

"THE SECRET OF MONKEY ISLAND"

Screenplay by

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“THE SECRET OF MONKEY ISLAND”

FADE IN:

INT. STUDIOS OFFICE - DAY

A man is staring at the camera.

MAN (O.S.)

So-- this is our hero.

MAN ON CAMERA

Who? This?

The two men talking are RON and the PRESIDENT. The first is dressed in white while the latter in black.

RON

Yes, mister president.

PRESIDENT

Come on? What's he doing there? And why? It's only a very old video game!

On a screen, the first scene of the game this film is adapted from. The president looks away, then stands up and goes around in the room on a hoverboard.

PRESIDENT

Ron... look: I understand it's not easy these days, with the clones and that animators union problem--

RON

But nobody has ever done this before! I found some crazy stories while browsing these old files. In one there were disembodied tentacles, in another a musician monk-- But this! A love story, great antagonist, ghosts, everything we're looking for! Uh, and a great protagonist too-- Yeah.

PRESIDENT

OK, OK-- Enough with the telling already, do you have something to show me? I give you only ten, fifteen minutes top.

RON

Just a second, then. I'll set it up.

Ron types furiously on a keyboard with his eyes closed while reciting/mumbling a mantra. A car flies up behind the window, noticed with surprise by the--

PRESIDENT

The future of cars, eh?-- mine consumes far less up to ten thousands miles. What model do you have, Ron?

He's not listening, he is--

RON

Okay-- I think we're okay-- Ready?

The president sits down while the camera moves towards the screen and--

Fade to black

EXT. MÊLÉE ISLAND - ESTABLISHING SHOT - NIGHT

Caption: Deep in the Caribbean

We see an island with a lookout point up on a cliff. A town with a dock and a beach stand on the opposite sides of the island, divided by a road.

EXT. SAILING GALLEON - NIGHT

A group of unnamed SAILORS is drinking and chanting on deck.

INT. GALLEON BELOW DECK - NIGHT

The young cabin boy GUYBRUSH THREEPWOOD is writing a letter while sitting on top of a cannon. He wears a white blouse, black breeches, white socks and small black shoes.

GUYBRUSH

Dear mother, I hope you received my last letter. How are things at home? I am near Mêlée island now. Not even the pirates stopped me and my men. I am sure you and dad are proud of--

He runs out of ink, then starts looking to find some more of it.

SAILOR (O.S.)

(sniffing)

Whoa! What's this smell?

SALOR 2 (O.S.)

(shouting)

Guybrush, what have you done?

SAILOR 3 (O.S.)

(shouting and stuttering)

Uhh, pirates! Filthy pirates! Filthy ghost pirates! Where did they come from?

GUYBRUSH

(gulping)

Pirates?-- Oh well, ghost pirates! I guess the bar never closes on a ship.

He puts the unfinished letter in a bottle, closes it with a cork and throws it out in the sea. Then he takes a clinking bag from a table, puts in his pockets and goes up.

INT./EXT. LADDER, ABOVE DECK - NIGHT

Guybrush receives a blow and gets thrown out in the sea.

EXT. DECK - NIGHT

The only one to notice him is BOB, one of the ghost pirates that seized the ship.

BOB

Man overboard! Man overboard-- Get him-- Oh OK,
nothing to worry 'bout.

(walking to the ship rail)

Who cares about him?-- And who cares about LeChuck?--
Ye are glad to be dead, right Bob? Oh yes sir. I feel so lucky
that you happened to capture my ship, then murdered me
and everyone on board-- --yes sir-- lucky.

A shadow is then cast by LeChuck over Bob's face as soon as he finishes speaking.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Guybrush regain consciousness on a beach, stands up with a crab on his head.

GUYBRUSH

Ouch!

He takes off the algae from his clothes and the crab from his head. He looks for a way inside the island but finds none. Then he spots a fire up on the cliff, and starts climbing up.

EXT. LOOKOUT - NIGHT

An old man stands by a crackling fire, overlooking with thick glasses the sea. Guybrush pops out behind him, giggling a bit then panting heavily.

GUYBRUSH

That was easy--

OLD MAN

Uh?

The old man looks around him without noticing anything.

GUYBRUSH

Hi!

He finally notices Guybrush but still talking without looking steadily at him.

OLD MAN

Yikes! Don't sneak up on me like that!

GUYBRUSH

(waves his hand in front of the man)

My name is--

OLD MAN

Ah! Jack! You're finally here!

He sniffs around.

Where's the grog? Go to the SCUMM Bar and get me some!

GUYBRUSH

What--

OLD MAN

Oh, come on! Of all the boys on Mêlée, why did I end up with you, if you can't understand anything? Do you think this is just a game? I'll tell you everything later if you have questions, I'm thirsty. Just go!

GUYBRUSH

(hesitating)

Okay.

Guybrush walks away, but suddenly stops.

GUYBRUSH

Where did you say I had to go?

OLD MAN

The Scumm Bar. How many times do I have to tell you? Just go down there!

GUYBRUSH

Right.

Guybrush leaves and starts walking on the road.

INSERT

Road signs with BEACH and SCUMM BAR written on them.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Guybrush is walking at a very slow pace. He gets scared by any strange sound coming from the surrounding forest. On a sudden he hears footstep approaching and shivers.

GUYBRUSH

Uh-oh.

Two men walk towards Guybrush in the almost pitch dark, with things that appear like swords in their hands.

MAN IN THE DARK

This is the end for you, you gutter-crawling cur!

MAN IN THE DARK 2

No, he's mine! Soon he'll be wearing my sword like a shish kebab!

GUYBRUSH

Take this! It's all I have! Spare me! Please!

The two pirates look at each other with surprise, while Guybrush starts running after giving them the bag in his pocket.

EXT. DOCK - NIGHT

An exhausted and almost crying Guybrush walks down the dock, where he finds the Scumm Bar.

INT. SCUMM BAR - NIGHT

He enters. The bar consists of two rooms and is packed with drinking, shouting pirates, one even on a chandelier.

INT. SCUMM BAR COUNTER - NIGHT

He advances to the counter, but nobody is on the other side.

GUYBRUSH

Excuse me, can I get a drink?

He receives an answer from a pirate standing next to him.

PIRATE

You could wait for the cook to notice you, but that could take all day. Just find a mug and sneak into the kitchen. That's what we all do.

Guybrush leaves the counter and bumps into a pirate who is throwing a dart. Someone screams. Scared, Guybrush walks in reverse with his hands up and his eyes almost closed.

GUYBRUSH

Sorry, sorry--

INT. SCUMM BAR DRINKING ROOM - NIGHT

He goes near two pirates sitting on a table near the wall. He steps on the tail of a small dog laying between the chairs behind the pirates.

GUYBRUSH

Sorry little doggy--

The dog starts barking.

GUYBRUSH

Woof.

It continues.

PIRATE (O.S.)

--LeChuck--

GUYBRUSH

Woof, lee chuck?

The dog begins to growl, while one of the two pirates turns his head and body to them.

PIRATE

(to the dog)

Hey, Spiffy! Who are you talking to?

(looking up while sniffing)

Ahoy there, fisherboy. You got a nice mouth-watering crab smell on you.

GUYBRUSH

Oh, no, no. That's my new deodorant.

PIRATE

Indeed, you look more like a flooring inspector. So, who are you?

GUYBRUSH

My name is Guybrush Threepwood. I'm new in town.

PIRATE

Guybrush Threepwood? That's the stupidest name I've ever heard!

GUYBRUSH

I don't know. I kind of like Guybrush.

PIRATE

But it's not even a name!

GUYBRUSH

Well, what's your name?

PIRATE

My name is Mancomb Seepgood. And this is Estevan. Take a seat!

Guybrush sits down on the opposite side, then looks at Estevan who is wearing an eye-patch.

ESTEVAN

What are you looking at me for?

GUYBRUSH

No, nothing--

ESTEVAN

Come on, boy, speak!

GUYBRUSH

Well-- What happened to your eye?

ESTEVAN

(mimicking Guybrush while saying the first word)

Well-- I was putting in my contact lens when-- Hey, wait a second! That's none of your business!

MANCOMB

(to Estevan)

Hey, hey! Calm down.

(to Guybrush)

So, what brings you to M  lee Island anyway?

GUYBRUSH

Well, it's a long story.

Mancomb and Estevan are not really listening.

GUYBRUSH (CONT'D)

I am the captain of the Merchandising, a merchant ship. We were almost arrived safely here while all of a sudden someone attacked us! There were fifty of them! I fought against almost ten but then I slipped and--

Mancomb is almost asleep, while Estevan looks somewhere else while drinking.

GUYBRUSH

(clearing his throat)

So, well--

Guybrush looks at the poster on the wall on his left. In it, the picture of a young attractive woman, ELAINE MARLEY, with the caption: "Re-elect governor Marley. One candidate, one choice."

GUYBRUSH

Where I can find the Governor?

MANCOMB

Governor Marley? Her mansion is on the other side of town. Buccaneers like us aren't as welcome around her place as they used to be.

GUYBRUSH

Wait, what? Buccaneers? I really thought you were pirates!

MANCOMB

No, no. We're nothing like those pirates-- here in the Caribbean.

GUYBRUSH

Why not?

MANCOMB

They are just evil foul-smelling, grog-swilling pigs. We are at least forty percent less evil. Anyways, it's just a story. I don't believe any of it. Estevan here instead takes the whole thing very seriously.

ESTEVAN

How can't ye? Things really got ugly after!

GUYBRUSH

Why? What did that guy do?

Guybrush face gets more and more terrified as he begins to listen to the--

LECHUCK'S STORY - ANIMATED FLASHBACK

LeChuck's story as imagined by Estevan, while we also start seeing an exaggerated animated version of it.

ESTEVAN (V.O.)

That guy? He's not that guy. He is LeChuck, an evil and fearsome buccaneer. You can almost call him a pirate. Nobody knows why he is so evil, but I heard he lost his parents during their trip to the new world, devoured by a--

BACK TO SCENE

MANCOMB

Who cares! Tell him about the governor!

ESTEVAN

Oh, ye! I was only setting the story!

LECHUCK/MONKEY ISLAND LEGENDS - ANIMATED FLASHBACK

As before, brief exaggerated animated scenes: a tall, big pirate with a black beard doing what Estevan tells; we're not able to look directly at his face.

ESTEVAN (V.O.)

So, the last time governor Marley had a buccaneer over for dinner, he was LeChuck, and he fell in love with her. LeChuck tried to impress the governor by sailing off to find the Secret of Monkey Island. But a mysterious storm came up and sank his ship, leaving no survivors. We thought that was the end of the fearsome buccaneer LeChuck. We were wrong. Now he still sails the waters between here and Monkey Island. His ghost ship is an unholy terror upon the sea--

Guybrush tries to impress them again by saying--

BACK TO SCENE

GUYBRUSH

Wait a second, I fought those ghost pirates! I was telling you before!

ESTEVAN

Who? You?

Mancomb and Estevan laugh.

ESTEVAN

(to Mancomb, laughing)

We're all in here and not out in the sea because of LeChuck and he fought them!

(finish laughing, then serious)

LeChuck really made things rather uncomfortable for everybody. We're even getting dangerously low on grog... and mugs.

Estevan's hand starts shaking, while a ridiculed and terrified Guybrush is comforted by Mancomb.

MANCOMB

Here, here, drink some grog. It's going flat so it won't hurt you--

Guybrush sips some grog from the mug.

MANCOMB

--too much.

GUYBRUSH

(almost spitting)

What's in this?

MANCOMB

We don't know for certain. It's a secret mixture which contains one or more of the following: kerosene, propylene glycol, artificial sweeteners, sulphuric acid, rum, acetone, red dye number two, scumm, axle grease, battery acid, and/or pepperoni.

ESTEVAN

It's one of the most caustic, volatile substances known to man. The stuff eats right through your sobriety. The cook is losing a fortune replacing these mugs!

Guybrush body starts oscillating left and right. He has a smile on his face and suddenly he stands up.

GUYBRUSH

(mumbling)

Nice talking to you, guys. I'll just be running along now, I leave you to your grog.

ESTEVAN

Aye.

MANCOMB

Come back later and tell us how ye're doing.

Both smirk. Guybrush leaves the table and walks toward to exit bumping into pirates without care.

INT./EXT. BAR ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Guybrush exits the bar and walks, swaying unsteadily in the street scarce of people.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

He goes near three buccaneers, each with a different colour identifying him.

GREEN BUCCANEER

What be ye wantin' boy?

GUYBRUSH

I want to be one of you. I can do it!

BLUE BUCCANEER

Oh, yeah? You don't become like us just by asking.

GUYBRUSH

I can hold my breath for ten minutes! Give me my trials to prove myself!

BLACK BUCCANEER

Get lost, boy, you bother us.

A monkey is walking among them, in the background. It approaches one pirate.

GUYBRUSH

Look behind you! A three-headed monkey!

BLACK BUCCANEER

Yeah, yeah. I said get lost! Why bother us?

GUYBRUSH

You're a bunch of pigs! I will kill you all!

The buccaneers laugh for a moment, look into each other eyes, nod, then--

GREEN BUCCANEER

OK boy, hear this. You should--

But Guybrush is more interested in the monkey, who's leaving the scene.

GUYBRUSH

Where are you going monkey monkey monkey? Come back!

The monkey starts going into the forest and Guybrush follows him.