall.

We hold on Rey's face as she considers the life she's yet to live...and makes her decision.

REY

Thank you.

The spirits fade into the cosmic Force. As the light overwhelms us, Obi-Wan Kenobi's voice echoes...

OBI-WAN (VO) You are a Jedi, Rey Solana. But you will not be the last.

EXT. CORUSCANT - DAY

A Resistance Flag rises from the rubble at the site of the old Capitol. Thousands of citizens fill the square. Free.

INT. CEREMONIAL HALL - DAY

Heroes at attention. LEIA SKYWALKER ORGANA in elegant white. Lando Calrissian and her top Generals around her.

Finn, Rose, Poe and Chewie stand before Leia. She places Medals of Honor around each of their necks. BB-8 beeps excitedly at their feet.

After 40 years of service, Chewie gets a medal.

EXT. LANDING PLATFORMS - SUNSET

Leia looks down at the blue beacon bracelet once used to guide Rey back to safety, clenched tight in her hand.

Finn and Rose stand by her side.

LEIA I can't feel her presence.

Finn bows his head. Neither can he.

LEIA (CONT'D) But there's a calm I've never felt. Balance.

FINN That's her. Leia smiles. BB-8 rolls up, beeps to Rose and Finn.

ROSE Come on. We have work to do.

Leia approaches Poe and Chewbacca, also on their way. She places the beacon bracelet in Poe's hand.

#### POE

I'll never stop looking.

Chewbacca gives her a giant Wookiee hug.

LEIA Okay, okay. Easy.

Finn approaches Poe, holding something under his arm.

FINN Let me know what you find.

#### POE

I will.

Finn hands Poe his old leather jacket.

# FINN

## For good luck.

Poe smiles. Takes it. Hugs him. Chewbacca GROWLS.

We follow Poe and Chewie to the MILLENNIUM FALCON, rebuilt to look better than it has in decades.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - SPACE

Poe flips switches in the cockpit.

#### POE Ready, Chewie?

He takes Rey's beacon and hangs it, replacing Han's dice.

INT. LEIA'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

Leia watches from her window as the Millennium Falcon jets off into the starfield.

The Phantom Hawk rockets the other way into empty space.

Leia checks on R2-D2, still under construction. A REPAIR DROID works on rebuilding his destroyed frame.

LEIA How's he coming along?

C-3PO A quick cycle through his memory banks and he'll be his old self again. I hope.

LEIA He'll be fine, 3-PO.

C-3PO I can't imagine what I'd do without him. I know he's stubborn but I, I--

LEIA

I know.

Leia picks up R2-D2's intact memory drive, rescued by BB-8.

She inserts it into R2-D2, reminiscent of the first time we saw the Princess with a droid.

R2 BEEPS TO LIFE.

As his files catalogue into chronological order, he projects the contents of his memory banks...

....and we witness their adventures over 60 years, all from the droid's perspective.

--Luke buying C-3PO from the Jawas...

--Obi Wan giving Luke his father's lightsaber...

--R2 flying through the Death Star trench...

--Han getting his medal on Yavin...

--Yoda lifting the X-Wing from the swamp...

--Luke saluting from the plank on Jabba's barge...

--Leia and Han outside the bunker on Endor...

Leia is taken aback by the flood of memories. It is a catharsis for her, and for us.

She takes a deep breath.

LEIA (CONT'D) Thank you, R2.

Leia leaves them alone together.

R2-D2 BEEPS affectionately.

EXT. LEIA'S BALCONY - NIGHT

Leia steps outside, looks up at the field of stars.

He looks up at the vastness of space.

A star falls. It gives her peace.

EXT. MODESTA - DAY

A serene, sun-dappled ranch surrounded by rolling green fields of tall grass. Smoke curls from the chimney.

INT. HOMESTEAD - DAY

Finn sits with a circle of YOUNG KIDS, 6-11 in a sun-drenched cabin. A fire crackles as he finishes a story.

FINN ...and the light could be seen all over the galaxy. In every system. Rey gave us all hope.

A LITTLE GIRL, 7, looks confused.

LITTLE GIRL But how do you know she's really gone?

FINN I don't think she is gone. I believe...

Finn eyes Rose, seated at a wood table, parts of a droid's motivator spread out in front of her. She smiles.

FINN (CONT'D) I believe someday she'll come back. And when she does, we'll be here waiting. All of us.

The kids smile, relieved. They like that ending.

FINN (CONT'D) Go on. Get outside.

The kids leap up and run out into daylight. Finn rises with them and follows the last one out.

The children race about the pasture. Dade is among them. So is the BROOM BOY from Canto Bight.

They race around a NERF FOAL, trying to hook a ring around its tiny horns. BB-8 races with them, beeping excitedly.

The little girl HOOKS IT. The ring flies back through the air into her hand.

These children are FORCE SENSITIVE.

Finn and Rose have built a refuge for Force-sensitive youth to live the life they never had.

Finn steps onto the front porch, leans against a post. The twin sunset washes his face.

Something in that sunset changes his wistful expression.

Unclear at first, but it soon becomes a realization.

A tremor in the Force...

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - DEEP SPACE

Poe and Chewie in the Falcon at lightspeed.

The beacon hanging from the dash suddenly begins to GLOW. Chewie ROARS. Poe sees it, eyes wide.

POE Chewie, turn the ship around.

CHEWBACCA RWWWOOORRRWWGGGHH!!!!

POE I know, just turn around!

EXT. MODESTA - DAY

Finn notices a GLIMMER OF LIGHT in the distance. He steps forward to get a closer look. Rose joins him, shielding her eyes from the sun.

A figure blurs on the horizon. A familiar silhouette. Dirty, ragged. Walking for a long time.

BB-8 rolls forward, beeps excitedly. The kids hear the droid, stop their game, look to the fields beyond.

ON THE HORIZON

Rey Solana.

Her eyes are restored, only a faint scar runs across her forehead.

The kids run toward her, joined by BB-8, who is faster.

Rey walks on toward the homestead.

Here she will train a new generation of Jedi and pass down what she has learned--that only an understanding of the balance within can lead to peace and justice in the galaxy.

THE END