

**PROJECT TRIANGLE - OPENING CUTSCENE**

written by

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**OVER BLACK**

LORD RICHARD CROFT's (50) wizened voice reaches out through the darkness.

RICHARD CROFT (V.O.)  
You will never find the life you  
are looking for.

The STRIKING of a MATCH sounds. The CRACKLE of FIRE. A candle lights up to reveal -

**INT. CROFT MANOR - RICHARD CROFT'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

- RICHARD CROFT'S DESK.

A large MAP of the Caribbean sits pinned against the wall with NOTES, THUMBTRACKS, and RED THREADS OF STRING marking the different possible Bermuda Triangle points.

The first generator in the Bermuda seas is marked as SET.

RICHARD CROFT (V.O.)  
When the gods created man, they  
granted him death. Life? They  
retained in their own keeping.

LIGHTNING STRIKES. A flash of light and the sound of thunder fill the room, highlighting the different books askew around the area: 'The Epic of Gilgamesh', 'The Alexander Romance', 'The Bible', and 'Herodotus: The Histories'.

RICHARD CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
There is no permanence. The  
sleeping and the dead...

PAGES lay scattered across the desk. Research notes with key words of 'BERMUDA TRIANGLE?', 'FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH', 'CULT' and 'THREE GENERATORS' are scribbled. The written question of 'WHERE IS THE SECOND POINT?' sits underlined.

RICHARD CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
How alike they are - a painted  
death.

Printed IMAGES are pinned against the wall showing different paintings and interpretations of the Fountain of Youth.

RICHARD CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
How can I be silent?

An unknown HAND takes RICHARD CROFT'S JOURNAL from his desk.

RICHARD CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
How can I rest?

FLASH! Lighting strikes again, casting a long shadow across RICHARD CROFT'S PORTRAIT.

A feminine voice sounds to finish his words alongside him, words that lay written across the aging paper of his journal, including:

RICHARD CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)	LARA CROFT (O.C.)
When I too shall die and be	'When I too shall die and be
laid in the earth?	laid in the earth?'

LARA CROFT (24), standing at her father's desk, lets out a shaky breath and traces the last, underlined words with her fingers. She looks up to his research before her.

LARA CROFT (V.O.)  
My father died with his reputation  
in ruins.

She leans over the desk, flipping through his journal. She passes pages filled with sketches and writings of different myths and legends until she ends up on -

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
A reputation of delusion, of  
madness. Of greed and insanity. A  
man obsessed with immortality.

- The Fountain of Youth and The True Bermuda Triangle. Sketches of the IDOL and RECEPTACLE are spread clear and labelled across the page, with obvious directions of how to 'set' them.

As she brings the journal closer to investigate further, a piece of FOLDED PARCHMENT falls out between the pages.

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
I loved him...

Lara picks up the parchment and opens it to reveal a MAP.

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Then I hated him.

The first point of the True Bermuda Triangle is marked, but nothing else. She brings it closer to inspect.

SNIFF. Lara smells something peculiar on the map - LEMON JUICE. Her eyes widen with realization.

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
But now... now, more than anything-

With some unbridled excitement, Lara snatches the CANDLE sitting next to a partially-eaten CROISSANT and brings it up to the map.

With great care, Lara uses the heat from the candle to reveal the INVISIBLE INK on the parchment.

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
I understand him.

The invisible ink reveals two new points: NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA and PORT ROYAL, JAMAICA, the CULTIST SYMBOL marking both points.

Lara holds the page carefully with a newfound determination.

#### **INT. AIRPLANE - DAY**

Sitting on an airplane flying over New Orleans, Lara looks through the window to take in the gridded city.

LARA CROFT (V.O.)  
So here I am in the City of Lights  
and Shadows, chasing after my  
father's discoveries.

She looks down at a PIECE OF PAPER in her hands. Written on it is the NAME and ADDRESS of the warehouse and a SKETCH of the idol and cultist symbol with 'ORDER OF THE BLIGHTED SEA' written beside it.

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Will I uncover a few of my own? The  
Fountain of Youth? The True Bermuda  
Triangle?

#### **EXT. NEW ORLEANS - STREETS - DUSK**

Lara navigates through the streets of Mardi Gras with her head down, sticking to the shadows.

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (VERSION 1)  
There is nothing left but a name -  
my name. Croft.

**EXT. WAREHOUSE - STREETS - CONTINUOUS**

She stops before the WAREHOUSE, holding the piece of paper out to double check the address. The DRAMATIC MUSIC SWELLS.

LARA CROFT (V.O.)  
I am my father's daughter -

**EXT. WAREHOUSE - SIDE ALLEY - DUSK**

LARA CROFT (V.O.)  
I am Lara Croft.

The music grows to its CLIMAX.

Lara climbs up a ladder leading to a window on the side of the building with ease before stopping at the top, hanging coolly with one hand gripping the wrung, looking out at the city and sunset before her.

The dramatic swell of the music comes to a sudden STOP. The sound of a candle being blown out is HEARD.

Lara looks super totally awesome-cool-badass-hot-mama against the orange sky.

LARA CROFT (V.O.) (VERSION 3)  
(beat)  
And I'm just getting started.

She jumps in.

**END.**