

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

**BLACK
PANTHER**

BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY

Ryan Coogler & Joe Robert Cole

BLACK PANTHER

Adapted Screenplay
Written by Ryan Coogler & Joe Robert Cole

EXT. DEEP SPACE

A dark screen is lit up by twinkling stars.

SON

Baba?

FATHER

Yes, my son?

SON

Tell me a story.

FATHER

Which one?

SON

The story of home.

A meteorite drifts into frame, heading towards tiny Earth off in the distance.

FATHER

Millions of years ago, a meteorite made of vibranium, the strongest substance in the universe struck the continent of Africa affecting the plant life around it.

The meteorite hits Africa and we see plant life and animals affected by vibranium.

FATHER (CONT'D)

And when the time of man came, five tribes settled on it and called it Wakanda. The tribes lived in constant war with each other until a warrior shaman received a vision from the Panther goddess Bast who led him to the Heart Shaped Herb, a plant that granted him super human strength, speed, and instincts.

A visual representation of the five tribes emerges as hands from the sand animation, and we see them unite, and then break apart as conflict arises. Bashenga rises above the conflict and eats the Heart Shaped Herb, proceeding to unite the tribes.

FATHER (CONT'D)

The warrior became King and the first Black Panther, the protector of Wakanda.

(MORE)

FATHER (CONT'D)

Four tribes agreed to live under the King's rule, but the Jabari tribe isolated themselves in the mountains.

We see the Jabari striding off towards the isolated mountain region.

FATHER (CONT'D)

The Wakandans used vibranium to develop technology more advanced than any other nation, but as Wakanda thrived the world around it descended further into chaos.

We see images of war and slavery just outside Wakanda's secretive border.

FATHER (CONT'D)

To keep vibranium safe, the Wakandans vowed to hide in plain sight, keeping the truth of their power from the outside world.

We see the protective barrier rise around the Wakandan city, as we pull back on the Earth as it spins, now zooming in on another part of the world...

SON

And we still hide Baba?

FATHER

Yes.

SON

Why?

EXT. LAKE MERRITT APARTMENT COMPLEX, OAKLAND - NIGHT - 1992

Towering apartment buildings loom over the horizon. Kids play pickup basketball on a milk carton hoop when mysterious lights approach from the sky.

INT. N'JOBU'S APARTMENT/HALLWAY - NIGHT

An African man, N'JOBU (30s) sorts through firearms and goes over maps with another man, JAMES (20s, African American). Live news footage of the 1992 Los Angeles Riots plays on the TV.

N'JOBU

Hey look, if we get in and out quick won't be any worries. You in the van come in through from the west, come around the corner, land right here. Me and the twins pulling up right here, we leavin' this car behind, ok? We coming...

Suddenly, N'Jobu hears something that we don't... a familiar sound.

N'JOBU (CONT'D)

Hide the straps.

James quickly moves into action, hiding the guns in the walls as N'Jobu peers out a window, then clears the maps from the table and unrolls a tapestry on the wall, hiding a bulletin board. James cocks a handgun.

JAMES

Is it the Feds?

N'JOBU

No.

A KNOCK rattles the door.

James walks over and looks out of a peep hole, then turns back with a confused expression.

JAMES

It's two Grace Jones looking chicks... they're holding spears...

N'JOBU

Open it.

JAMES

You serious?

N'JOBU

They won't knock again.

James opens the door and TWO DORA MILAJE (members of the All Female Wakandan Special Forces) slowly enter carrying LARGE SPEARS. They eye N'Jobu.

DORA MILAJE 1 (SUBTITLE)

(in Xhosa)

Who are you?

N'JOBU

Prince N'Jobu, son of Azzuri.

DORA MILAJE 1
 (in Xhosa)
Prove to me you are one of us.

N'Jobu grabs his bottom lip and flips it, revealing a vibranium threaded TATTOO glowing blue with Wakandan script. The Dora SWIFTLY SLAM their spears down in unison, making the sound of an EMP. All electronics in the room instantly DIE OUT.

INT. N'JOBU'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The room is pitch black, then... BOOM. The Dora hit the floor with their spears again and the lights come back ON, but now YOUNG T'CHAKA (dressed in the ceremonial garb of the Black Panther) stands before them.

N'Jobu kneels at the sight of him. He swats James, urging him to do the same.

N'JOBU
 (in Xhosa)
My King...

Young T'Chaka looks at James, who gapes in awe.

YOUNG T'CHAKA
 Leave us.

N'JOBU
 This is James. I trust him with my life. He stays, with your permission, King T'Chaka.

Young T'Chaka looks at him for a long beat.

YOUNG T'CHAKA
 As you wish. At ease...

Young T'Chaka removes his mask, hands it off to the Dora and the women step out into the hall, closing the door behind them.

YOUNG T'CHAKA (CONT'D)
 (in Xhosa)
Come baby brother.
 (in English)
 Let me see how you're holding up.

N'Jobu stands. T'Chaka walks over to him and they embrace.

YOUNG T'CHAKA (CONT'D)
 You look strong.

N'JOBU
 Glory to Bast. I am in good health.
 How is home?

Young T'Chaka's mood darkens.

YOUNG T'CHAKA
 Not so good, *baby brother*. There
 has been an attack.

Then, Young T'Chaka activates a simple looking beaded bracelet, KIMOYO BEADS, that project a hologram image of ULYSSES KLAUE.

YOUNG T'CHAKA (CONT'D)
 This man, Ulysses Klaue, stole a
 quarter ton of vibranium from us
 and triggered a bomb at the border
 to escape. Many lives were lost. He
 knew where we hid the vibranium,
 and how to strike.

N'Jobu takes the news in.

YOUNG T'CHAKA (CONT'D)
 He had someone on the inside.

Young T'Chaka waits for N'Jobu to come clean of the crime. He doesn't.

N'JOBU
 Why are you here?

YOUNG T'CHAKA
 Because I want you look me in the
 eyes and tell me why you betrayed
 Wakanda.

N'JOBU
 I did no such thing.

Young T'Chaka snaps a look to James.

YOUNG T'CHAKA (SUBTITLE)
 (in Xhosa)
Tell him who you are.

JAMES
 Zuri, Son of Badu.

N'JOBU
 What?

N'Jobu's face goes ashen as James is revealed to be YOUNG ZURI, a Wakandan spy. Zuri reveals his vibranium lip tattoo. N'Jobu grabs him.

N'JOBU (CONT'D)

James, James you lied to me? I invite you into my home and you were Wakandan this whole time?

JAMES (ZURI)

You betrayed Wakanda!

N'JOBU

How could you lie to me like -

YOUNG T'CHAKA

Stand down. Did you think that you were the only spy we sent here?

Zuri walks to the wall and removes a duffle bag containing VIBRANIUM CANISTERS, glowing blue. He shows one to Young T'Chaka.

YOUNG T'CHAKA (CONT'D)

Prince N'Jobu, you will return home at once, where you will face the council and inform them of your crimes.

EXT. LAKE MERRITT, OAKLAND - NIGHT

A kid catches the basketball, gazing up as an AIRCRAFT WITH STRANGE LIGHTS rises into the sky and speeds off.

The ball drops.

INT. COMMAND CABIN, ROYAL TALON FIGHTER - NIGHT - PRESENT DAY

T'Challa, dressed in his Black Panther armor, sits at the console in the back of the ROYAL TALON FIGHTER. A BBC news report plays on the screen.

BBC ANCHOR

The tiny nation of Wakanda is mourning the death of its monarch, King T'Chaka. The beloved ruler was one of many confirmed dead after a terrorist attack at the United Nations a week ago. The Suspect has since been apprehended.

(MORE)

BBC ANCHOR (CONT'D)

Though it remains one of the poorest countries in the world, fortified by mountain ranges and an impenetrable rain forest, Wakanda does not engage in international trade or accept aid. The succession of the throne is expected to fall to the oldest of the King's two children, Prince T'Challa.

Piloting the craft while seated in lotus position is OKOYE (30s, Head of the Dora Milaje.)

OKOYE

My Prince, coming up on them now.

EXT. NIGHT SKY, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

An overhead view of a SIX CAR MILITARY CONVOY, moving like a sinister serpent through the surrounding wilderness. We pull back into the sky revealing the tip of a futuristic looking aircraft. This is the ROYAL TALON FIGHTER (RTF).

INT. COMMAND CABIN, ROYAL TALON FIGHTER - NIGHT

T'Challa stands, and moves to a sand model of the convoy down below.

Okoye gets up out of her chair and grabs her SPEAR off the wall. She moves towards the back of the craft.

T'CHALLA

No need, Okoye. I can handle this alone.

Okoye pauses, then returns her spear to the wall. T'Challa closes the model and steps to a marked circle in the floor.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

I will get Nakia out as quickly as possible.

Okoye places six KIMOYO BEADS into T'Challa's gloved hands.

OKOYE

Just don't freeze when you see her.

T'CHALLA

What are you talking about? I never freeze.

T'Challa slips on his helmet, revealing himself to be Black Panther and folds his arms over his chest. Okoye opens her closed fist, dropping Panther out of the aircraft.

EXT. NIGHT SKY, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

Panther hurdles through the clouds and throws the spheres toward the cars below. The spheres CHANGE SHAPE into edged discs that we follow through the air as they zip toward...

EXT. DIRT ROAD, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

WHAM. The discs mount themselves to hoods of ALL THE VEHICLES, sending a sonic ripple through them, stopping the convoy in its tracks.

I/E. MILITANT LEADER'S PICKUP, DIRT ROAD, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

The MILITANT LEADER riding shotgun watches as The DRIVER looks around, confused. He tries turning the key to start the truck up again -- nothing.

The Militant Leader grabs his AK-47 and climbs out to the front of the truck, he spots the disk mounted to it, and tries pulling it off to no avail. He raises his fist.

MILITANT LEADER
Defense position!

The militant leader slips down a Night Vision MONOCULAR as the other MILITANTS echo the call and begin to fall in line.

INT. CARGO TRUCK, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

Packed closely together, SEVERAL NIGERIAN WOMEN dressed in hijab sit, waiting.

A CARGO TRUCK MILITANT sits amongst the women, RIFLE in hand, next to a YOUNG MILITANT, a child soldier no older than twelve.

We find a WOMAN sitting in the back corner, her eyes observing the militants intensely. This is NAKIA (30's, a Wakandan spy).

The CARGO TRUCK MILITANT stands up and cocks his rifle.

CARGO TRUCK MILITANT
No games.

He and the Young Militant exit the vehicle as Nakia watches closely.

EXT. ROAD, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

The pickup's driver climbs out, cocking a submachine gun and looks into the forest in the wrong direction.

Slowly approaching, the militant leader points to SHIFTING FOLIAGE in the direction of Panther.

The militants nod and the militant leader covers them while they go off into the grass.

The militants move slowly following every sound. They point their guns at the base of a TREE, but it's just a stray DOG.

The gunmen approach the tree, eyeing around, then look up to find PANTHER stalking his prey from the tree tops.

I/E. MILITANT LEADER'S PICKUP, DIRT ROAD, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

MILITANT LEADER
(into radio)
What do you see?

I/E. CARGO TRUCK, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

Nakia climbs out of the truck while the other captive women look on.

EXT. MILITANT LEADER'S PICKUP, DIRT ROAD, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

ON MILITANT LEADER

MILITANT LEADER
(into radio)
Come in! Come in!

FROM THE ROAD

We hear a faint struggle, then a MILITANT'S BODY is hurled into the side of the pickup truck as the other militants look on in horror!

The .50 CAL GUNNER and all of the other men in the convoy BLINDLY OPEN FIRE into the trees.

Then PANTHER emerges from behind them, flipping into the truck bed and SLASHING clean through the base of the .50 CAL, then taking the gunner out with a single blow.

I/E. CARGO TRUCK, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

Slipping behind a MILITANT, Nakia picks up the man's RIFLE and quickly disassembles it as another MILITANT approaches and using the BARREL like a combat stick, puts him on his back, out cold.

She leaps onto a second militant, easily taking him down and striking him in the throat.

EXT. DIRT CLEARING, CHIBOCK - NIGHT

The four men don't see Panther coming and executing a BARRAGE OF PUNCHES AND KICKS, Panther viciously dispatches them. He spots the Young Militant firing at him then SLASHES through a car door, and THROWS THE DOOR at a Militant behind him-taking him out.

ON PANTHER

In a moment of desperation, the Young Militant rushes out, firing at Panther to no effect. Then, as Panther walks towards him, Nakia dives out, kicking the young militant's gun from his hand and grabs him in a neck-lock.

Swinging around, Nakia kicks Panther in the chest, stopping his momentum. Caught off guard, Panther freezes.

NAKIA

This one is just a boy... he got kidnapped as well.

Nakia pulls the wrap from the young militant's face, exposing his pre-teen expression. She removes her own hijab as well.

Panther stares at her- for a beat too long...

T'CHALLA

Nakia...I...I wanted to...

NIGERIAN MILITANT #2 (O.S.)

Hey!!!

Panther and Nakia turn to find NIGERIAN MILITANT #2 holding a CAPTIVE WOMAN at gunpoint.

NIGERIAN MILITANT #2 (CONT'D)

I have her! Don't move, I will
shoot! I will shoot her right now!

Behind the militant, an UNSEEN FIGURE creeps out of the bush.
The figure stands, revealing herself to be OKOYE.

The militant's rifle is SUDDENLY CUT IN HALF by Okoye who
finishes him with another swipe of her spear.

OKOYE

You froze.

T'Challa removes his helmet, facing Nakia.

NAKIA

Why are you here? Eesh, you ruined
my mission!

T'CHALLA

My father is dead, Nakia.

The news devastates her.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

I will be crowned King tomorrow,
and I wish for you to be there.

Nakia looks at T'Challa deeply. Then turns, catching eyes
with one of the NIGERIAN CAPTIVES as Okoye brings them from
around the truck.

NAKIA

Carry yourselves home now, and take
the boy. Get him to his people.

The Nigerian Woman nods.

NIGERIAN WOMAN

Thank you.

OKOYE

You will speak nothing of this day.

T'Challa looks at the Young Militant for a beat before he,
Nakia and Okoye disappear through the trees.

The Nigerian Women and the Young Militant look up at the sky
as the RTF takes off.

EXT. WAKANDAN MOUNTAIN BORDER - BREAKING DAWN

The RTF comes out of stealth mode and becomes visible as it glides over a mountain range.

INT. ROYAL TALON FIGHTER - BREAKING DAWN

T'Challa and Nakia sit close, silently. Nakia reaches out and touches his hand. He looks at her and smiles.

OKOYE

Sister Nakia... My Prince. We are home.

Nakia approaches the front of the craft with T'Challa. They look out.

I/E. ROYAL TALON FIGHTER - BREAKING DAWN

Several BORDER TRIBE SHEPHERDS look over their flocks of sheep and cattle.

As the RTF's shadow passes over the STRAW THATCHED HUTS, SEVERAL CHILDREN run out into the pastures, smiling and waving at the Prince.

TWO BORDER TRIBE KIDS (one boy, one girl) on horseback overtake them. Their horses hurdle ahead at a breakneck pace.

The horse riders pump their fists in the air as the RTF soars over a second mountain range.

T'CHALLA

This never gets old.

I/E. RTF - BREAKING DAWN

Nakia, T'Challa and Okoye regard a BEAUTIFUL RAINFOREST that expands for as far as the eye can see.

Okoye dives the plane seemingly right into THE TREES... when at the last moment it passes through, revealing the forest is a massive hologram and below...

EXT. THE GOLDEN CITY, CAPITAL OF WAKANDA - BREAKING DAWN

A sprawling metropolis with elaborate veins of public transportation running through it at ground level and high arching skyscrapers.

The RTF heads for the ROYAL PALACE, a magnificent building at the center of the city and touches down on the landing pad.

EXT. LANDING PAD, ROYAL PALACE/INT. RTF - BREAKING DAWN

RAMONDA (50s, Queen Mother of Wakanda), and SHURI (18, Princess of Wakanda) stand on the pad flanked by AYO.

Okoye, Nakia and T'Challa exit the RTF and Nakia bows her head.

NAKIA

Queen Mother... Princess. My
comfort for your loss.

RAMONDA

Thank you, Nakia. It is so good to
have you back with us.

Nakia nods.

OKOYE

(to Ayo)

Take her to the River Province to
prepare her for the ceremony.

AYO

Yes, general.

Ayo nods and walks off with Nakia while Shuri watches closely.

SHURI

Did he freeze?

OKOYE

Like an antelope in headlights.

Shuri laughs at this.

T'CHALLA

Are you finished?

Okoye slams her spear into the ground, signaling the rest of the Dora to follow her off.

T'Challa turns to Shuri.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

So surprised my little sister came
to see me off before our big day.

SHURI

You wish. I'm here for the EMP beads, I've developed an update.

T'CHALLA

Update? No, it worked perfectly.

SHURI

How many times to I have to teach you, just because something works, doesn't mean that it cannot be improved.

T'CHALLA

(teasing)

You are teaching me, what do you know?

Shuri holds out her hand and T'Challa drops the beads into her hand. Shuri heads off.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

I cannot wait to see what kind of update you make to your ceremonial outfit.

Shuri flips him off.

RAMONDA

Shuri!

T'Challa smiles at this.

SHURI

Sorry mother.

Ramonda turns to T'Challa.

T'CHALLA

How are you feeling today, mama?

RAMONDA

Proud... your father and I would talk about this day all the time. He is with us, and it is your time to be King.

EXT. BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON, UK - MORNING

Museum employees congregate outside as tourists and school groups move toward the main entrance.

INT. WEST AFRICAN EXHIBIT - MOMENTS LATER

We see a black man in high-end street wear, around 30 years old. A RING hangs on a gold chain around his neck. This is ERIK KILLMONGER.

Killmonger stands dangerously close to the glass containing SEVERAL WEST AFRICAN ARTIFACTS. They range from what looks like iron gardening tools to masks and short range weapons.

Flanking the room are TWO SECURITY GUARDS, slightly unnerved by his presence.

We follow the MUSEUM DIRECTOR, a British woman (mid-40's) as she enters and walks up behind Killmonger as he studies the war masks.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Good morning! How can I help you?

KILLMONGER

I was just checking out these artifacts. They tell me you're the expert.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR

You could say that.

KILLMONGER

They're beautiful.

Killmonger points at one of the masks.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

Where's this one from?

MUSEUM DIRECTOR

From the Bobo Ashanti Tribe, present day Ghana. 19th Century.

KILLMONGER

For real? What about this one?

MUSEUM DIRECTOR

That one's from the Edo people of Benin. 16th Century.

KILLMONGER

Now, tell me about this one.

Killmonger points to a MINING TOOL off to the side.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR
Also from Benin. 7th Century. Fula
tribe I believe.

KILLMONGER
Nah.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR
(amused)
I beg your pardon?

KILLMONGER
It was taken by British soldiers in
Benin but it's from Wakanda and
it's made out of vibranium. Don't
trip, I'mma take it off your hands
for you.

She looks at Killmonger like he's crazy.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR
These items aren't for sale.

KILLMONGER
How do you think your ancestors got
these? You think they paid a fair
price? Or did they take it like
they took everything else.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR
Sir, I'm going to have to ask you
to leave.

The Museum Director subtly looks back at the security guards,
then makes a face and touches her stomach -- indigestion.
Killmonger smiles and leans over, whispering in her ear.

KILLMONGER
You got all this security watching
me ever since I walked in. But, you
ain't checking for what you put in
your body.

The museum director looks at Killmonger in terror as a
security guard walks up behind him.

SECURITY GUARD
Alright, mate. Let's have it. Come
on, mate.

KILLMONGER
I think she might not be feelin'
too good.

The Museum Director suddenly slumps to the floor, clutching her stomach.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)
 Hey! Hey somebody get some help!
 Come here! Call a doctor, please!
 Hey please, somebody come help!

The security guards quickly rush to the museum director's aid.

SECURITY GUARD
 (into radio)
 Medical Emergency right away in the
 West African Exhibit please. Right
 away!

Killmonger stands back and looks toward the door.

INT. CAFE, BRITISH MUSEUM - MORNING

LINDA, A young black barista, looks on as TWO EMTs push a STRETCHER through the entrance. They head towards the West African Exhibit.

LINDA
 I'm gonna take a break.

Preoccupied with the commotion, her co-worker nods and Linda walks out.

INT. WEST AFRICAN EXHIBIT, BRITISH MUSEUM - MOMENTS LATER

The EMTs rush in, revealing the face of the lead paramedic... IT'S ULYSSES KLAUE (Afrikaans, 50s.)

Another EMT, LIMBANI, mans the door.

KLAUE
 Let's give the lady some space
 please.

LIMBANI
 Step back please, gents, step back
 please.

Museum-goers quickly beeline for the exit as Klaue approaches the guards.

Uneasy, the security guards follow Klaue's instructions only to have KLAUE AND LIMBANI draw silenced pistols and rapidly shoot two of the three dead. Klaue looks at the one remaining.

KLAUE

Hey come here. Come here! It's ok.
You can go, but just don't tell
anyone, alright?

The SECURITY GUARD looks back at him unsure, then takes off.

Klaue then aims and shoots the Security Guard in the back. Killmonger looks on at him confused.

KILLMONGER

Bro, why you 'aint just shoot him
right here?

KLAUE

Because it's better to leave the
crime scene more spread out...makes
us look like amateurs.

The LENS on a surveillance camera at the corner of the room looks on.

INT. SECURITY DESK, BRITISH MUSEUM - MORNING

MONITORS with feeds from the West African Exhibit show a looped video of patrons enjoying the displays as...

EXT. BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON, UK - MORNING

Just outside the entrance, Linda exits, wearing plain clothes. She eyes her cellphone SCREEN where the same video plays. The source of the loop.

INT. WEST AFRICAN EXHIBIT - MORNING

Klaue looks down at the slumped bodies of the guards. Turns to Killmonger.

KLAUE

Now...let's see if you know what
you're talking about...

Klaue removes his glove to reveal a BIONIC PROSTHETIC hand.

Klaue walks up to the PROTECTIVE GLASS surrounding a smaller case containing the mining tool and places his hand on it. An invisible charge SHATTERS the glass.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
That's just a taste.

Klaue picks up the MINING HAMMER, studying it. The tool doesn't look like anything special.

Klaue's hand SIZZLES BLUE and centuries of MUCK and GRUNGE drop off the hammer revealing that it's pure vibranium. Klaue smells it, and smiles.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
Whoo... You're gonna be rich, boy.

KILLMONGER
You better sell that quick.

KLAUE
Oh it's already sold.

Klaue waves Limbani over with the stretcher to load the hammer inside. He BREAKS the WOODEN HANDLE off the tool, taking only the vibranium head.

KILLMONGER
Whatever you try, the Wakandans'll probably show up.

KLAUE
That'll make my day. I can kill two birds with one stone.

Limbani approaches Killmonger who eyes a third MASK, expertly crafted and slightly haunting. He slides the mask inside the stretcher also.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
You're not telling me that's vibranium too, eh?

KILLMONGER
Nah, I'm just feeling it.

Killmonger lays atop the gurney and Limbani places an oxygen mask over his face.

INT. FOYER, BRITISH MUSEUM - MORNING

The fake EMT's wheel the stretcher out of the exhibit toward the entrance.

EXT. BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON, UK - MOMENTS LATER

Klaue and Limbani load the gurney onto an AMBULANCE and climb in.

Killmonger moves towards the front of the truck and gives Linda a kiss before she hits the SIREN and speeds off.

EXT. WAKANDAN RIVER - DAY

Several incredible BARGES transport congregations from FOUR WAKANDAN TRIBES, ELDERS and their TRIBAL WARRIORS in traditional garb, others in modern Wakandan attire, the DORA MILAJE and KINGSGUARD with spears and shields down river.

EXT. DORA MILAJE BARGE, WAKANDAN RIVER - DAY

Okoye stands with her second in command, AYO, flanked by a legion of Kingsguard and Dora.

EXT. ROYAL BARGE, WAKANDAN RIVER - DAY

Ramonda and Shuri dance.

EXT. RIVER TRIBE BARGE, WAKANDAN RIVER - DAY

Nakia dances among her tribal leaders.

EXT. DORA MILAJE BARGE, WAKANDAN RIVER - DAY

The Dora slam their spears in unison, sonically triggering the massive drains at the top of the waterfall and we PULL BACK to reveal natural seating built into the rocks below.

EXT. WAKANDAN FALLS - DAY

THE ROYAL TALON FIGHTER flies up to the pool's edge and T'CHALLA steps off the aircraft, holding a short spear and shield and covered in leopard body paint. The crowd chants.

ELDERS, WARRIORS, DORA
Ngu T'Challa Lo.

CROWD
Ngu T'Challa Lo.

T'Challa bows at Zuri's feet as the RTF lifts away.

EXT. SEATING AREA, WARRIOR FALLS

Thousands of Wakandans stand according to tribe, overlooking a challenge pool: the Border Tribe, the Mining Tribe, the Merchant Tribe and the River Tribe. FIVE KINGSGUARD DRUMMERS set up near the challenge pool.

Ramonda stands at the edge of the pool with Shuri. Nakia is with the River Tribe, W'KABI (the leader of the Border Tribe Army) with the Border Tribe and Okoye with Ayo and the Dora Milaje.

EXT. CHALLENGE POOL, WARRIOR FALLS - DAY

In the water, ZURI (Now Wakanda's High Shaman), holding the massive SPEAR OF BASHENGA, addresses the arena.

ZURI

I, Zuri, Son of Badu, give to you,
Prince T'Challa, the Black Panther!

The Elders watch as Zuri holds up A CEREMONIAL VESSEL containing a mysterious concoction.

ZURI (CONT'D)

The Prince will now have the
strength of the Black Panther
stripped away.

Zuri pours the solution into T'Challa's mouth. T'Challa reacts violently, choking on the red fluid.

T'Challa spasms, his veins expanding and his muscles contracting as the poison spreads through him. But soon, he stops shaking and exhales easy.

Zuri turns to the audience.

ZURI (CONT'D)

Damaku...

CROWD

Damaku...

ZURI

Victory in ritual combat comes by
yield or death. If any tribe wishes
to put forth a warrior, I now offer
a path to the throne.

The Merchant Tribe Warrior calls out.

MERCHANT TRIBE ELDER
The Merchant Tribe will **NOT**
challenge today.

W'KABI, the head of the Border Tribe calls out.

BORDER TRIBE ELDER
The Border tribe will **NOT** challenge
today.

Nakia calls out, representing the River Tribe.

RIVER TRIBE ELDER
The River Tribe will **NOT** challenge
today.

The Mining Tribe Warrior calls out.

MINING TRIBE ELDER
The Mining Tribe will **NOT** challenge
today.

ZURI
Is there any member of royal blood
who wishes to challenge for the
throne?

ON SHURI

As she raises her hand, and a collective gasp is heard
amongst the entire gathering.

SHURI
This corset is really
uncomfortable. So could we all just
wrap it up and go home?

Ramonda pinches her, as the ELDERS groan, and the YOUNG
WAKANDANS can be heard laughing.

BACK IN THE POOL

T'Challa smiles and shakes his head.

The sound of WOODEN DRUMS and loud chanting suddenly
interrupts.

Everyone looks to the mouth of the main CAVE where SIX JABARI
WARRIORS and TWO JABARI DRUMMERS file out. Adorned in
elaborate wooden armor, the warriors hold large wooden spears
that look like javelins.

The Kingsguard coil tightly as stunning the CROWD, the
Jabari's imposing leader, M'BAKU, emerges last.

ON THE AUDIENCE

Where W'Kabi and Nakia unsheathe their weapons and Okoye readies the Dora Milaje.

ON SHURI AND RAMONDA

Shuri turns to her mother.

SHURI (CONT'D)
Are they Jabari?

RAMONDA
Yes.

BACK IN THE POOL

Zuri confronts M'Baku.

ZURI
M'Baku. What are you doing here?!

M'BAKU
It's challenge day.

M'BAKU (CONT'D)
We have watched and listened from the mountains. We have watched with disgust, as your technological advancements have been overseen by a child who scoffs at tradition.

M'Baku points his spear at Shuri, who's eyes grow large. AYO steps in front of her.

M'BAKU (CONT'D)
And now... you want to hand the nation over to this prince...
(he steps nose to nose with T'Challa)
Who could not even keep his own father safe. Hmm? We will not have it. I said we will not have it!
(beat)
I, M'Baku, leader of the Jabari wish to --

T'CHALLA
(interrupting)
I accept your challenge, M'Baku.

M'BAKU
Glory to Hanuman.

Zuri puts the Panther mask on T'Challa.

M'Baku grins and places a WOODEN GORILLA MASK over his face. He clenches his fist and calls out for his Jabari soldiers to form a semicircle behind him, pointing their spears at his back.

T'Challa lifts his hand and calls out for the Dora, who fall into place behind him, making a perfect CIRCLE OF SPEARS surrounding the fighters.

Zuri raises his hand, ill-at-ease.

ZURI

Let the challenge begin!

The warriors CLASH, both with great skill. M'Baku with superior strength. T'Challa eludes a salvo of swings, then is driven back by the tip of M'Baku's spear against his shield.

Knocking M'Baku's spear free, T'Challa is HAMMERED ONTO HIS BACK but instantly springs up to dodge more attacks and counter with TWO FIERCE KICKS.

M'Baku spits blood and bangs his chest. The rest of the Jabari warriors RESPOND. T'Challa salutes the crowd and they respond LOUDER!

M'Baku charges at T'Challa, knuckle-walking, and slipping his assault, T'Challa grabs M'Baku's spear and cartwheels over it to land another KICK.

The two continue to battle, BLOCKING and TRADING BLUNT STRIKES, until M'Baku delivers a backhand that KNOCKS T'CHALLA OFF HIS FEET near the Dora's spears.

With the deadly spears at his back, T'Challa blocks COLOSSAL OVERHEAD BLOWS with his shield, then M'Baku leans with all his strength trying to impale T'Challa on the TIPS.

Clubbing M'Baku to his heels, T'Challa rushes forward for an aerial attack only to be met by a VICIOUS KICK to the chest, causing him to LOSE both his shield and spear!

M'BAKU

Where is your God, now?!

Defenseless, T'Challa DODGES SPEAR-SWIPES before M'Baku corrals him into a BEAR HUG and delivers a CRUSHING HEADBUTT.

M'Baku LAUGHS through his mask.

M'BAKU (CONT'D)

No powers. No claws. No special suit, oh! Just a boy, not fit to lead.

EXT. SEATING AREA, WARRIOR FALLS - DAY

From T'Challa's POV we see Ramonda cheering from the sidelines.

RAMONDA

Show him who you are!

EXT. CHALLENGE POOL, WARRIOR FALLS - DAY

T'Challa finds strength in RAMONDA'S VOICE. He shakes off the headbutt, stunning M'Baku with a SAVAGE ELBOW to free himself.

M'Baku retaliates, GORING T'Challa's shoulder.

T'CHALLA

I AM PRINCE T'CHALLA SON OF King
T'CHAKA!!

ON SHURI

SHURI

You can do this T'Challa!

BACK IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

T'Challa wedges M'Baku's spear UNDER HIS FOOT and PULLS M'Baku to the pool, FLIPPING his body into a SERIES OF LEG CHOKES.

M'Baku FIGHTS, but can't escape.

T'CHALLA

Yield! Don't make me kill you.

M'BAKU

I would rather die!

T'Challa TIGHTENS HIS GRIP and M'Baku begins to fade.

T'CHALLA

What would the proud Jabari do
without you?

T'Challa tightens further.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
 You have fought with honor, now
 yield! Your people need you.

M'Baku looks up at the Jabari warriors.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
 Yield, man!

M'Baku grudgingly reaches out and TAPS.

T'Challa lets him go and is barely able to stand himself as
 Zuri steps forward.

The crowd ERUPTS as struggling to catch his breath, T'Challa
 proudly lifts his arm.

ZURI
 I now present to you, King T'Challa
 the Black Panther!!

T'CHALLA
 Zuri.

ZURI
 My King.

Drums begin to play and people start to dance. T'Challa and
 Nakia stare into each other's eyes amidst the celebration
 as...

T'CHALLA
 Wakanda forever!!

The arena ECHOES THE PHRASE emphatically.

EXT. CITY OF THE DEAD - DUSK

We move in on the Hall of Kings.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - DUSK

Zuri, wearing ceremonial face paint, mixes a Heart Shaped
 Herb concoction and pours it into T'Challa's mouth as he lies
 in a dirt plot in the middle of the room.

ZURI
 Allow the Heart Shaped Herb to
 restore the powers of the Black
 Panther and take you to the
 Ancestral Plane.

T'Challa closes his eyes.

ZURI (CONT'D)
T'Chaka, we call on you. Come here
to your son.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - FLASHBACK

We see YOUNG T'CHALLA and YOUNG T'CHAKA smiling at each other.

INT. UNITED NATIONS BUILDING - FLASHBACK

We see images of T'Challa and T'Chaka from CA: CW. Father puts a hand to his son's face lovingly.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - DUSK

T'Challa, eyes closed, struggles with the memories as he slips into the Ancestral Plane.

ZURI
Damaku.

The children begin burying T'Challa in the red sand.

INT. UNITED NATIONS BUILDING - FLASHBACK

The explosion from CA: CW kills T'Chaka, and we see T'Challa crawling towards him, then cradling him in his arms.

EXT. UNITED NATIONS - FLASHBACK

T'Challa puts on his father's ring.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - DUSK

Zuri is the last thing T'Challa sees as his face is buried.

EXT. BLACK PANTHER ANCESTRAL PLANE - UNKNOWN

T'Challa comes out of the dirt. There are stars above. He's in a VAST GRASSLAND somewhere in Wakanda with wondrous acacia trees. It's surreal and beautiful.

A massive ACACIA TREE stands in front of him. T'Challa sees several YELLOW EYES looking at him and realizes PANTHERS are resting on the branches of the tree. T'Challa approaches. A large panther jumps down, then stands on two feet to reveal it's T'CHAKA.

T'Challa looks at his father and immediately pulls him into a hug.

T'CHALLA
Baba!

T'CHAKA
(in Xhosa)
My son.

T'Challa kneels down before his father, overcome with grief.

T'CHALLA
I am sorry.

T'CHAKA
Stand up! You are a King.

T'Challa rises, and they begin to walk.

T'CHAKA (CONT'D)
(in Xhosa)
What is wrong my son?

T'CHALLA
(in Xhosa)
I am not ready, Baba.

T'CHAKA
(in Xhosa)
Have you not prepared to be King your whole life? Have you not trained and studied, been by my side?

T'CHALLA
That is not what I am talking about. I am not ready to be without you.

T'CHAKA
A man who has not prepared his children for his own death has failed as a father.
(beat)
Have I ever failed you?

T'CHALLA

Never.

(beat)

Tell me how to best protect
Wakanda. I want to be a great
King, Baba. Just like you.

T'CHAKA

You're going to struggle. So you
need to surround yourself with
people you trust. You're a good man
with a good heart. And it's hard
for a good man to be King.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - DUSK

T'Challa is aggressively pulled from the dirt by Zuri.

ZURI

Breathe, T'Challa. Breathe!

T'Challa breathes in deeply, coughing up dirt. His battle
wounds have healed.

T'CHALLA

He was there! He was there. My
father.

EXT. STEP TOWN, GOLDEN CITY - DAY

A bustling futuristic metropolis. T'Challa and Nakia stroll
side by side. FOUR DORA MILAJE shadow them from a distance.

T'CHALLA

Come home, Nakia.

NAKIA

I'm right here.

T'CHALLA

Stay.

NAKIA

I came to support you, and to honor
your father. But I can't stay. It's
just...I found my calling out
there. I've seen too many in need
just to turn a blind eye. I can't
be happy here knowing that there's
people out there who have nothing.

T'Challa thinks on this.

T'CHALLA

What would you have Wakanda do about it?

Nakia thinks for a bit.

NAKIA

Share what we have. We could provide aid and access to technology and refuge to those who need it... other countries do it, we do it better.

T'CHALLA

We are not like these other countries, Nakia. If the world found out what we truly are, and what we possess -- we could lose our way of life.

NAKIA

Wakanda is strong enough to help others and protect ourselves at the same time.

Nakia gives T'Challa a look.

T'CHALLA

If you were not so stubborn you would make such a great queen.

NAKIA

I would make a great queen because I am so stubborn.

T'CHALLA

Ah! So you admit it!

NAKIA

...if that's what I wanted!

EXT. WAKANDAN BORDER REGION - DAY

We TRACK PAST several Border Tribesmen in a field, feeding and watering their pet HORSES and GOATS.

Finally we come upon... W'Kabi feeding M20, his MASSIVE PET RHINO by hand. T'Challa stands beside him.

T'CHALLA

Is that him? Glory to Bast, man, is he still growing?

W'Kabi laughs.

W'KABI
Of course.

W'KABI (CONT'D)
I see Nakia is back... you guys
going to work it out?

T'Challa shakes his head and crosses in front of W'Kabi.

W'KABI (CONT'D)
T'Challa, what's wrong?

T'CHALLA
Nakia thinks we should be doing
more.

W'KABI
More like what?

T'CHALLA
Foreign aid... refugee programs.

W'Kabi shakes his head.

W'KABI
You let refugees in, they bring
their problems with them. And then
Wakanda is like everywhere else.

T'Challa thinks on this.

W'KABI (CONT'D)
Now, if you said you wanted me and
my men to go out there and clean up
the world, then I'd be all for it.

T'CHALLA
But waging war on other countries
has never been our way.

Then, both of their Kimoyo beads buzz.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
You too, huh?

W'KABI
Bast, are we in trouble?

Their beads combine to project a display of Okoye.

OKOYE (DISPLAY)

My King. My love. You will never guess who just popped up on our radar.

INT. TRIBAL COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

An ornate chamber overlooking the Golden City. At the top of a golden pyramid, T'Challa, W'Kabi, Ramonda and ELDERS from each tribe except the Jabari sit in a circle as Okoye briefs them. W'Kabi and Ramonda flank T'Challa's throne.

OKOYE

A misidentified Wakandan artifact was stolen yesterday from a British museum. We have learned Ulysses Klaue plans to sell the vibranium to an American buyer in South Korea tomorrow night.

There are audible murmurs at the name of Ulysses Klaue.

T'CHALLA

Klaue has escaped our pursuits for almost 30 years. Not capturing him was perhaps my father's greatest regret. I wish to bring Klaue back here to stand trial.

MERCHANT TRIBE ELDER

Wakanda does not need a warrior right now. We need a King.

W'KABI

My parents were killed when he attacked. Not a day goes by when I do not think about what Klaue took from us, from me.

OKOYE

It's too great an opportunity to pass.

W'KABI

Take me with you. We'll take him down together side by side, eh?

T'CHALLA

I need you here protecting the border.

W'KABI

Then I ask, you kill him where he stands, or you bring him back to us.

T'CHALLA

You have my word I will bring him back.

(beat)

We will proceed with the mission.

Ramonda looks on, irresolute.

EXT/INT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

The Great Mound. Where a meteorite hit, creating a cliff-face on one side and a large hill on the other.

A DRAGONFLYER lands outside the WAKANDAN DESIGN GROUP.

INT. WAKANDAN DESIGN GROUP, HALLWAY, MT. BASHENGA - DAY

T'Challa walks with four Dora, including Ayo. The Dora stop outside Shuri's Lab.

As T'Challa pushes inside, Shuri approaches and bows her head.

SHURI

(mocking)
My, King.

T'CHALLA

Stop it. Stop it.

Shuri laughs and they do a special handshake before walking down the spiral walkway into her sprawling, futuristic lab.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDAN DESIGN GROUP - MOMENTS LATER

Nexus of technology. Shuri strolls with T'Challa by work tables of high-tech weapons and gadgets.

SHURI

I've already sent a car ahead to Busan for you.

(beat)

Who are you taking with you to Korea?

T'CHALLA
Okoye. And Nakia as well.

Shuri makes a face at Nakia.

SHURI
You sure it's a good idea to take
your ex on a mission?

T'CHALLA
Yes. We'll be fine.
(beat)
Besides, you will be on call,
should we need backup.

Shuri smiles at this and points out small communications
devices.

SHURI
I have great things to show you,
brother. Here are your
communication devices for Korea.
Unlimited range, also equipped with
audio surveillance system.

She walks him over to another table with WDG disks on them.

SHURI (CONT'D)
Check these out. Remote access
Kimoyo beads. Updated to interface
directly with my sand table.

Curious, T'Challa notices a pair of SLEEK SHOES.

T'CHALLA
And what are these?

SHURI
The real question is what are
those? Why do you have your toes
out in my lab?

Shuri points at T'Challa's traditional sandals. T'Challa
smiles.

T'CHALLA
What, you don't like my royal
sandals? I wanted to go old school
for my first day.

SHURI
(rolls her eyes)
Yea I bet the elders loved that.
Try them on.

T'Challa puts his feet into the shoes, and they lace up instantly, forming a perfect fit.

SHURI (CONT'D)
Fully automated, like the old
American movie Baba used to watch.
And I made them completely sound
absorbent.

T'Challa stomps his foot down without a sound.

T'CHALLA
Interesting...

SHURI
Guess what I call them.

T'Challa thinks on this.

SHURI (CONT'D)
Sneakers...

T'Challa looks at her blankly.

SHURI (CONT'D)
Because you... never mind.

Shuri walks T'Challa over to two mannequins. One wears T'Challa's CURRENT SUIT. The other, just a panther tooth NECKLACE.

SHURI (CONT'D)
If you're going to take on Klaue
you'll need the best the Design
Group has to offer.

Shuri points at T'Challa's current suit.

SHURI (CONT'D)
Exhibit A. Old tech.

T'CHALLA
Old...?

Functional, but old. Eh, people are
shooting at me... wait let me put
on my helmet...

T'Challa smiles, amused.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
Enough...

SHURI
 (pointing to the necklace)
 Now look at these.

T'Challa spots a GAUDIER GOLD TOOTH NECKLACE. She notices.

SHURI (CONT'D)
 Do you like that one?

T'CHALLA
 Tempting. But the idea is to not be
 noticed. This one.

Shuri uses her Kimoyo beads to sync the suit to T'Challa.

SHURI
 (pointing at the necklace)
 Now tell it to go on.

T'Challa does, and without warning, MILLIONS of vibranium
 laced NANITES spill from the necklace and form a new BLACK
 PANTHER SUIT around the mannequin.

SHURI (CONT'D)
 Oooh!! The entire suit sits within
 the teeth of the necklace. Strike
 it.

T'CHALLA
 Anywhere?

SHURI
 Mhm.

T'Challa turns to the mannequin in a relaxed fighting stance.

Shuri nods and T'Challa SPIN KICKS the shit out of the
 mannequin!

SHURI (CONT'D)
 Not that hard, genius!

T'CHALLA
 You told me to strike it, you
 didn't say how hard.

Shuri picks the mannequin back up and drags it over to the
 same spot.

SHURI
 I invite you to my lab, and you
 just kick things around.

T'CHALLA

Well maybe you should make it a little stronger, eh?

Shuri shrugs as we see Wakandan Script built into the suit GLOWING INDIGO where the impact of T'Challa's foot landed.

T'Challa looks closely at the glowing script.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

Wait a minute.

SHURI

The nanites absorb the kinetic energy and hold it in place for redistribution.

T'CHALLA

Very nice.

SHURI

Now strike it again, in the same spot.

T'Challa backs up for a kick. Shuri presses record on her Kimoyo. T'Challa sees this and looks at her suspiciously.

T'CHALLA

You are recording?

SHURI

For research purposes...

T'Challa loads up then BOOM! He kicks the indigo spot and goes flying back across the room, CRASHING INTO A TABLE full of Shuri's gadgets. Shuri cracks up.

T'CHALLA

Delete that footage...

EXT. BUSAN CITY SKYLINE - NIGHT

We move over the beautiful skyline.

EXT. JAGALCHI FISH MARKET - NIGHT

A LEXUS SEDAN drives through the market and pulls into a parking stall next to several expensive looking luxury cars.

T'Challa, Okoye and Nakia climb out of the sedan dressed to kill. A WIG covers Okoye's tattooed head.

NAKIA

This way.

OKOYE

Bast willing this goes quickly, and I can get this ridiculous thing off my head.

NAKIA

It looks nice. Just whip it back and forth.

OKOYE

What? It's a disgrace.

Looky-loos stare as Nakia leads them to an ELDERLY WOMAN (Korean), selling fish in front of an alley.

Nakia greets her in perfect Korean.

NAKIA (SUBTITLE)

(in Korean)

Hello Sophia, good to see you.

Nakia smiles, but the Elderly Woman doesn't smile back.

ELDERLY WOMAN (SUBTITLE)

(in Korean)

Who are these two?

NAKIA (SUBTITLE)

(in Korean)

My friends from Kenya. Very deep pockets. They're good.

ELDERLY WOMAN (SUBTITLE)

(in Korean)

Good for trouble, like you?

An awkward pause, then she smiles. A LARGE KOREAN TOUGH, wearing a black suit emerges from the alley, and motions for the Wakandans to follow him into..

NAKIA (SUBTITLE)

(in Korean)

Thank you.

INT. ANTEROOM - NIGHT

A small dark room with a A BACK DOOR with a Korean Character on it and TWO MORE KOREAN GOONS guarding each side. They eye our heroes closely. As they step through a large METAL DETECTOR and are WANDED DOWN.

The door opens and they pass into...

INT. UNDERGROUND CASINO, BALCONY - NIGHT

They walk out onto the upper balcony of a buzzing, high-class casino. There are a few GAMING TABLES on the balcony level and a bustling pit down below.

T'CHALLA
Spread out. The buyer is likely
already here.

Okoye heads for the BALCONY VANTAGE POINT while T'Challa and Nakia go down to the FIRST FLOOR.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
The woman outside -- what trouble
was she referring to?

She plays along, alluring.

NAKIA
Ah, I got into a disagreement with
some ivory traders. Made a bit of a
mess.

T'CHALLA
And will there be any *trouble*
tonight, Ms. Kenyan heiress?

NAKIA
Depends on how quickly we finish
the mission...

OKOYE (O.S.)
(interrupting)
-- Can we please focus.

T'Challa and Nakia split up. T'Challa heads for the pit and Nakia walks over to the bar.

ON OKOYE

OKOYE (CONT'D)
Thank you.

INT. FIRST FLOOR, BLACKJACK TABLE - NIGHT

Nakia slips into a seat at the bar and looks around clocking the room.

NAKIA
 (in Korean)
Over here. One whiskey, please.

NAKIA (CONT'D)
 Eyes up. Americans. I
 count...three.

We see Nakia's POV as she makes out THREE CIA AGENTS on the first floor, spread out under the balcony.

OKOYE (O.S.)
 Five. How could you miss "Greased
 Lightning" there behind you.

Standing over the balcony looking, Okoye spots TWO MORE CIA agents, both with greasy hair.

An elegant waitress carries a tray of drinks to a CRAPS TABLE where we find T'Challa.

The woman places the drinks down as T'Challa peers across the gambling pit at someone he recognizes and starts that way.

T'CHALLA
 (into comm)
 Six. Just spotted an old friend who
 works for the CIA. It just got a
 little more complicated.

T'Challa steps up to another crowded CRAPS TABLE next to EVERETT ROSS, the sixth CIA agent he spotted.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
 Agent Ross.

ROSS
 Your highness.

Ross plays it cool.

T'CHALLA
 You are buying from Klaue...

ROSS
 What I'm doing or not doing on
 behalf of the US government is of
 none of your concern. Now, whatever
 the hell you're up to, do me a
 favor and stay out of my way.

T'CHALLA
 I gave you Zemo.

ROSS

And didn't I kept it under wraps
that the King of a third world
country runs around in a
bulletproof cat suit. I'd say we
were even.

Ross places a Pass bet. T'Challa dumps a stack of chips on
Don't Pass. All of the SHOOTER'S FRIENDS blow on the dice.

ROSS (CONT'D)

You really need to leave, now.

They watch the dice roll. They land on 3. The dealer takes
away Ross' bet, and slides T'Challa's massive payout over to
him.

T'CHALLA

Klaue is leaving out that door with
me. You've been warned.

T'Challa walks toward another craps table, leaving the pile
of chips behind (money means nothing to him).

ROSS

(to the empty chair)

Hey, you won.

Ross scratches his brow as a THIRSTY GAMBLER (Stan Lee) who
was sitting next to T'Challa grabs them.

Ross eyes the Thirsty Gambler who shrugs.

THIRSTY GAMBLER

You know what, I think I'll just
take these, bring 'em over here and
hold on for safe keeping.

He slides them all onto the DON'T PASS bet and Ross walks off
in search of T'Challa.

ROSS

(into comm)

Ok heads up, the King of Wakanda is
here. He cannot leave with Klaue.

T'Challa stands at a ROULETTE TABLE when Ross walks up to
him.

ROSS (CONT'D)

Alright, vibranium from the attack on Sokovia links back to a person that I'm not actually saying I'm here to make a deal with but that deal will not be called off. When the dust settles you and I can work something out.

T'CHALLA

I am not here to make a deal.

Ross rolls his eyes.

EXT. JAGALCHI FISH MARKET - NIGHT

SEVERAL BLACK 4RUNNERS pull up in front of the Korean Woman and a platoon of EIGHT SOUTH AFRICAN TOUGHS dressed in suits hop out of the trucks protecting Klaue. Klaue winks at the Korean Woman as he walks past her. She smiles back and nods to the TOUGH behind her.

INT. ANTEROOM - NIGHT

Klaue and his men walk through the metal detector, and EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM LIGHTS IT UP. The TOUGHS watch as they go through.

INT. UNDERGROUND CASINO BALCONY - NIGHT

Klaue and his eight man entourage confidently stream inside the casino, spreading out across the balcony, gaining every vantage point.

ON ROSS AND T'CHALLA

At a stalemate. Then...

NAKIA (O.S.)

Klaue plus 8!

Ross looks to the entrance and immediately moves away from T'Challa.

T'Challa watches Ross approach a third CRAPS TABLE. T'Challa turns his back to avoid being seen.

T'CHALLA

General.

OKOYE (O.S.)
In position to secure our exit.

T'CHALLA
And the vibranium.

ON NAKIA

Who changes position from the bar to the CRAPS TABLE where T'Challa was initially standing.

NAKIA
I don't see it yet.

ON OKOYE

As TWO OF KLAUE'S TOUGHS post up on either side of her on the balcony. She tries to play it cool as they look around at the patrons suspiciously.

OKOYE
I thought there were no weapons
allowed in here.

NAKIA (O.S.)
There's not supposed to be.

OKOYE
Someone did not get the memo.
Definitely armed.

ON KLAUE

Klaue spots Ross and smiles as he heads down the stairs flanked by a couple of his TOUGHS.

INT. FIRST FLOOR, CRAPS TABLE - NIGHT

Ross keeps his cool as Klaue approaches.

ROSS
Well that is quite the entourage.
You got a mixtape coming out?

Klaue cuts Ross a look.

KLAUE
Yeah! Yeah, actually there is one.

Shocked, Ross is unsure if Klaue is serious.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
 Yea I'll send you the soundcloud
 link if you like.

Klaue turns to one of his goons.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
 Aye, Dave. Get him the link to the
 tape.

The SOUTH AFRICAN TOUGH reaches into his pocket for his
 phone.

ROSS
 Please don't make me listen to your
 music. I just meant, you got a lot
 of people with you.

KLAUE
 Oh, you think they're for you?

Klaue laughs at this.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
 Don't worry. I can do a deal with
 you all by myself, thank you very
 much.

He rubs Ross on the shoulder, hard, and for way too long. As
 several more SOUTH AFRICAN TOUGHS come pouring out of the VIP
 lounges.

NAKIA (O.S.)
 Six more, it's a set up.

KLAUE
 You got the diamonds?

Klaue is still rubbing Ross' shoulder.

ROSS
 Ok, that's enough.

A CIA AGENT walks a FANCY SLIM BRIEFCASE towards Ross.

ON NAKIA

NAKIA
 We need to move on Klaue.

ON T'CHALLA

T'CHALLA

Stand down. We can't afford a shoot-out.

BACK IN THE PIT

Ross eyes Klaue as the CIA agent brings him the briefcase.

ROSS

The vibranium?

Klaue looks around, and reaches into his pants and pulls out a wrinkled, sweaty paper bag, with "FRAGILE" written on it with a sharpie. Ross looks at the bag.

KLAUE

I was going to buy a fancy suitcase, but I thought I'd save myself some money.

ON NAKIA

NAKIA

It's now or never.

Nakia continues towards the CIA agent.

ON OKOYE

OKOYE

(in Xhosa)

STAND DOWN!

A South African Tough hears her, and turns towards her.

ON OKOYE

SOUTH AFRICAN TOUGH

Hey.

Okoye pretends she doesn't hear him.

SOUTH AFRICAN TOUGH (CONT'D)

Hey!

OKOYE

(into comms)

(in Xhosa)

I've been made.

Okoye starts for the stairs when ANOTHER TOUGH moves to cut her off. Okoye slows down and the TOUGH trailing behind her reaches out to grab her hand and turn her around.

As soon as the goon touches Okoye, she TWISTS him into an ARM-BAR, throws her purse at the OTHER TOUGH and extends her spear, stabbing the OTHER TOUGH in the foot. She then throws her WIG into the ARM BAR TOUGH's face, and hurls him over the railing.

DOWNSTAIRS

The arm-bar tough CRASHES DOWN onto a gaming table behind Klaue and startled patrons, scramble in every direction.

Klaue spins toward the commotion as...

Klaue looks back to Ross and spots T'Challa.

Producing a HANDGUN from his waist, Klaue opens fire on Ross and the CIA agent. Ross uses the SLIM SUITCASE as a shield as he ducks down below the craps table and...

T'Challa leaps to action, KICKING and FLIPPING THE TABLE on its edge to block GUNFIRE from Klaue's other toughs.

With bullets flying everywhere... PANICKED PEOPLE run for their lives. It's CHAOS.

Surrounded by TOUGHS, Klaue retreats for the stairs.

KLAUE

Get the diamonds, quick!

EVERY ONE OF KLAUE'S TOUGHS unload, raining shells on the overturned craps table with Ross and T'Challa behind it.

The TOUGHS move in only to have T'Challa leap from the table, staying low to FOOTSWEEP one onto his back. T'Challa kicks him back then disarms another TOUGH and kicks him into the bar. T'Challa then spins and kicks the next TOUGH over the roulette table and through the bar railing.

Nakia grabs a goon in an ARM TWIST trying to relieve him of his gun. She takes off one shoe and knocks out another approaching gun. Swings the arm twisted goon to the floor, knocks him out, taking his gun and shooting up towards the balcony where Okoye is fighting.

ON OKOYE

Okoye BATTLES TWO TOUGHS with her full-length spear, dropping both with proficiency.

She kicks the gun away from one, fights another with her spear, then kicks a TOUGH over the rail.

Okoye JUMPS down to the casino floor and stabs a goon on her way down, tucks and rolls.

Okoye takes out a TOUGH with her spear. Nakia flips a TOUGH over her back. T'Challa sends a TOUGH and table flying. Beats down two more TOUGHS, he turns for more.

T'Challa spots Klaue nearing the entrance and breaking away from the fight, LEAPS HALF WAY UP onto a column, bounds off to the UPPER BALCONY

INT. UNDERGROUND CASINO, BALCONY - NIGHT

T'Challa lands 10 feet behind Klaue.

T'CHALLA
(in Xhosa)
Murderer!

Klaue stops and turns around to face T'Challa. He tries to fire his gun but discovers he's out of ammo.

Klaue smiles, dropping his gun and puts his hands up -- as KLAUE'S PROSTHETIC LEFT ARM suddenly splits open, revealing itself to be a SONIC DISRUPTER!

KLAUE
You know, you look just like your
old man.

T'Challa snatches up a ROLLING CHANGE CART TABLE just as Klaue fires the blaster at him.

BOOOOM!!! A COLOSSAL SONIC BLAST hits the cart, blowing it to pieces and sending T'Challa FLYING THROUGH THE UPPER BALCONY RAILING back down into the pit. With money FLOATING in the air, T'Challa lands hard.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
I made it rain!

ON NAKIA AND OKOYE

Nakia and Okoye make their way to the top of the stairs as...

EXT. JAGALCHI FISH MARKET - NIGHT

Klaue and FOUR TOUGHS exit with Nakia and Okoye giving chase.

KLAUE
That was awesome! That was *awesome*!
Let's go! Go, go, come on!

Klaue jumps in the first of FOUR IDLING 4RUNNERS. The convoy instantly skids away as...

Nakia and Okoye emerge. Okoye throws an EMP bead from her pocket and it lands on a parked LEXUS LC.

NAKIA
Do we just leave him?

OKOYE
He'll catch up.

Nakia starts the car and Okoye climbs in. T'Challa sprints out of casino.

T'CHALLA
Shuri!

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDAN DESIGN GROUP - NIGHT

Shuri stands in front of a rectangular VIBRANIUM CASING that lowers. The SAND inside FORMS into the Lexus LC's cockpit.

GRIOT (O.S.)
Remote driving system activated.

SHURI
(excited)
Yes yes yes! Wait... Which side of the road is it?

We see a three-dimensional HOLOGRAM VIEW from inside the Lexus LC's cockpit appear as Shuri climbs in.

T'CHALLA (O.S.)
For Bast sake just drive!!!

SHURI
Okay okay, calm down brother!

EXT. JAGALCHI FISH MARKET - NIGHT

PANTHER SPRINTS AFTER THE CARS AS NANITES SCRAMBLE FROM HIS NECKLACE, COVERING HIS ENTIRE BODY, FORMING HIS NEW MASK OVER HIS FACE... Black Panther.

Panther continues running as the LEXUS pulls up behind him, at the last second he single-leg flips and lands on the hood of the Lexus LC, digging his HAND and BOOT claws into the hood as it SCREAMS OFF.

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT - NIGHT

SHURI
Woo! Let's go!

INT. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, BUSAN STREETS - NIGHT

Klaue turns to the driver.

KLAUE
Put some music on! What do you think this is a funeral?

EXT. BUSAN STREETS - NIGHT

The 4RUNNERS cross through one intersection at speed, then make a hard right at the next INTERSECTION. Nakia remains on them as at the far end of the street we see PANTHER'S LEXUS LC join the chase.

The CONVOY makes a right at a "T" and races down a TWO LANE STREET toward a split in the road.

EXT. BUSAN ROAD SPLIT - NIGHT

The FIRST (Klaue) and THIRD 4RUNNERS continue on the two lane street with NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN on their tail.

NAKIA
Which one is he in now?

INT. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, BUSAN STREETS - NIGHT

Klaue picks up his radio.

KLAUE
(into radio)
Hey, split up!

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN SPLIT STREET - NIGHT

OKOYE
They're trying to lose us.

NAKIA
We'll take the right.

EXT. BUSAN ROAD SPLIT - NIGHT

While the SECOND and FOURTH SUV skid left down a SINGLE LANE ROAD followed closely by...

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT - NIGHT

A skilled driver, Shuri shifts gears, darting left, in behind the trucks with Panther anchored atop.

SHURI
We'll take the other two! I see a short cut.

EXT. WASHIRO (YEONGDOGU), PANTHER'S HILLS - NIGHT

With the LEXUS LC closing in, the SECOND and FOURTH 4RUNNERS make a right turn, dropping down a STEEP HILL.

Panther chases the SUV's off the hill. The lead SUV collides with a car in crossing traffic.

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT - NIGHT

SHURI
We're not going to make it!

EXT. WASHIRO (YEONGDOGU), PANTHER'S HILLS - NIGHT

T'CHALLA
Keep going!

Panther uses his claws to make a sharp turn and avoid the wreck.

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT - NIGHT

SHURI
Woo! Brother!

EXT. WASHIRO (YEONGDOGU), PANTHER'S HILLS - NIGHT

Panther catches up with the Rear SUV, he takes fire and leaps on the roof of the SUV. Panther rips the SUV roof open.

The scared driver leaps out of the car, causing the SUV to collide with parked cars, "Sidewinder".

Shuri runs over the escaped driver on accident.

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT - NIGHT

SHURI
Hey, what was that!?

EXT. WASHIRO (YEONGDOGU), PANTHER'S HILLS - NIGHT

T'CHALLA
Don't worry about it. You're doing great.

Panther leaps back onto the hood of the Lexus and they speed off.

I/e. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, SPEAR STREET - NIGHT

Klaue looks back as Nakia closes in.

The driver floors it as a GUNMAN in the THIRD SUV opens fire on Nakia's Lexus. The bullets carom off the hood.

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN, SPEAR STREET - NIGHT

Nakia and Okoye...unfazed by the gunfire.

OKOYE
Guns. So primitive.

I/e. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, SPEAR STREET - NIGHT

Klaue barks into his comm.

KLAUE
(into radio)
It's a vibranium car you idiots!!
Bullets won't penetrate!!

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN, SPEAR STREET - NIGHT

Okoye slides out the passenger window and climbs onto the roof, stabbing her short spear into the top of the vehicle as a handle, her dress blowing in the wind.

NAKIA
What are you doing?

OKOYE
Just drive.

NAKIA
Eesh.

Nakia drops back and weaves through traffic as Okoye, engages her SPEAR MECHANISM, then steadies herself and let's her long spear fly, launching the weapon like a javelin.

I/E. THIRD 4RUNNER, SPEAR STREET - NIGHT

The SPEAR rockets through the REAR AND FRONT WINDOW of the truck, SPIKING THE GROUND and bringing the SUV to a stop with the force of a head on collision!

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN, SPEAR STREET - NIGHT

NAKIA
Woo!

I/e. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, SPEAR STREET - NIGHT

KLAUE
Oh shoot.

EXT. YEONGDOGU, ENTRANCE TO DIAMOND BRIDGE - NIGHT

The SECOND and FOURTH SUVs tear from the hills onto the DIAMOND BRIDGE with Panther's Lexus right behind them.

Closing in, Panther takes HEAVY GUNFIRE.

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT, DIAMOND BRIDGE - NIGHT

Speeding through BUSY BRIDGE TRAFFIC, Panther surfs the roof of the BULLET RIDDLED LC.

SHURI (O.S.)
Hey, look at your suit! You've been taking bullets charging it up with kinetic energy!

Panther looks down at the GLOWING GLYPHS of kinetic energy built into his suit as...

T'CHALLA
Pull around the truck.

EXT. DIAMOND BRIDGE - NIGHT

The LC accelerates ahead, closing in on the SECOND SUV, but just as Panther is about to look inside, a passing TRACTOR-TRAILER BLOCKS his view.

The 4Runner loses sight of Panther as he LEAPS TO THE TRAILER, bounding across the top of the big rig separating the Lexus and the 4Runner.

I/E. SECOND 4RUNNER, DIAMOND BRIDGE - NIGHT

Klaue's gunmen search furiously for Panther as the Lexus LC suddenly cuts in front of them, without Panther on top.

DRIVER

Where'd he go!?

Then out of nowhere, PANTHER LANDS HARD on the hood of the SUV.

Looking inside, Panther doesn't see Klaue and launches off the 4Runner, distributing the kinetic energy from his suit with IMMENSE CONCUSSIVE FORCE, causing both TRUCKS TO CRASH and FLIP down the bridge.

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT, DIAMOND BRIDGE - NIGHT

Shuri swerves the Lexus, skillfully catching Panther on the roof again as...

SHURI

You show off.

EXT. DEONGSEO, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

Nakia's Lexus sedan trails Klaue's 4Runner...both going airborne over hilltops.

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

NAKIA

There he is! Hold tight!

I/E. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

As the SUV catches air over a rise in the road, Klaue slides his body out of the truck.

KLAUE

Right, let's have some fun.

Sitting on the windowsill, Klaue aims his SONIC DISRUPTER.

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

Nakia is locked in and Okoye prepares to throw her SPEAR again but they suddenly LOSE SIGHT of Klaue as the Lexus hits the rise.

EXT. DEONGSEO, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

Ahead, Klaue's 4Runner launches off a second, STEEPER RISE.

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

Nakia loses sight of Klaue again as...

I/E. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

The SUV LANDS HARD on the downside of the hill. Klaue, still at speed, steadies his disrupter and as NAKIA'S LEXUS appears in MID-AIR over the rise, he FIRES.

I/E. NAKIA'S LEXUS SEDAN - NIGHT

Klaue's SONIC SHOT hits the Lexus sedan head on and *DISMANTLES IT*, piece by piece to its studs... SENDING NAKIA AND OKOYE FLYING.

ON OKOYE

As she twists through the air, her feet remain planted on a shredded piece of the cars' roof. She lands on her feet, speed-skating to a stop.

ON NAKIA

Nakia skids up next to Okoye on the driver's seat, still buckled in.

EXT. DEONGSEO, WHOOP STREET - NIGHT

Ross pulls up in a SUBURBAN and stops in front of Nakia and Okoye.

ROSS

Hop in. Put that spear in the trunk.

EXT. CENTUM CITY BRIDGE - NIGHT

T'CHALLA

Faster, Shuri.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDAN DESIGN GROUP - NIGHT

Tracking Klaue's SUV, Shuri drives in the sand cockpit.

SHURI

I'm going as fast as I can!

EXT. CENTUM CITY BRIDGE - NIGHT

We see KLAUE'S 4RUNNER racing across the Centum City Bridge...the Diamond Bridge can be seen in the background.

EXT. GWANGALLI ROAD, CHEETAH STREET - NIGHT

Klaue is back inside the SUV as it WEAVES through traffic. Then, we spot a rapidly closing LEXUS LC WITH PANTHER on the roof.

I/E. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, GWANGALLI ROAD, CHEETAH STREET - NIGHT

Klaue turns to his driver.

KLAUE

Take a right, take a right!

EXT. GWANGALLI ROAD, CHEETAH STREET - NIGHT

Klaue's 4Runner and Panther's LC make left turns, booking down a short road, then make quick rights.

EXT. HAEUNDAE DISTRICT - NIGHT

The 4Runner barrels along a brightly lit TWO LANE ROAD with the Lexus LC chasing.

I/E. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, HAEUNDAE DISTRICT - NIGHT

Unnerved seeing Panther closing in, Klaue slides his body back out to the SUV's windowsill as his driver makes a sharp right onto a WIDER AVENUE.

I/E. LEXUS LC/SHURI'S COCKPIT, HAEUNDAE DISTRICT - NIGHT

Determined, Shuri rounds the turn, focused. The DIGITAL DASH shows 115 mph and climbing.

But, hanging out of the truck, Klaue fires a MASSIVE SONIC BLAST that Shuri can't evade.

SHURI

No no no no no no no!!

And... HIT... the LEXUS LC SUDDENLY GOES TO PIECES...whole parts and panelling to a million fragments.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDA DESIGN GROUP - NIGHT

Shuri's driver seat EXPLODES INTO A TRILLION GRAINS OF SAND and she hits the floor.

SHURI

Brother!

EXT. HAEUNDAE DISTRICT - NIGHT

But PANTHER...launches himself out of the DISASSEMBLING CAR toward a BUILDING and in four strides along the side of the structure, he LEAPS OFF at KLAUE'S 4RUNNER.

I/E. KLAUE'S 4RUNNER, HAEUNDAE DISTRICT - NIGHT

Klaue's driver spots PANTHER FLYING AT THEM and tries to swerve, but Panther LATCHES to the side of the SUV and DIGS IN with his claws.

Panther GRABS THE RIM of the front tire and STOPS THE WHEEL dead in its tracks!

The lug nuts SHEAR OFF from the force and Panther discards the tire, causing the truck's nose to CRASH DOWN, skidding across the street with SPARKS FLYING.

Panther ROLLS clear as the 4RUNNER HITS the curb, FLIPS OVER to its roof and SLIDES TO A STOP in the middle of a busy outdoor cafe as its PATRONS scramble.

EXT. HAEUNDAE DISTRICT - NIGHT

With the SUV upside-down and customers looking on, Panther approaches to find Klaue struggling to climb out of his window.

T'CHALLA

Klaue!!

Klaue slowly gets to his feet and tries to level his disrupter but running up, Panther evades the BLAST and is only nicked on the shoulder.

Panther grabs Klaue's arm, CLAWING into the sonic disrupter and COMPLETELY PULLS IT OFF.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

Did you think we would forget!?

Klaue laughs.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

Look at me murderer! Where did you get this weapon?

KLAUE

You savages didn't deserve it.

T'Challa grabs him by the throat and slams him into the SUV.

KLAUE (CONT'D)

Oh, mercy! King, mercy!

Seething, Panther exposes his claws prepared to strike.

T'CHALLA

Every breath you take is mercy from me.

OKOYE (O.S.)

(in Xhosa)

King!

T'Challa turns to find Okoye and Nakia getting out of Ross' Suburban.

NAKIA (SUBTITLE)

(in Xhosa)

The world watches.

The pier has crowded with Koreans RECORDING them on cellphones as SIRENS can be heard in the distance.

ROSS

Come on guys, let's go huh?

T'Challa eyes around. He has little choice and nods.

EXT. TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Fast-paced, loud and dirty.

INT. TRAVEL AGENCY LOBBY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

SOUTH KOREAN EMPLOYEES busily work at desks. Nakia is among them, watching the passing cars. Guard duty.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Agents and CIA analysts move about. On the table sits KLAUE'S PROSTHETIC WEAPON and THE VIBRANIUM sitting atop the paper bag.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Klaue, strapped to a chair, makes faces at the two way glass.

KLAUE

Hello! I can see you! I can, I can see you.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

ROSS

So, this is a big mess, huh? I figured we can go good cop bad cop. I'll talk to him first, then you guys go in --

Okoye turns to T'Challa.

OKOYE (SUBTITLE)

(in Xhosa)

We can't let him talk to Klaue alone.

T'CHALLA

(in Xhosa)

Better to let him talk to Klaue alone for 5 minutes than to make a scene here.

T'Challa turns to Ross.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
 After your questioning, we will to
 take him back to Wakanda with us.

Ross stares at T'Challa for a beat.

ROSS
 What? No. Look I like you, a lot.
 But he's in my custody now. He's
 not going anywhere. Listen, I'm
 doing you a favor by letting you
 even be in here.

Ross reaches out and touches T'Challa. Okoye steps in.

OKOYE (SUBTITLE)
 (in Xhosa)
*If he touches you again, I am going
 to impale him to this desk.*

Ross looks at Okoye, sensing the thinly veiled threat. He
 looks to T'Challa.

ROSS
 Does she speak English?

OKOYE
 When *she* wants to.

Ross and Okoye eye each other for a long beat.

ROSS
 I'm going in. And when I'm done,
 you guys are up.

T'CHALLA
 --Agent Ross.

ROSS
 Yea.

T'Challa puts his hand on Ross's shoulder.

T'CHALLA
 I do appreciate your help in Busan.

ROSS
 You see that? It's called
 diplomacy. You're welcome.

Ross walks through the door, closing it behind him.

T'CHALLA
Okoye! Play nice.

OKOYE
Eh, Americans...

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Strapped to his chair, Klaue sings.

KLAUE
You know, you really shouldn't
trust the Wakandans. I'm much more
your speed.

ROSS
I don't trust anybody, not in this
job. But what I am interested in is
that arm cannon out there. Where'd
you get that?

KLAUE
It's an old mining tool that I made
some adjustments to. But I can get
you one if you'd like.

ROSS
Why don't you give me the name of
your supplier and I'll ask them.

KLAUE
He's right outside, why don't you
ask him yourself?

ROSS
T'Challa? You're telling me that
weapon on your arm is from Wakanda?

Klaue nods.

KLAUE
Bingo.

KLAUE (CONT'D)
What do you actually know about
Wakanda?

ROSS
Shepherds. Textiles. Cool outfits.

Ross stops as we notice a MICRO AUDIO BUG on his shoulder
that T'Challa planted before he entered the room.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY
T'Challa and Okoye secretly listen to Klaue's interrogation.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

KLAUE

It's all a front. Explorers searched for it for centuries. El Dorado: The Golden City. They thought they could find it in South America, but it was in Africa the whole time. A technological marvel. All because it was built on a mound of the most valuable metal known to man- Isipho- they call it. The gift. Vibranium...

ROSS

Vibranium yea. Strongest metal on Earth.

KLAUE

It's not just a metal... They sew it into their clothes, it powers their city, their tech, their weapons...

ROSS

Weapons?

KLAUE

Oh yes. Makes my arm cannon look like a leaf blower.

ROSS

That's a nice fairy tale but Wakanda is a third world country and you stole all their vibranium.

KLAUE

(laughing)

I stole all of it?

Klaue can barely contain himself.

KLAUE (CONT'D)

All of it? I took a tiny piece of it. They have a *mountain* full of it. They've been mining it for thousands of years and still haven't scratched the surface.

(MORE)

KLAUE (CONT'D)

I'm the only outsider who's seen
it, and got out of there alive.

(beat)

If you don't believe me you ask
your friend what his suit is made
of... what his claws are made of...

Ross looks back at the two way glass, then heads towards the door.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

ROSS exits the interrogation room and approaches T'Challa and Okoye.

I/E. PAINT TRUCK, BACK ALLEY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Limbani drives with Linda in the passenger seat.

Attached to the dashboard is a GPS TRACKING TABLET DEVICE with a blinking BEACON (Klaue's prosthetic) inside the travel agency. We also see everyone's HEAT SIGNATURE, including Klaue seated alone.

INT. TRAVEL AGENCY LOBBY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Through the FRONT WINDOW, Nakia watches a PAINT TRUCK pass the building that doesn't seem right.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Ross studies T'Challa.

ROSS

Your father told the UN that Klaue
stole all the vibranium you had.
But now he's telling me you have
more?

T'CHALLA

And you believe the word of an arms
dealer, strapped to a chair.

Ross hesitates, but doesn't bite.

I/E. PAINT TRUCK, BACK ALLEY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

The truck pulls to a stop at the rear of the building.

Killmonger emerges from the back of the truck with an ASSAULT RIFLE with a GRENADE LAUNCHER ATTACHMENT.

INT. TRAVEL AGENCY LOBBY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

On a computer monitor, we see SECURITY CAMERA FEEDS from outside the black site.

Nakia wanders past the desk, eyeing over a travel agency employee's (CIA Agent) shoulder and freezes.

SECURITY CAMERA FEED the alley is empty, but there is a VISIBLE GLITCH in the footage.

NAKIA
(in Korean)
Where is that?

CIA AGENT
(in Korean)
Back there.

He points in the direction of the interrogation room.

I/E. PAINT TRUCK, BACK ALLEY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Killmonger slips on the AFRICAN MASK from the British Museum, then carries a DAISY-CHAIN OF EXPLOSIVES toward the building. He sets the CHARGES against the outer wall of Klaue's room and fearlessly leans against the structure next to the charges, he holds a detonator in his hand as Linda and Limbani lean against the wall next to him.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

ROSS
How much more are you hiding?

Then suddenly... Nakia SLAMS through the door. CIA AGENTS draw their weapons. Nakia is unfazed.

NAKIA
(in Xhosa)
Something's happening out back.

EXT. REAR OF TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Then... BOOM!

THE CHARGES BLOW...carving a hole in the wall.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY
Startled... they all break for the interrogation room but...

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY
Killmonger suddenly spins inside, laying down cover fire,
RIDDLING THE DOORWAY WITH BULLETS and SHATTERING THE TWO-WAY
GLASS.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY
Besieged with automatic GUNFIRE, everybody DUCKS down.
On instinct, Ross shoves Nakia to the floor, taking a round
to the back, saving her while...
T'Challa's SUIT FORMS and he shields a CIA Agent. Okoye dives
clear of the doorway and the other agents scramble out into
the travel agency for cover.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY
Linda and Limbani GRAB KLAUE carrying his entire chair with
him still strapped to it as...
Edging back toward the breach, Killmonger throws a live
GRENADE through the shattered two-way window into the black
site office.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY
Panther instantly dives on the grenade and it EXPLODES, doing
no damage to him or the room, but lights up his entire suit.
Panther bounds back to his feet to give chase as...

I/E. REAR OF TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY
Klaue cackles maniacally being loaded into the paint truck
by Linda and Limbani.

KLAUE
I see you took your time didn't
you!

Killmonger continues to FIRE as Limbani and Linda hop in and
begin to pull off.

Walking backward after the truck, Killmonger swings the RPG up to his shoulder as Panther emerges.

The truck turns out of the alley as Killmonger aims. Panther charges at Killmonger and he FIRES! Taking the ROCKET head on, Panther is ENGULFED IN THE MASSIVE IMPACT and blown backward.

Panther's suit is lit to the max with kinetic energy as he labors back to his feet, he spots the RING dangling around Killmonger's neck on his gold chain. (It's identical to the ring T'Challa inherited from T'Chaka in CA:CW.).

OKOYE (O.S.)
(in Xhosa)
My King!

Panther turns to find Okoye.

OKOYE (CONT'D)
(in Xhosa)
My King...Nakia.

INT. BLACK SITE OFFICE, TRAVEL AGENCY, SOUTH KOREA - DAY

Panther and Okoye enter discovering agents and Nakia hovering around Ross on the floor. The receptionist (also an agent) applies pressure to his gunshot wound as a MALE CIA AGENT checks his pulse.

Shaken, Nakia looks to Panther.

NAKIA
He just jumped in front of me.

Gravely wounded, Ross is barely conscious.

NAKIA (CONT'D)
I don't think he'll make it here,
it hit his spine.

T'CHALLA
Give me a Kimoyo bead.

T'Challa looks at Nakia and motions towards her Kimoyo bead. She pulls one off and hands it to him. T'Challa inserts it into Ross' wound.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
This will stabilize him for now.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
Give him to us. We can save him.

The agents stare at Panther and his glowing high-tech suit.

INT. COMMAND CABIN, ROYAL TALON FIGHTER - DAY

Okoye is at the helm with Nakia standing next to her. Neither can believe Ross is on board.

Further back in the aircraft, we find Ross' unconscious body. T'Challa looms nearby, lost in thought.

OKOYE

Our mission was to bring back
Klaue. We failed. This man is a
foreign intelligence operative. How
do we justify bringing him into our
borders?

NAKIA

He took a bullet for me.

OKOYE

That was his choice.

T'Challa stiffens. Okoye has gone a little too far.

Torn, Nakia stares off, thinking about the Nigerian women they didn't bring back to Wakanda and her culpability in Ross' injury.

NAKIA

So now we are just supposed to let
him die?

OKOYE

Let us consider that we heal him.
It is his duty to report back to
his country. And as King, it is
your duty to protect ours.

T'CHALLA

I am well aware of my duties,
General. I cannot just let him die
knowing we can save him.

OKOYE

(chagrined)

Where exactly are we taking him?

INT. WAKANDAN DESIGN GROUP, HALLWAY, MT. BASHENGA - LATE AFTERNOON

Shuri covertly leads T'Challa, Okoye and Nakia inside, carrying Ross's body on a Maglev stretcher. She turns to T'Challa.

SHURI
Great, another broken white boy for us to fix. This is going to be fun.

T'Challa cuts Shuri a look.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDA DESIGN GROUP - LATE AFTERNOON

Ross is placed on a table surrounded by futuristic medical equipment. As Shuri works on him.

SHURI
He will live.

The security alarm on Shuri's Kimoyo bead GOES OFF.

SHURI (CONT'D)
W'Kabi is here.

Shuri, Nakia and Okoye quickly hide. T'Challa hurries up the ramp. Hoping for good news, W'Kabi approaches T'Challa.

W'KABI
What's going on, brother? Where is Klaue?

T'CHALLA
He's not here.

T'Challa's eyes lower regretfully.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
He slipped through our hands.

W'KABI
Slipped? For 30 years your father was in power and did nothing. With you I thought it would be different. But it's more of the same.

Deeply disappointed, W'Kabi can't muster words. He looks at T'Challa and walks out.

I/E. ABANDONED AIRFIELD/GARAGE, SOUTH KOREA - EVENING

An airplane graveyard. The paint truck pulls to a stop on the airstrip. Killmonger, Klaue, Limbani and Linda hop out, and hump their gear to a FOUR-SEATER ESCAPE PLANE parked on the airstrip.

LIMBANI

Let's get going, boss.

KILLMONGER

You always sell to the CIA?

KLAUE

I sell to the highest bidder. Don't you worry when I get back to Joburg and lay low for a bit, I'll make sure both you guys get paid.

KILLMONGER

Oh I ain't worried about the money, bro. I know you're good for it.

Klaue smiles.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

On our way back, just drop us off in Wakanda.

KLAUE

You don't wanna go there, boy.

KILLMONGER

Yea I do.

Killmonger suddenly draws a HANDGUN and SHOOTS LIMBANI DEAD.

Reacting to the shot, Klaue crowds Linda with a skilled GRAPPLING MOVE and snatches her gun away before she can fire on him.

Killmonger finds Klaue holding Linda's gun to her head, using her as his shield.

KLAUE

(stumped)

Drop it, or your little Bonnie and Clyde routine ends today. Put your gun down now!

LINDA

I'm sorry. I'm sorry, Erik.

KILLMONGER

It's gonna be ok.

Killmonger fires without hesitation. The BULLET TRAVELS THROUGH Linda, killing her while Klaue dives behind the plane, WOUNDED IN THE SHOULDER from the round.

Killmonger moves to finish Klaue but he's gone. Following Klaue's blood trail, Killmonger STALKS Klaue through the SCRAPYARD.

Klaue fires at Killmonger, missing. Killmonger stops and turns, ducking between planes. Killmonger spots Klaue THROUGH THE GLASS of a cockpit window and FIRES.

Sniped through the window with precision, Klaue falls, losing Linda's gun. Killmonger approaches and Klaue rolls to his back to face him.

KLAUE

...Y-You really wanna go to Wakanda? They're savages.

Klaue shows his BRANDED neck.

KLAUE (CONT'D)

This is what they do to people like us.

KILLMONGER

I ain't worried about no brand. Check these out.

Killmonger rolls up his sleeve, uncovering SEVERAL AFRICAN SCARIFICATION MARKS on his forearm.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

Each one is for a kill.

KLAUE

You can scar yourself as much as you like. To them, you'll just be an outsider. You're crazy to think that you could walk in there.

Killmonger flips the inside of his bottom lip, revealing a glowing Wakandan TATTOO.

Klaue can't believe his eyes.

KLAUE (CONT'D)

And to think I saw you as some crazy American.

Klaue starts laughing, hard.

Killmonger aims and pulls the trigger at point blank range.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

T'Challa enters to find Zuri tending to the garden. He looks around to the other Shamans.

T'CHALLA

Leave us.

They immediately head out. Zuri turns to T'Challa.

ZURI

So your mission did not go as planned.

T'CHALLA

What happened to my Uncle N'Jobu? My father told me he disappeared... there was a man today wearing a ring identical to this one.

Zuri turns back and T'Challa lifts his hand, showing his VIBRANIUM RING from CA:CW.

Zuri turns away uncomfortable.

ZURI

That is not possible.

T'CHALLA

He helped Klaue escape from us and he was wearing this ring. My grandfather's ring. Do not tell me what is possible tell me the truth.

ZURI

Some truths are too much to bear, T'Challa.

T'CHALLA

That is not your choice to make. What happened to him?

ZURI

I promised the King to say nothing.

T'CHALLA

I am your King now!

Zuri looks up.

ZURI

Your uncle took a War Dog assignment in America. Your father placed me there to observe unbeknownst to him. Your uncle fell in love with an American woman. They had a child. The hardships he saw there radicalized your uncle.

INT. N'JOBU'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

N'JOBU makes his plea to YOUNG T'CHAKA, picking up where we left off in the Oakland sequence.

N'JOBU

I observed for as long as I could! Their leaders have been assassinated, communities flooded with drugs and weapons, they are overly policed and incarcerated. All over the planet our people suffer because they don't have the tools to fight back. With vibranium weapons they could overthrow every country and Wakanda could rule them all, the right way...

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

ZURI

He knew your father would not support this, so your uncle betrayed us.

T'CHALLA

No...

ZURI

He helped Klaue steal the vibranium.

T'CHALLA

No no no no no no...

INT. N'JOBU'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Young T'Chaka turns to N'Jobu.

YOUNG T'CHAKA

You will return home at once, where
you will face the council and
inform them of your crimes.

N'Jobu reaches into his waistband and pulls a HANDGUN, aiming
it at James/Young Zuri's head, freezing him.

ZURI (O.S.)

He drew his weapon on me

Young T'Chaka pops his claws. He quickly springs forward,
digging his CLAWS into the slide and destroying it, before he
can pull the trigger. He then buries his CLAWS into N'Jobu's
chest, killing him instantly. He lets N'Jobu's body drop to
the floor, and closes his eyes.

ZURI (CONT'D)

Your father killed his own
brother...

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

ZURI

To save my life.

INT. N'JOBU'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Young Zuri looks at Young T'Chaka with tears welling up in
his eyes.

YOUNG T'CHAKA

Speak nothing of this.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

T'CHALLA

And the child...

ZURI

We left him.

EXT. LAKE MERRITT APARTMENT COMPLEX, OAKLAND - NIGHT -
FLASHBACK

One of the young kids playing basketball, who is now revealed
to be YOUNG KILLMONGER stands looking up at the sky where the
mysterious lights flickered.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

ZURI

We had to maintain the lie.

Gutted, T'Challa can't reconcile what he's just heard. He turns his back on Zuri.

EXT. WAKANDAN BORDER REGION, MOUNTAIN PLAINS - MORNING

Dragging a LARGE BAG, Killmonger approaches. In the distance, we see the four-seater plane.

W'Kabi approaches as Killmonger drops the bag.

W'KABI

What is this?

KILLMONGER

Just a 'lil gift.

Killmonger opens his bag, revealing KLAUE'S CORPSE. W'Kabi's eyes widen, and his men draw their swords.

W'KABI (SUBTITLE)

(Xhosa)

Who are you?

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDA DESIGN GROUP - MORNING

Ross suddenly opens his eyes and reaches for his gunshot wound finding it astonishingly almost fully healed.

Shuri tinkers with the circuitry of a PAIR OF MASSIVE CLAWED VIBRANIUM GAUNTLETS across the room as Ross sits up.

ROSS

Alright, where am I?

Startled, Shuri spins.

SHURI

Don't scare me like that,
colonizer.

ROSS

Colon-who? My name is Everett.

SHURI

Yes, I know. Everett Ross former
airforce pilot and now, CIA.

ROSS

Right.

Groggy, Ross gazes around at the completely unique technology.

ROSS (CONT'D)

Ok, is this Wakanda?

SHURI

(still working)

No, it's Kansas.

ROSS

...How long ago was Korea?

SHURI

Yesterday.

ROSS

I don't think so. Bullet wounds don't just magically heal overnight.

SHURI

They do here. But not by magic, by technology.

(beat)

Don't touch anything. My brother will return soon.

Leery, Shuri watches Ross wander about out of the corner of her eye. He walks over to the observation deck and gazes in awe at the exposed GLOWING ROCKS inside of the VIBRANIUM MINE.

Suddenly an AUTOMATED MINING CART whips between light panels, floating above a rail.

ROSS

These train things...that's magnetic levitation, right?

SHURI

Obviously.

ROSS

Obviously...but I've never seen it this efficient. The light panels, what are they?

SHURI

Sonic stabilizers.

ROSS
Sonic what?

SHURI
In it's raw form, vibranium is too dangerous to be transported at that speed, so I developed a way to temporarily deactivate it.

ROSS
(in disbelief)
There's vibranium on those trains?

SHURI
There is vibranium all around us.
That's how I healed you.

Ross tries to process this as a 3D PROJECTION OF OKOYE unexpectedly forms.

OKOYE'S PROJECTION
Where is T'Challa? His Kimoyo beads have been switched off.

Ross, amazed, tries to touch the sand projection.

SHURI
Well we are not joined at the hip, Okoye.

OKOYE'S PROJECTION
A man showed up at the border who claims to have killed Klaue.

SHURI
What?

OKOYE'S PROJECTION
W'Kabi is transporting him as we speak to the palace. We need to find your brother.

SHURI
An outsider?

OKOYE'S PROJECTION
No, a Wakandan.

An IMAGE OF KILLMONGER from the border appears on Shuri's monitor.

Then... Ross slowly walks into sight, staring at the screen.

ROSS

He's not a Wakandan. He's one of ours.

EXT. WAKANDAN COUNTRYSIDE - MORNING

T'Challa and Nakia gaze out off the side of a beautiful overlook.

T'CHALLA

He killed his own brother... and left a child behind with nothing. What kind of King... what kind of man does that?

NAKIA

No man is perfect. Not even your father.

T'CHALLA

He didn't even give him a proper burial... My Uncle N'Jobu betrayed us, but my father may have created something even worse.

NAKIA

Hey. Look at me. You can't let your father's mistakes define who you are. You get to decide what kind of King you are going to be.

They share a look as T'Challa's Kimoyo beads buzz.

SHURI'S PROJECTION

Brother, you need to get here now.

T'Challa and Nakia look at each other.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDA DESIGN GROUP - DAY

T'Challa, Shuri and Nakia listen as Ross briefs them on Killmonger. A BODY SCAN IMAGE of Killmonger is on Shuri's monitor.

ROSS

Eric Stevens. Graduated Annapolis age 19. MIT for grad school. Joined the SEALs and went to Afghanistan where he racked up confirmed kills like it was a video game. They started calling him *Killmonger*. He joined a JSOC ghost unit.

(MORE)

ROSS (CONT'D)

Now these guys are serious. They will drop off the grid so they can commit assassinations and take down governments.

T'CHALLA

Did he reveal anything about his identity?

SHURI

He has a War Dog tattoo but we have no record of him.

T'Challa and Shuri share a look.

INT. TRIBAL COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

T'Challa sits on his throne surrounded by the Tribal Elders, Ramonda, Shuri, Okoye, and the Dora.

RIVER TRIBE ELDER

Is this man Wakandan or not?

MINING TRIBE ELDER

(in Xhosa)

Tell us what is going on.

Killmonger is escorted in by W'Kabi.

W'Kabi tensely steps next to T'Challa as Killmonger takes his place before the circle.

T'CHALLA

(in Xhosa)

Speak.

W'KABI

(translates for
Killmonger)

Speak.

KILLMONGER

I'm standing in your house. Serving justice to a man who stole your vibranium and murdered your people. Justice your King couldn't deliver.

T'Challa walks close enough to Killmonger to be able to whisper to him.

T'CHALLA

I don't care that you brought
Klaue, the only reason I don't kill
you where you stand is because I
know who you are...now what do you
want?

KILLMONGER

I want the throne.

The entire room scoffs at this. Some ELDERS even hold their
heads back and laugh.

MINING TRIBE ELDER

(in Xhosa)

My goodness.

KILLMONGER

Y'all sittin' up here comfortable.
Must feel good. There's about 2
billion people all over the world
that looks like us but their lives
are a lot harder, Wakanda has the
tools to liberate them all.

T'CHALLA

And what tools are those?

KILLMONGER

Vibranium. Your weapons.

T'CHALLA

Our our weapons will not be used to
wage war on the world. It is not
our way to be judge jury and
executioner for people who are not
our own.

KILLMONGER

Not your own? But didn't life start
here, on this continent? So ain't
all people your people?

T'CHALLA

I am not King of all people. I am
King of Wakanda. And it is my
responsibility to make sure our
people are safe and that vibranium
does not fall into the hands of a
person like you.

The elders murmur at Killmonger's disrespect. They wait to
see how T'Challa will respond. Then, Ramonda suddenly speaks.

RAMONDA

Son, we have entertained this
charlatan for too long. Reject his
request.

Killmonger eyes the Elders with an amused grin.

KILLMONGER

Oh, I ain't requesting nothing!
Ask who I am?

SHURI

You are Eric Stevens. An American
black operative. A mercenary
nicknamed Killmonger. That's who
you are.

KILLMONGER

(laughing)
That's not my name, Princess. Ask
me, King?

T'CHALLA

No.

KILLMONGER

Ask me.

T'CHALLA

Take him away.

RIVER TRIBE ELDER

(in Xhosa)
Who are you?

KILLMONGER

(Xhosa)
*I am N'Jadaka, son of Prince
N'Jobu.*

A hush falls over the room. The tribal elders knew N'Jobu.
This changes EVERYTHING.

MINING TRIBE ELDER

(in Xhosa)
The son of N'Jobu?

KILLMONGER

I found my daddy with Panther claws
in his chest. You ain't the son of
a King you're the son of a
murderer!

RAMONDA
 (in Xhosa)
You're lying!
 (in English)
 Lies.

W'KABI
 I'm afraid not Queen Mother.

W'Kabi produces Killmonger's GOLD NECKLACE and RING. Holding it up for everyone to see.

MINING TRIBE ELDER
 (in Xhosa)
The descendant of N'Jobu.

KILLMONGER
 Hey Auntie.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)
 I'm exercising my blood right to challenge for the mantles of King and Black Panther.

Utter silence as all eyes turn to T'Challa. T'Challa desperately wants to refuse but knows that isn't possible.

RAMONDA
 Do not do this T'Challa.

BORDER TRIBE ELDER
 As the son of N'Jobu he is within his rights.

RAMONDA
 He has no rights here.

RIVER TRIBE ELDER
 The challenge would take weeks to prepare.

KILLMONGER
 Weeks? I don't need weeks. The whole country ain't gotta be there I just need him... and somebody to get me out of these chains.

RAMONDA
 T'Challa, what do you know of this?

T'CHALLA
 I accept your challenge.

W'Kabi looks at T'Challa closely.

EXT. WARRIOR FALLS, CHALLENGE POOL - LATE AFTERNOON

T'Challa and Killmonger stand opposite one another.

Killmonger SNAPS OFF a spear's shaft with his foot and holds a SWORD to go with the SPEARHEAD.

The Tribal Elders, W'Kabi, and the Dora look on from their respective places. Shuri watches with Ramonda, but the stands are entirely empty.

ON SHURI AND RAMONDA

SHURI

He will never beat T'Challa. He should have just come to the first challenge and gotten it over with.

Ramonda looks concerned. She's not so sure.

EXT. WARRIOR FALLS, CHALLENGE POOL - LATE AFTERNOON

Zuri brings T'Challa the DEATH HERB and he repeats the process, poisoning T'Challa while Killmonger stares on silently.

ZURI

The King will now have the strength of the Black Panther stripped away.

Staring T'Challa down, Killmonger suddenly turns to Zuri. They recognize each other. Zuri looks away ashamed.

IN THE SEATING AREA

Nakia arrives through a tunnel and walks up to Okoye, who turns to her.

OKOYE

Where is Agent Ross?

NAKIA

I locked him in the office. He's not going anywhere.

IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

T'Challa holds his short spear and shield. He stares at his cousin.

T'CHALLA

This is your last chance, throw down your weapons and we can handle this another way.

Killmonger slams his blades into the stone.

KILLMONGER

I lived my entire life waiting for this moment. I trained, I lied, I killed, just to get here.

He takes off his vest and tears at his shirt, revealing the SCARIFICATION MARKS that go up his arm and across his entire back. They number in the *hundreds*.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

I killed in America, Afghanistan, Iraq. I took life from my own brothers and sisters right here on the continent. And all this death, just so I can kill you.

T'Challa looks to Zuri and nods.

ZURI

(reluctant)

Let the challenge begin.

Killmonger tears forward with expert knife work and T'Challa with skilled defense.

T'Challa PARRIES several strikes, countering with a LEG TAKE-DOWN but hesitates with his sword and doesn't strike as they roll toward the edge of the waterfall.

Back on their feet, they circle, and Killmonger lunges at T'Challa who dodges. T'Challa manages to knock Killmonger off his feet, gaining the advantage.

T'CHALLA

Yield!

Killmonger FEROCIOUSLY BOBS INSIDE, but T'Challa lunges at Killmonger, giving him a superficial SLASH ACROSS his cheek.

Fueled by rage, Killmonger begins to overpower T'Challa. He slices T'Challa's thigh.

ON SHURI

SHURI

Snap out of it T'Challa!

IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

Wielding both blades, Killmonger slashes deep across T'Challa's stomach, then spins, CUTTING deep into his bicep.

Hurt, T'Challa realizes his compassion was a mistake and he must fight back but blood leaks from his side.

Killmonger dodges T'Challa's next attack.

Stumbling, T'Challa is unable to avoid Killmonger's BLADE BEING THRUST into his ribs.

The elders gasp as Ramonda looks away and Shuri just stares.

EXT. WARRIOR FALLS, CHALLENGE POOL - LATE AFTERNOON

Killmonger snatches the knife out. T'Challa can barely stand.

Killmonger punches him.

ON NAKIA

NAKIA

Get up.

IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

He continues to PUNCH T'CHALLA REPEATEDLY until he topples over.

KILLMONGER

This is for my father.

Killmonger walks swiftly toward T'Challa to deliver his deathblow...only to have a guilt-ridden Zuri STOP HIM with his SPEAR, knocking his blade away.

T'CHALLA

Zuri, no.

IN THE STANDS

OKOYE

Zuri.

RAMONDA

Zuri don't!

IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

ZURI

I am the cause of your father's death. Not him. Take me.

Regrouping, Killmonger grabs Zuri's spear. T'Challa labors to get up but can't.

KILLMONGER

I'll take you *both*, Uncle James...

Killmonger skewers Zuri with his spear.

Killmonger drives the spear in further and GRABBING THE BLADE with both hands in death, Zuri falls with it to the shallow water as T'Challa watches in utter torment.

T'CHALLA

No! Zuri no! Zuri!! Noo!

Fueled by rage, T'Challa lifts back up to his feet. He charges Killmonger, who ducks his attacks, while talking to the audience.

KILLMONGER

Is this your King? Huh?

T'Challa swings his spear, Killmonger ducks.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

Is this your King? The Black Panther, who's supposed to lead you into the future.

ON SHURI, NAKIA, OKOYE AND AYO

SHURI

Come on brother!

Nakia looks on, trying to hide her tears with Okoye and Ayo.

AYO

Is there nothing that can be done?

IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

KILLMONGER

Him? He's supposed to protect you.

Killmonger ducks another attack from T'Challa and scoops him onto his shoulders.

EXT. WARRIOR FALLS, CHALLENGE POOL - LATE AFTERNOON

Killmonger walks to the edge of the challenge pool.

ON NAKIA AND RAMONDA

RAMONDA

No.

NAKIA

No!

IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

Killmonger heaves T'Challa off the waterfall. Staggered, everyone watches T'Challa DISAPPEAR BELOW *to his death*. Ramonda screams.

KILLMONGER

Nah. I'm your King.

ON NAKIA

Nakia shuttles Shuri and Ramonda into the caves while Okoye stays behind.

NAKIA

We have to go now! Queen mother,
let's go!

IN THE CHALLENGE POOL

Staggered, the new Shaman gives him the Panther necklace. Everyone slowly salutes Killmonger.

INT. TRIBAL COUNCIL ROOM - NIGHT

The room seems empty until we come upon Okoye grieving alone.

After a moment, the door opens and Okoye quickly wipes her eyes. Pulling it together, she stands as Nakia approaches.

The two women silently take each other in, sharing in their sorrow.

OKOYE

The Queen Mother and Shuri...they
are safe?

Nakia nods.

NAKIA

Yes.

OKOYE

(in Xhosa)
Thank you.

NAKIA

We should get to them immediately.

OKOYE
(in Xhosa)
I cannot...

NAKIA
What...

OKOYE
Though my heart is with you.

NAKIA
We cannot turn over our nation to a
man who showed up here only hours
ago.

OKOYE
He is of royal blood.

NAKIA
He killed T'Challa.

OKOYE
In ritual combat.

NAKIA
Does that really matter?

Okoye quiets.

NAKIA (CONT'D)
You are the greatest warrior
Wakanda has. Help me overthrow him
before he becomes too strong.

Okoye stares at Nakia in disbelief.

OKOYE
Overthrow?! Nakia, I am not a spy
who can come and go as they so
choose. I am loyal to the throne,
no matter who sits upon it. What
are you loyal to?

NAKIA
I loved him. I love my country too.

OKOYE
Then you serve your country.

NAKIA
No. I save my country.

Nakia takes off.

INT. T'CHALLA'S OFFICE, ROYAL PALACE - NIGHT

Ross walks around the office, admiring masks on the wall. He looks around as the door unlocks to Nakia, holding several blankets. Ross realizes something is wrong.

ROSS
What's wrong?

Nakia tosses the blanket to Ross.

NAKIA
The King is dead. Come with me,
unless you want to join him.

Ross's heart sinks as...

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

Killmonger enters and a Shaman guides him to a dirt plot where they begin to bury him.

EXT. CITY OF THE DEAD JUNGLE OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

Shuri and Ramonda, wrapped in blankets as a disguise, sit on a log surrounded by a THICKET OF TREES. Grief stricken, they hold each other closely.

SHURI
First Baba, and now my brother.
Mama, we didn't even get to bury
him.

Ramonda doesn't have an answer.

The women hear a rustle in the trees, Ramonda moves to protect Shuri, holding ONE OF NAKIA'S RINGBLADES as Nakia and Ross emerge from the foliage. Ramonda eyes Ross.

NAKIA
It's me.

RAMONDA
Nakia. Who is this man?

NAKIA
He's a friend of T'Challa's he
saved my life.

Ramonda studies Ross, then looks to Nakia.

RAMONDA
Where is Okoye?

NAKIA
Okoye is not coming. She and Dora
Milaje will serve the new King.
(beat)
Wait here.

RAMONDA
What has happened to our Wakanda?

Nakia turns and heads into an even thicker BATCH OF FOLIAGE.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

A SHAMAN scoops water into the Heart Shaped Herb ceremonial vessel and grinds it.

Killmonger opens his mouth and she pours the solution in as his eyes slowly close.

SHAMAN
Allow the Heart Shaped Herb to give
you the powers of the Black Panther
and take you to the Ancestral
Plane.

EXT. LAKE MERRITT, OAKLAND - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

We see the kids gazing up as an AIRCRAFT WITH STRANGE LIGHTS rises into the sky and speeds off.

Young Killmonger runs into the apartment complex.

INT. N'JOBU'S APARTMENT - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

YOUNG KILLMONGER enters to find N'Jobu's dead body on the floor. He runs over to his dad, cradling him in his arms, sobbing.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

They scoop dirt on top of Killmonger's face.

INT. N'JOBU'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Adult Killmonger enters his childhood apartment and sees the place where his father died. He walks over to the WALL HIDE and digs out a METAL STASH BOX.

He breaks open the box and inside finds N'JOBU'S JOURNAL, cash and a pistol.

Opening the diary, he finds details of Wakandan history and life, including drawings. He finds his father's RING on a necklace and puts it on.

Then, Killmonger looks up and N'JOBU is sitting across from him alive.

N'JOBU

What did I tell you about going into my things?

(playful smile)

What did you find?

Killmonger is now replaced by his younger self.

YOUNG KILLMONGER

Your home.

N'JOBU

I gave you a key hoping that you might see it someday.

Young Killmonger flips down his lip, touching his *Wakandan tattoo*.

N'JOBU (CONT'D)

Yes. The sunsets there are the most beautiful in the world. But I fear you still may not be welcome.

YOUNG KILLMONGER

Why?

N'JOBU

They will say you are lost.

YOUNG KILLMONGER

But, I'm right here.

N'Jobu doesn't have an answer for this.

N'JOBU

No tears for me?

YOUNG KILLMONGER

(cold)

Everybody dies. It's just life
around here.

N'Jobu's gaze darkens with regret.

N'JOBU

Well look at what I have done. I
should have taken you back long
ago.

Young Killmonger has now been replaced by adult Killmonger,
who sheds a tear.

N'JOBU (CONT'D)

Instead, we are both abandoned
here.

KILLMONGER

Well maybe your home is the one
that's lost. That's why they can't
find us.

N'Jobu stares at his son, heartbroken.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

Killmonger's eyes open - a new man. Powerful. And ready to
conquer the world. He gasps for air.

As he climbs to his feet encircled by Kingsguard and shamans.

SHAMAN

Breathe, my King. Breathe!

INT. CATACOMBS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

Nakia drops through a hole into the warren of tunnels,
emerging in the...

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

Reveling in the power of the Heart Shaped Herb, Killmonger
walks toward a dirt plot filled with the HEART SHAPED HERBS.
The shamans trail behind him.

KILLMONGER

The Heart Shaped Herb did that?

The shaman nods.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

This is all of it?

SHAMAN

Yes. So when it comes time for another King, we will be ready.

KILLMONGER

Another King...yea go ahead and burn all that.

Alarmed, the shamans don't move, hoping Killmonger doesn't mean it...but he does.

SHAMAN

My King, we cannot do that. It is our tradition --

Killmonger smiles , then quickly grabs the Shaman by the throat.

KILLMONGER

When I tell you to do something, I mean that shit. Burn it all!

He lets her go as she gasps for air. Shell-shocked, the shamans move into action.

ON NAKIA

Nakia digs out a flawless Heart Shaped Herb and in an instant darts back for the catacombs, glancing back at Killmonger from the shadows.

INT. HALL OF KINGS, CITY OF THE DEAD - NIGHT

Killmonger stands in front of the dirt plots as the herb garden is engulfed in FLAMES around him.

INT. TRIBAL COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

Every Elder, the Border Tribe military leaders, including W'Kabi, the Kingsguard leaders, Okoye, and the Dora prepare for a council meeting.

Killmonger strolls in, wearing the new gold panther necklace.

KILLMONGER

You know, where I'm from, when black folks started revolutions, they never had the firepower or resources to fight their oppressors. Where was Wakanda? Hmm? Yea all that ends today. We got spies embedded in every nation on Earth. Already in place.

Killmonger stands and walks looking each of them in the eye.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

I know how colonizers think. So we're gonna use their own strategy against them. We're gonna send vibranium weapons out to our War Dogs. They'll arm oppressed people all over the world, so they can finally rise up and kill those in power, and their children and anyone else who takes their side. It's time they know the truth about us. We're warriors. The world's gonna start over and this time we're on top.

Killmonger sits.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

The sun will never set on the Wakandan Empire.

Okoye looks to W'Kabi.

OKOYE

Wakanda has survived for so long by fighting when only absolutely necessary.

W'KABI

Wakanda has survived in the past this way, yes. But the world is changing, General. Elders, it is getting smaller. The outside world is catching up and soon it will be the conquerors, or the conquered. I'd rather be the former.

KILLMONGER

You heard your orders. Let's get to it.

W'Kabi salutes while Okoye looks on.

EXT. JABARILAND OUTSKIRTS, WAKANDAN MOUNTAINS - MORNING

Nakia leads Shuri, Ramonda and Ross through the bitter wind and harsh conditions.

ROSS

So where are we going again?

NAKIA

We're taking the Heart Shaped Herb to Jabariland.

ROSS

Heart Shaped Herb, what is that?

SHURI

It gives whoever takes it heightened abilities.

NAKIA

It's what made T'Challa so strong.

Ramonda stops in her tracks.

RAMONDA

Nakia. I don't like this. The Herb belongs to us. We may be creating a bigger monster with M'Baku.

(beat)

Nakia, you should take it yourself.

NAKIA

I'm a spy with no army. I wouldn't stand a chance.

RAMONDA

We'll go.

They keep walking. Suddenly, they are surrounded by MEMBERS OF THE JABARI ARMY.

NAKIA

Stay calm.

INT. M'BAKU'S THRONE ROOM, JABARILAND - NIGHT

M'Baku stares down from his throne at Nakia, Ramonda and Shuri. He glowers at Ross for a long beat, unnerving everyone, before finally turning to Ramonda.

RAMONDA

My son was murdered in ritual combat.

M'BAKU
Were the odds fair?

NAKIA
Yes, but...

M'BAKU
So, it was less a murder than a
defeat?

This irks Shuri.

SHURI
Do not rub our noses in it --

M'BAKU
Silence! I make the pronouncements
here, girl.

ROSS
Look uh, your highness, the new
King is a --

M'Baku drowns out Ross' voice with loud barks. The
surrounding Jabari follow suit.

M'BAKU
You cannot talk. One more word and
I will feed you to my children.

Ross looks petrified until M'Baku winks at Ramonda.

M'BAKU (CONT'D)
I'm kidding. We are vegetarians.

Stepping in, Nakia pulls out the HEART SHAPED HERB.

NAKIA
Great Gorilla M'Baku. This is why
we are here. To offer this to you.
An outsider sits on our throne.
Only you can help us stop him.

M'Baku considers. His ego stroked. But...

M'BAKU
Come with me.

INT. JABARI HEALING GROUNDS HUT - NIGHT

M'Baku leads Nakia, Ross, Ramonda and Shuri to JABARI HEALERS
working on T'Challa in a small hut in the snow.

NAKIA

Impossible.
(beat)
Is he breathing?

M'BAKU

He is in a coma, barely clinging to
life.

EXT. RIVERBANK, JABARILAND - DAWN - FLASHBACK ONE DAY BEFORE

A tough weathered JABARI FISHERMAN walks along a frigid river
with his YAK.

M'BAKU (V.O.)

One of our fishermen found him at
the edge of the river border. He
brought him to me.

The yak pulls a wooden sleigh carrying T'Challa's body,
toward Jabariland.

INT. JABARI HEALING GROUNDS HUT - NIGHT

M'Baku, Ramonda, Nakia, Ross, and Shuri remain standing over
T'Challa in the snow.

SHURI

Why do you have him in the snow?!

M'BAKU

It is the only thing keeping him
from joining the ancestors.

SHURI

We need to get him to my lab! I can
heal him there.

M'BAKU

Take him. He'll be dead in seconds.

RAMONDA

Nakia, the Herb.

Ramonda takes the herb from Nakia and pushes past M'Baku who
looks on.

RAMONDA (CONT'D)

I call upon the ancestors. I call
upon Bast. I am here with my son
T'Challa. Heal him. We must bury
him.

Resigned, Shuri and Nakia watch closely sitting down next to her as Ramonda performs the ritual on T'Challa, pouring the solution in his mouth, while praying in Xhosa, then scooping the snow atop his body.

RAMONDA (CONT'D)
(in Xhosa)
Praise the ancestors.

NAKIA
(in Xhosa)
Praise the ancestors.

ROSS
(in Xhosa)
Praise the ancestors.

SHURI
(in Xhosa)
Praise the ancestors.

NAKIA
Wake up, T'Challa. Wake up.

EXT. BLACK PANTHER ANCESTRAL PLANE - DAY

T'Chaka beckons T'Challa toward several other black panthers and people in the distance.

T'CHAKA
(in Xhosa)
My son.

He looks at his ancestors.

T'CHAKA (CONT'D)
The time has come for you to come home and be reunited with me.

T'CHALLA
(in Xhosa)
Why?
(in English)
Why didn't you bring the boy home?

T'Chaka looks back at him.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
Why, Baba?

T'CHAKA
He...he was the truth I chose to omit.

T'CHALLA

You were wrong to abandon him.

T'CHAKA

I chose my people. I chose Wakanda.
Our future depended on --

T'CHALLA

You were wrong! All of you were wrong! To turn your backs on the rest of the world. We let the fear of our discovery stop us from doing what is right. No more! I cannot stay here with you. I cannot rest while he sits on the throne. He is a monster of our own making. I must take the mantle back, I must. I must right these wrongs.

T'Chaka looks at his son, his disappointment giving way to a proud smile.

INT. JABARI HEALING GROUNDS HUT - NIGHT

T'Challa suddenly awakens and is pulled from the snow by Ramonda unsure where he is.

T'CHALLA

Do you have a blanket?

They embrace. T'Challa turns to see Nakia and Shuri as well. The four of them embrace as M'Baku looks on.

INT. M'BAKU'S THRONE ROOM, JABARILAND - DAY

Our entire team of heroes: T'Challa, Nakia, Shuri, Ramonda, Ross talk.

NAKIA

Killmonger has the full support of our military. And he burned the garden of the Heart Shaped Herb.

ROSS

Of course he did.

The T'Challa turns to Ross.

ROSS (CONT'D)

That's what he was trained to do. His unit used to work with the CIA to destabilize foreign countries.

(MORE)

ROSS (CONT'D)

They would always strike at transitions of power...like an election year or the death of a monarch. You get control of government, the military --

T'CHALLA

Our resources. The Great Mound.

SHURI

Our vibranium. All of my designs.

T'CHALLA

He will send our weapons all over the world.

T'Challa turns to Nakia.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

(motioning to Shuri and Ramonda)

You must get them out of Wakanda safely.

RAMONDA

What?

SHURI

What about you?

T'CHALLA

The challenge will have to continue.

RAMONDA

T'Challa, we will not leave Wakanda.

T'CHALLA

It is my duty to keep you safe.

SHURI

If he gets control of our technology, no where will be safe.

Shuri pulls T'Challa's PANTHER TOOTH NECKLACE from her pocket and places it on his neck.

T'Challa smiles.

SHURI (CONT'D)

The Black Panther lives. And when he fights for the fate of Wakanda I will be right there beside him.

NAKIA

As will I.

T'Challa smiles he looks to Nakia and Ramonda who looks back at him with confidence.

ROSS

I'm in too.

The Wakandans cut Ross a look

ROSS (CONT'D)

What? You're gonna need all the help you can get.

The Wakandans smile at Ross as M'Baku interrupts.

M'BAKU

Are you done? Are you - are you done?

T'CHALLA

Could you give me and Lord M'Baku a moment?

Everyone exits and M'Baku gazes at T'Challa.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

Thank you.

M'BAKU

I owed you a great debt. A life for a life. Consider it paid.

T'CHALLA

Please allow my mother to stay here.

M'BAKU

No harm will come to her I give you my word.

T'CHALLA

You know I could use an army as well.

M'BAKU

(laughs)

I bet you could. But no. I will give no Jabari lives towards your cause.

T'CHALLA

It is *our* cause. It is for all of us.

M'BAKU

Us? You are the first King to come here in centuries. And now you speak of us?

T'CHALLA

I cannot speak for past Kings. But an enemy sits on the throne right now. We both know the power of vibranium. If Killmonger gets control of it, who do you think he will come for next?

M'Baku sits.

M'BAKU

We will not help you.

T'Challa walks out, leaving M'Baku to think.

INT. VIBRANIUM MINE- DOWNSHAFT

A train car carrying carts full of vibranium moves across the ground, it then takes a turn up the sides and up to the surface out to---

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

Where several BORDER TRIBE WARRIORS and KINGSGUARD load the cargo onto the bottom of a TALON FIGHTER. The Dora Milaje keep watch in the distance.

Killmonger, dressed in casual clothes, his gold panther toothed necklace exposed. With W'Kabi and Okoye flanking him, he walks around watching impatiently as cargo is revealed to be being loaded up onto an entire FLEET of WAKANDAN AIRCRAFT.

W'KABI

Everything is on schedule.

KILLMONGER

Have the spies been alerted?

W'KABI

Yes. Some have been resistant to our new mission. But the War Dogs in London, New York and Hong Kong are standing by.

KILLMONGER

We'll strike there first. The others will come around.

Killmonger picks up a Kingsguard spear.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

Look at this. A handheld sonic cannon powerful enough to stop a tank. Untraceable by metal detectors, and we got thousands of 'em. The world's gonna find out exactly who we are.

Across from them, a TALON FIGHTER takes off, loaded with cargo. Killmonger watches, then turns to W'Kabi.

As they smile the talon fighter EXPLODES in the air above them, startling Killmonger, W'Kabi, Okoye and the remaining Wakandans. They watch in shock as the debris rains down from the sky.

Killmonger looks closely, trying to make something out.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

Killmonger, Okoye, and W'Kabi line up at the lip of the great mound, surrounded by hundreds of Border Tribesmen they look on with confusion as...

Several hundred yards away, at the foot of the mountain, PANTHER EMERGES FROM THE WRECKAGE, suit engaged in all of his glory. He starts walking towards the top of the hill.

Okoye smiles.

OKOYE

He lives...

ON PANTHER

As he walks closer to the lip of the mound and retracts his mask.

T'CHALLA

N'Jadaka!!!!

KILLMONGER

Wassup?

T'CHALLA

I never yielded, and as you can see, I am not dead.

KILLMONGER

All that challenge shit is over
with. I'm the King now.
(turns to Kingsguard)
Get those planes in the air! Carry
out the mission!

T'CHALLA

(into comm)
Shuri, now!

SHURI (O.S.)

Copy that.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, HALLWAY, MT. BASHENGA - DAY

Wearing Blanket disguises, Nakia, Ross and Shuri duck around
a corner, avoiding detection by a group of Border Tribesmen
running outside.

SHURI (CONT'D)

Go! Go go go go go! Come on, Ross!

EXT. MT BASHENGA, TOP OF HILL - DAY

Killmonger stands with W'Kabi at the top of the mound.

KILLMONGER

W'Kabi, kill this clown.

OKOYE

W'Kabi, the challenge is not
complete.

BORDER TRIBE COMMANDER

What will we do?

The Border Tribe soldiers look on at T'Challa and grow
visibly nervous.

W'KABI

Border Tribe!

BORDER TRIBE

Ay! Ay!

W'KABI

Phambili!

W'Kabi pulls his sword and triggers the SONIC FIELD around
it. He points it towards T'Challa and the Border Tribesmen
line up in a battle formation and charge towards T'Challa.

A Dragonflyer takes off overhead and leads the charge downhill.

Okoye turns to Killmonger.

OKOYE

You! Your heart is so full of
hatred you are not fit to be a
King.

She slams her spear and the Dora fall in line behind her as Killmonger stares her down.

Killmonger pulls his blades, and activates his PANTHER SUIT from his necklace as Talon Fighters take off in the background.

OKOYE (CONT'D)

Ayo. The King.

Some of the Dora take off down the hill to fight for T'Challa.

Okoye calls for the attack. One of the Dora jumps at Killmonger Panther followed by another Dora. They attack.

A third Dora jumps and side kicks Killmonger Panther.

DOWNHILL

The DRAGONFLYER overtakes the Border Tribesmen and begins shooting sonic blasts at T'Challa, that create a large impact on the ground as he runs.

The Border Tribesmen continue to run down towards T'Challa and fall into a PHALANX FORMATION. The VIBRANIUM STITCHING on their blankets activates and high tech sonic shields emerge from the blankets and build on each other. The shields stretch out and up, making a barrier impossible for Panther to pass.

Panther SUPER JUMPS over the sonic shield as it rises hurdling barely escaping it's vertical edge.

He lands behind the 1ST WAVE of Border Tribesmen, delivering a massive sonic blow that sends them flying as well as lifting some of the spilled spears into the air.

Panther grabs a spear and with expert precision throws it at the Dragon Flyer. The spear explodes on impact, sending the DRAGONFLYER careening towards the ground right over T'Challa's head.

W'Kabi sees this and leads the charge of the 2ND WAVE of Border Tribesmen down towards T'Challa, and they engage him swinging their blades wildly and using their shields to corner him.

Ayo and the Dora collide with the 2ND WAVE of Border Tribesmen, fighting them off with precision.

Engaging with the Border Tribesmen, T'Challa lands a hard blow on W'Kabi that sends him back through the grass.

T'CHALLA

W'Kabi stop this! Stop this now!

W'Kabi runs on top of a large rock to gain a vantage point, and pulls out a large HORN.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

NOO!!

W'Kabi blows on the horn.

We push in on the DRAGONFLYER WRECKAGE, as a rumbling sound is heard. Suddenly ARMORED RHINO #1 crashes through the bit of the wreckage wearing a RED BLANKET. Then a second RHINO, ARMORED RHINO #2, crashes through the other side, bigger and faster than the last and wearing a WHITE BLANKET. The camera continues to push in as BOOM, the Dragonflyer is split into two and M20, W'Kabi's personal rhino, emerges right towards camera.

The Border Tribesmen lift their swords and cheer as the Rhinos run past them.

W'Kabi hops on, and goes right for the pack of DORA, sending a third of them FLYING!

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDA DESIGN GROUP - DAY

Shuri, Nakia, and Ross are now running down the ramp, throwing off their disguises. Shuri motions for a SAND TABLE to rise, revealing a new tech armor rack. She grabs the communication devices.

SHURI

Nakia and I will get control of the Royal Talon with this.

ROSS

Ok, so what do I do?

Shuri slips a kimoyo bead bracelet on Ross' hand.

SHURI
You will have to fly it.

ROSS
What?

SHURI
You were a great pilot. Don't worry, I'll guide you through it. It's just like riding a hoverbike.

ROSS
You guys have hoverbikes?

Shuri raises a sand table. She hurries back to the first table, grabs the gauntlets and points out some Dora armor.

SHURI
Nakia, take that.

NAKIA
I'm not a Dora.

SHURI
Just put it on, it's armor!

Shuri runs up the ramp. Nakia begrudgingly grabs the DORA MILAJE UNIFORM and runs after her.

SHURI (CONT'D)
Good luck, Agent Ross!

ROSS
Yea I don't know what I'm doing --

NAKIA
We're counting on you!

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

Okoye jumps over and throws her spear at Killmonger, it bounces off, Okoye catches in stride. She's on the attack.

The Dora Milaje advance on Killmonger, but DORA MILAJE #1 strikes too quickly, and Killmonger uses his superior strength and speed to grab her mid-strike, using her as a shield to hold off Okoye and the other Dora.

DORA MILAJE 1
Wakanda Forever.

Killmonger then slits her throat with his vibranium sword. Okoye, devastated, leads another attack on Killmonger.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

As Nakia and Shuri sneak out onto the deck, and plant the Kimoyo bead puck on the RTF.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDA DESIGN GROUP - DAY

Ross paces waiting for word from Shuri or Nakia about what to do, when suddenly the SAND TABLE drops to the ground, revealing an F-16 cockpit.

GRIOT (O.S.)
Remote piloting system activated.

SHURI (O.S.)
I made it American style for you!
Get in!

Ross hops in and starts up the ship.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA LANDING PAD - DAY

The RTF clumsily takes off, its thrusters blowing back two Kingsguard pilots.

SHURI/NAKIA
Yes!!

SHURI
(into comms)
Go! We can't let those weapons get
beyond Wakanda.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, COCKPIT - DAY

ROSS
Alright, I'm on it.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

The RTF starts in one direction does a u-turn and TAKES off after the other ships.

DOWNHILL

T'Challa runs full speed next to RHINO #2 swings around its horn and does a takedown maneuver causing the Rhino to fall into the TRENCH left by the wing of the TALON FIGHTER. T'Challa flips out of the trench while the Rhino is trapped by the steep incline.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

Killmonger is surrounded by Okoye and two Dora. They continue to back him up with synchronized hits, until they surround him with a TRIPLE SPEAR TRAP around his neck.

OKOYE
(in Xhosa)
Lock! Get him down!

They tighten their grip around his neck.

OKOYE (CONT'D)
(in Xhosa)
Get the necklace!

But Killmonger drops to his knees and expels his suit's kinetic energy, blowing the Dora down the hill.

Nakia takes off toward Killmonger.

NAKIA
Wakanda Forever!!

He moves towards them with rage in his eyes. He engages Shuri and Nakia in battle, Nakia holds her own with her advanced ringblades while Shuri strafes from the side with her panther gauntlets-- shooting Killmonger from a distance.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, COCKPIT - DAY

Ross flies the RTF over Wakanda, and sees the group of aircraft in the distance.

ROSS
Ok Shuri, I got 'em what do I do?

SHURI (O.S.)
Shoot them down genius!

ROSS
Alright...

Ross places his hands on the firing mechanism.

ROSS (CONT'D)
Here goes nothing.

A RED TARGETING CURSOR pops up on the display.

Ross reacts, then guides the cursor over the cargo ship, and fires!

EXT. WAKANDAN AIRSPACE

The RTF goes into battle mode. Weapons pop out from opening all over the craft in quick succession.

The RTF launches a SONIC BLAST that tears through the wing of the first cargo ship. Causing it to spiral down into the docking shores below.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, COCKPIT - DAY

Ross watches as the cargo ship drops.

ROSS
Alright, I got 'em.

EXT. WAKANDAN AIRSPACE

The DRAGONFLYER PILOTS see the cargo ship drop and turn back around towards the RTF. THREE DRAGONFLYERS immediately begin firing at the RTF.

ROSS (CONT'D)
Oh shit shit shit.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA - DAY

Panther tangles with the Border Tribe, but is suddenly SMASHED in the back by M20 and is sent flying through the air, and into a large rock.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

Killmonger lands two hard swiping blows on Nakia, slashing her arm and her leg, then throws her down the hill, leaving him alone with Shuri, who BLASTS AWAY at Killmonger, until he suddenly springs at her, GRABBING HER GAUNTLETS WITH HIS CLAWS and BREAKS THEM!

DOWNHILL

On the ground, Panther is suddenly swarmed by Border Tribesmen and PINNED DOWN, stabbed, kicked and slashed with blades by the mob. He sees Killmonger in the distance closing in on Shuri, and then expels the kinetic energy in his suit and... WHAM!!!

T'CHALLA
Shuri!!

The DOG PILE is LAUNCHED off through the air!

ON KILLMONGER AND SHURI

KILLMONGER
What's up, Princess?

SHURI
You'll never be a true King.

Killmonger ominously edges closer and flips his broken SPEAR preparing to go in for the kill when...

Shuri DUCKS as Panther TACKLES KILLMONGER IN THE BACK, sending them both plunging down into the mine shaft!

SHURI (CONT'D)
Brother!!

INT. VIBRANIUM MINE SHAFT - DAY

Both falling down the massive cavern, Panther and Killmonger fight on their way down.

INT. VIBRANIUM MINE BOTTOM - DAY

Panther crashes to the bottom of the vibranium mine, wounded. Panther rolls over and barely dodges a knee drop from Killmonger.

Killmonger and T'Challa exchange blows, Killmonger getting the better of T'Challa in his exposed areas, while T'Challa is getting nowhere. They both go for a super punch and knock each other back.

T'Challa lands on his back and looks up at the sonic stabilizer. He radios to Shuri.

T'CHALLA
Shuri!

SHURI (O.S.)
Brother!

T'CHALLA
Turn on the train on the bottom track!

SHURI (O.S.)
But the stabilizers will deactivate your suit...you won't have protection!

T'CHALLA
Neither will he.

SHURI

Okay!

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

Shuri activates a button on her Kimoyo beads.

INT. VIBRANIUM MINE BOTTOM - DAY

In the vibranium mine, down the track from Panther and Killmonger's fight, we see a light come on in the train port.

As they fight, the panels light up in succession, and we see a silent, Maglev train hurdling right at them.

Both fighters evade the train at the last second as the train whips past, creating a barrier between them too big to jump over.

T'Challa stands up as his suit partially retracts into his necklace leaving his skin exposed.

Killmonger, on the other side of the train, looks at his malfunctioning suit in confusion. He turns and looks back at the stabilizer.

KILLMONGER

I don't need a suit to kill you.

They look at each other from across the blinding fast train.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

Your reign is over. You sat up here safe and protected.

T'CHALLA

You want to see us become just like the people you hate so much? Divide and conquer the land as they did?

KILLMONGER

No I learn from my enemies -- beat them at their own game.

T'CHALLA

You have become them. You will destroy the world, Wakanda included.

KILLMONGER

The world took away everything away from me! Everything I ever loved! But I'm gonna make sure we're even.

(MORE)

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

I'm gonna track down anyone who would even think about being loyal to you, and I'm gonna put they ass in the dirt, right next to Zuri.

Hatred flashes over T'Challa's eyes as he reengages his mask and the train clears. Killmonger engages his mask, and they leap at each other again.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

Shuri moves to Nakia's side and helps her up.

SHURI

Nakia! Are you alright?

NAKIA

I'm ok. You?

SHURI

Yes.

NAKIA

Let's go.

They join the fight with Okoye and Ayo.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, COCKPIT - DAY

Ross begins maneuvering the controls like an expert pilot.

He guides the ship through a canyon, chasing the remaining CARGO SHIP, while firing at the THREE DRAGONFLYERS that are all attempting to take him down.

ROSS

Shuri, I've lost one of them but two are on my tail.

EXT. WAKANDAN CANYON

The CARGO SHIP hurdles ahead, while the RTF navigates DRAGONFLER BLASTS and ROCK OUTCROPPINGS.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, WAKANDAN DESIGN GROUP

The building begins to shake as Ross, confused.

ROSS
What the hell was that?

GRIOT (O.S.)
The lab is under attack.

ROSS
What? Where?

GRIOT (O.S.)
Deactivating hologram.

The display in front of Ross comes down, revealing A MASSIVE DRAGONFLYER FIRING SONIC BLASTS outside of the windows of the lab.

Ross jumps at the sight of this. Realizing he is now sitting in a death trap.

SHURI (O.S.)
Ross! You have to get out of there now!

ROSS
How long have I got?

GRIOT (O.S.)
Glass integrity is at 50%

Ross looks at the window and thinks about it for a beat. He re-grips the pilot handles.

ROSS
Put me back in.

SHURI (O.S.)
Ross! Ross?!

The ship projection comes back up, and Ross continues to fly.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

As our heroes fight, the Border Tribesmen continue to use their advanced shields to close them off into an impenetrable circle.

Okoye looks around, searching for an option for escape through the sea of Border Tribesmen. We find W'Kabi in the distance perched atop M20 looking back at her.

W'KABI
Surrender now! You have three seconds to lay down your weapons!

Okoye looks back resolute.

W'KABI (CONT'D)

One...two...

The sound of an attack is heard from behind W'Kabi.

LOUD CHANTS seemingly come from every direction as the entire perimeter of the Border Tribe is showing signs of being breached.

Shuri, Okoye, Nakia, and Ayo look around confused, as one of the interior shield holding Border Tribesmen is suddenly lifted up by his collar, his shield disappearing as a result.

We tilt up to reveal M'Baku holding him with one hand and SIX Jabari warriors behind him.

M'BAKU

Witness the might of the Jabari
firsthand!

M'Baku throws the border Tribesman into the sonic shield and we go around the horn to see the JABARI WARRIORS tearing through the border tribe perimeter with their wooden weapons.

M'Baku, seeing the breaks in the interior shield calls for his troops to move forward.

M'BAKU (CONT'D)

Abya!!!!

He jumps down from the rock followed by his troops. Okoye sees this and calls her troops forward.

OKOYE

Phambili!!!!

Okoye leads the women forward through the gaps in the shield.

M'Baku breaks through, swinging his knobkerrie to change the tide of the battle.

M'BAKU

Abya!!!

INT. VIBRANIUM MINE BOTTOM - DAY

Killmonger and Panther continue to brawl. Killmonger lands a deadly headbutt and an oncoming train knocks them both to opposite sides of the track. As the train passes, Killmonger picks up the knife that fell into the mines along with them...

EXT. WAKANDAN AIRSPACE - DAY

The RTF does battle with the DRAGONFLYERS, using the sonic blasters to shoot down two of them, but taking significant damage. Ross has a clear line of sight to the last Talon Fighter.

GRIOT (O.S.)
Glass integrity is at 15%.

The two remaining Dragonflyers shoot vibranium drills into the hobbled RTF, slowing it down and allowing the Talon Fighter to pull away. The drills send an electronic pulse into the RTF.

GRIOT (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Critical weapons failure.

ROSS
Shuri! The last cargo ship is almost at the border, but they've got me trapped with some kind of cables.

SHURI (O.S.)
Make an X with your arms!

Confused, Ross crosses his fists in front of him.

GRIOT (O.S.)
Sonic overload initiated.

SHURI (O.S.)
Now break it!

Ross swings his arms open.

EXT. WAKANDAN AIRSPACE - DAY

The RTF lights charge up to the max and emit a powerful explosion of sonic energy- decimating the cables along with the dragonflyers they are attached to.

The RTF lights go dead, and the massive ship begins to drop out of the sky, falling end over end towards the ground below.

GIOT (O.S.)
System rebooting in 5, 4, 3, 2...

The RTF falls closer and closer to the ground. A bead of sweat drips off of Ross' temple.

GRIOT (O.S.)
1...system rebooted!

EXT. WAKANDAN BORDER REGION - DAY

The RTF lights come back on, and the sonic emitters at the bottom of the ship kick back into full capacity, causing the RTF to stop on a dime, hovering 12 feet from the ground. The sheer force from the sonic emission cracks the ground leaving a cymatic signature.

INT. SHURI'S LAB, COCKPIT - DAY

Ross punches it- heading straight for the last cargo ship.

EXT. WAKANDAN AIRSPACE - DAY

The cargo ship makes it over the last mountain of the Wakandan border and activates the cloaking technology.

The RTF guns in the air at a 45 degree angle and BAM, it explodes as it collides with CARGO SHIP, deactivating its cloaking mode, causing pieces of the RTF and the CARGO SHIP to rain down over the Wakandan border.

INT. SHURI'S LAB - COCKPIT - DAY

Ross's cockpit disintegrates back into a pile of sand. Ross drops into it.

ROSS
Yes! We did it!

SHURI
Great! Now get out of there!

Ross gets up and heads towards the ramp in the lab, as the glass blows out.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA, TOP OF THE HILL - DAY

M'Baku, surrounded by Border Tribesmen is held up while W'Kabi atop M20 comes charging straight at him, giving him nowhere to go, but at the last second, Okoye steps in front of M'Baku, staring M20 down who gallops towards her, and stops at the very last second, his horn inches from Okoye's face, M20 licks her face lovingly.

W'Kabi dismounts and approaches Okoye slowly. Okoye points her spear at him.

OKOYE
Drop your weapon.

W'KABI
Would you kill me, my love?

OKOYE
For Wakanda?
(she draws her weapon)
Without question.

W'Kabi sees the fire in Okoye's eyes. He looks around at the battlefield where the remaining Border Tribesmen are surrendering to the Jabari and Dora.

W'Kabi looks at Okoye for long beat, then throws his sword into the dirt and kneels in front of her.

INT. VIBRANIUM MINE BOTTOM - DAY

Killmonger slashes at T'Challa with the spear, backing T'Challa up towards the lip of the track. As the train comes speeding towards them, both their suits retract, and T'Challa holds Killmonger off as Killmonger pushes the blade of the spear towards his face.

KILLMONGER
This is it for you, cousin.

T'Challa turns towards the train and sees that it is about to end.

He lets Killmonger swing towards him and dodges, backing up even closer to the edge of the track, and Killmonger swings again - but this time T'Challa punches Killmonger's arm, jarring the blade lose and sending it flying up into the air.

T'Challa then does a ROLLING ARM BAR TAKEDOWN as the BROKEN SPEAR flips through the air.

We track with the spear as the SONIC STABILIZATION FIELD turns off, and the train passes the two fighters. As the BROKEN SPEAR drops T'Challa catches it with his right hand and slams it into Killmonger's chest, just as both their suits form around them.

Killmonger removes his helmet, then looks down at the blade that is buried in his chest.

T'Challa, realizing this is it, removes his mask as well.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

Hell of a move.

Killmonger struggles to breathe.

KILLMONGER (CONT'D)

My pops said Wakanda was the most beautiful thing he'd ever seen. He promised he was going to show it to me some day. Can you believe that? Kid from Oakland running around believing in fairy tales.

Killmonger winces from the pain. T'Challa stands and picks Killmonger up, dragging him to his feet.

INT. VIBRANIUM MINE ELEVATOR - DAY

T'Challa supports Killmonger as both men ride a vibranium lift towards the mouth of the mine.

EXT. MT. BASHENGA - SUNSET

T'Challa stands at the top of the great mound next to Killmonger who is kneeling. Watching the sun creep down behind the horizon.

KILLMONGER

It's beautiful.

T'Challa thinks for a long beat.

T'CHALLA

Maybe we can still heal you.

Killmonger thinks on this.

KILLMONGER

Why? So you can just lock me up?
Nah. Just bury me in the ocean,
with my ancestors that jumped from
the ships... 'cause they knew death
was better than bondage.

Killmonger pulls the knife out of his chest, killing himself instantly. T'Challa looks down at his cousin's now lifeless body and becomes emotional.

INT. TRIBAL COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

In full royal regalia, T'Challa strolls in with confidence.

Shuri, Ramonda, the Dora, including Okoye, Ayo and all of the Elders, even M'Baku, are present.

EXT. STEP TOWN, GOLDEN CITY - MORNING

T'Challa and Nakia stand together.

T'CHALLA

Thank you. You saved me. You saved my family. Our nation.

NAKIA

There is nothing to thank me for. It is our duty to... it was my duty to fight for what I love. I should have --

T'Challa kisses her.

T'CHALLA

You can't blame me I almost died.

Nakia looks at him deeply, and kisses him back.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)

Stay. I think I know a way you can still fulfill your calling. Please stay.

Nakia looks at T'Challa with curious eyes. She kisses him.

EXT. LAKE MERRITT APARTMENT COMPLEX, OAKLAND- DAY

T'Challa and Shuri, dressed in subtle clothing, look at the now abandoned apartment building. In the distance a group of SIX KIDS (mostly Black, some Latino), play three on a rugged basketball hoop.

SHURI

When you said you would take me to California for the first time, I thought you meant Coachella, or Disneyland. Why here?

T'CHALLA

This is where our father killed our uncle.

Shuri looks at T'Challa, shocked by his bluntness. She turns and stares closely at the building. We see her POV of large SIGNAGE that hints that the building is soon to be demolished.

SHURI
They are tearing it down. Good.

T'CHALLA
They're not tearing it down... I
bought this building.

Shuri turns to him confused.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
And that building, and that one
over there... This will be the
first Wakandan International
Outreach Center.

Shuri smiles at the surprise.

T'CHALLA (CONT'D)
Nakia will oversee the social
outreach... And you will spearhead
the science and information
exchange.

Shuri turns to T'Challa in shock at what this means.

SHURI
You're kidding!

T'Challa hits a button on his Kimoyo bead, and the RTF comes
out of cloaking, revealing itself to have been parked behind
the kids playing basketball.

A YOUNG BLACK KID turns back to see the ship as the other
kids collectively lose their shit.

OAKLAND KID #1
What?! Man what the hell is that?

OAKLAND KID #2
That's like a Buggati space ship!

OAKLAND KID #3
Woah, it came out of nowhere!!! Did
y'all see that?

YOUNG BLACK KID
What...

They start to run up to the ship and touch it. Unsure at
first.

OAKLAND KID #1 (O.S.)
We can take this back to the house
y'all...

OAKLAND KID #2 (O.S.)
We could pull up to school in this!

OAKLAND KID #3 (O.S.)
Hey look, we can break it apart and
we can sell it!

OAKLAND KID #2 (O.S.)
On Ebay!

OAKLAND KID #3
Everybody get like a million a
piece.

She starts off towards the kids, walking past the Young Black Kid.

SHURI (O.S.)
Uhhh I wouldn't do that if I were
you guys...

OAKLAND KID #1 (O.S.)
Where you come from?

SHURI (O.S.)
From Wakanda.

OAKLAND KID #1 (O.S.)
What is a Wakanda?

The Young Black Kid approaches T'Challa.

YOUNG BLACK KID
Hey yo! Is this yours?

YOUNG BLACK KID (CONT'D)
Who... who are you?

T'Challa thinks on this and smiles.

CUT TO TITLE:
BLACK PANTHER

TAG 1

INT. UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY BUILDING, ROTUNDA - DAY

T'Challa walks, flanked by Nakia, Okoye and Ayo.

INT. UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY BUILDING - DAY

Several assembly members move around the room preparing for a meeting. Suddenly a hush falls over the hall as the Wakandans enter and walk up to the center pit.

T'CHALLA

My name is King T'Challa, son of King T'Chaka. I am the sovereign ruler of the Nation of Wakanda and for the first time in our history we will be sharing our knowledge and resources with the outside world. Wakanda will no longer watch from the shadows. We cannot, we must not. We will work to be an example of how we as brothers and sisters on this Earth should treat each other. Now more than ever, illusions of division threaten our very existence. We all know the truth: more connects us than separates us. In times of crisis, the wise build bridges, while the foolish build barriers. We must find a way to look after one another, as if we were one single tribe.

The audience of WORLD LEADERS look around, bemused, wondering what Wakanda could possibly have to offer.

A FRENCH AMBASSADOR can't help but lean into his microphone.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR

With all due respect, King T'Challa, what can a nation of farmers offer to the rest of the world?

There are a few chuckles from the gallery. Nakia, Okoye and Ayo share a look.

T'Challa smiles.

TAG 2

INT. WAKANDAN MEDICINE HUT - DAY

Open on three NECROPOLITAN CHILDREN WITH PAINTED FACES looming directly over something, staring with curiosity.

The camera moves, startling the children who quickly flee the hut.

EXT. WAKANDAN MEDICINE HUT - CONTINUOUS

The kids race out of the hut and over to Shuri.

SHURI
Are you playing around with that
man again?

WAKANDAN CHILD
No. No!

SHURI
You're teasing him again?

Bucky exits the hut to the sight of a beautiful Wakandan lakeside. He takes it all in with a deep breath. Outside the hut are WAKANDAN SHAMAN (Man and Woman) and SHURI, embracing the three giggling CHILDREN. TWO DORA MILAJE observe Shuri from a close distance.

WAKANDAN CHILDREN
Emhlophe Ingcuka. (white wolf)

Bucky settles next to Shuri taking in her view of the lake.

SHURI
Good morning, Sgt. Barnes.

BUCKY
Bucky.

SHURI
How are you feeling?

BUCKY
Good. Thank you.

Shuri smiles.

SHURI
Come. Much more for you to learn.

He follows Shuri towards the other huts.

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