

THE RELIC'S GUARDIANS

By Alexander Phoen!x

Federico "Alex" Sarzi - Sartori

Qantm College

fedess@email.it

1 EXT. HALJL VILLAGE, NEPAL - DAY 1

CREDIT ROLL:  
28-04-08 - 14:58  
HALJL VILLAGE, HUMLA DISTRICT, NEPAL

It's a small rural village. People are conducting everyday activities. Suddenly an earthquake shocks the place. There's panic and people start running away from dangers and falling buildings.

2 INT. HALJL VILLAGE TEMPLE - UNDERGROUND - SAME TIME 2

HIGH PRIEST

(Frantically speaking to other priests  
running in different directions)

Quickly, secure the Tashinan! We cannot risk  
the spirits to be freed!

PRIEST 1

(Running and stopping right in front of  
the high priest)

Your highness, the relic has been already  
secured, but the temple is going to collapse  
any seconds now! We have to get out!

HIGH PRIEST

Very well! Let's make haste and leave! Here's  
not safe anymore!

3 EXT. HALJL VILLAGE, NEPAL - CONTINUOUS ACTION 3

The High Priest and several other disciples get out and as they turn to look at the temple they see it collapse.

Everyone is in a state of agitation, except the HIGH PRIEST, which doesn't lose his composure.

CLOSE UP: HIGH PRIEST'S FACE

His eyes turn to PRIEST 1's hand holding the box with the relic. He approaches Priest 1

HIGH PRIEST

(Speaking to the PRIEST 1)

I'm leaving for the capital. I shall be back in a week. I'll have to find a safe place for the relic at once. In the meantime I shall leave it to you to guard it with your life, if necessary.

PRIEST 1

You can count on me your highness.

VERY WIDE SHOT: LOOKING AT THE FALLEN TEMPLE - HIGH PRIEST WALKING TOWARDS THE CAMERA.

4 INT. BRITISH MUSEUM OFFICE, LONDON - DAWN

4

CREDIT ROLL:

15-09-08 21:37

BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

A phone is ringing in the middle of a desk full of books covered in dust. Mr. Seamus Worrington comes in and answers it.

MR. SEAMUS WORRINGTON

Hello?

Yes! It's me! Who am I talking to?

Sir, it's an honor to speak to... (gets interrupted)

Emergency? What kind of emergency?

My God! That would be catastrophic!

Of course i will!

It's definitely acceptable! No worries!

I just know the right person for the job!

(Hangs the phone)

This will be a difficult task... Let's hope nothing goes wrong!

5 INT. DARK ROOM, LOCATION UNKNOWN - SAME TIME 5

A man covered in darkness (NEIL MACGREGOR) hangs the phone at the same time and ponders for a couple of seconds before lifting the phone again.

6 EXT. DARK ALLEY, UNKNOWN CITY - CONTINUOUS ACTION 6

A man (DOUGLAS TORRINGS) answers the paid phone ringing in a barely lit alley.

DOUGLAS TORRINGS

(Picks up the phone)

Yes?

Yes!

Agreed!

That's more than enough time!  
(Hangs up and walks away)

7 INT. PRIVATE AIRPLANE - SOME SAYS LATER - DAY 7

LIEUTENANT SHARON YATES is sitting in a comfortable sit looking at her laptop screen when a flight attendant dressed in a very smart dress approaches and hands her an envelope.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Lieutenant, I was ordered to hand you this envelope once in-flight.

LT SHARON YATES

Finally! The instructions for the mission!

(Opens the envelope and starts reading it)

This looks pretty straightforward! Basically: meet the guy, retrieve the relic and stay alive!

(Giggles quietly)

This should be fun!

8 EXT. BAG BAZAAR ROAD, KATHMANDU - THE NEXT MORNING 8

CREDIT ROLL:

18-09-08 09:34

BAG BAZAAR ROAD, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

This is a busy road with merchants setting the stands in the street. SHARON walks down the road and enters a bar.

9 INT. BAR, KATHMANDU - CONTINUOUS ACTION 9

ALASTAIR is sitting at the bar drinking a hot beverage.

SHARON recognises him and she sits on a stool next to him.

SHARON

(Looking straight in front of her)

I hear you're going to be my partner in this crazy dance!

ALASTAIR

(Looking at his cup)

I don't really enjoy dancing! Perhaps there's another metaphore you would rather use?

SHARON

Ah, what the hell... I hate dancing too! Usually I'm more cunning than this! Must be the jet lag!

ALASTAIR

I hope you managed to get some sleep on the airplane, because the road to the village is going to be really bumpy!

SHARON

Don't worry about me... I'm a tough girl!

(Pause)

Shall we get on our way?

SHARON heads towards the exit. ALASTAIR nods, puts a note on the bar and follows SHARON.

10 EXT. NEPALI COUNTRYSIDE - DAY 10

EXTREME WIDE SHOT:

The camera is shooting alongside a train speeding through the countryside on an old railtrack. The camera rotates towards the front of the train revealing mountains on the horizon, where the train is heading.

11 EXT. NEPALI MOUNTAINSIDE - DUSK 11

AERIAL SHOT:

A Jeep driven by ALASTAIR is running through a dusty mountain path, leaving a big dust trail behind.

12 EXT. HALJL VILLAGE, NEPAL - DUSK 12

VERY WIDE SHOT:

The camera moving down from the top of a small house until it gets to the ground. The Jeep comes down the main road and stops right in front of the camera.

ALASTAIR and SHARON get out of the car and head inside the build in front of which they parked.

13 INT. HALJL VILLAGE INN - DUSK 13

ALASTAIR and SHARON walk in.

SHARON  
 (talking to ALASTAIR)  
 So, we're looking for the boss around here.  
 He said he'd meet us at the inn's bar. Do you  
 see him?

ALASTAIR  
 (Looking around)  
 No, but then again, I don't think he's  
 wearing a big sash with "Mayor" written on  
 it!

SHARON  
 Fair enough! Go ask the barkeep, then.

WIDE SHOT:

ALASTAIR heads towards the bar and talks to BARMAN in Nepali. BARMAN  
 points to a table. ALASTAIR comes back to SHARON.

ALASTAIR  
 I found him, follow me.

14 INT. HALJL VILLAGE INN - DUSK

14

WIDE SHOT on the table

ALASTAIR and SHARON approach the table where MAYOR is sitting.

SHARON  
 (Towards MAYOR)  
 Good evening Mayor. I'm lieutenant Sharon  
 Yates from the U.K. and this is Alastair, the  
 Nepali representative. I believe you were  
 expecting us!

MAYOR  
 You believe right, miss Sharon! Please, have  
 a seat.

MAYOR point his hands towards the two empty chairs in front of him with  
 his palms up. SHARON and ALASTAIR sit.

MAYOR  
 Mr. Alastair, have you filled in miss Yates  
 on the dangers your are likely to face along  
 your voyage?

ALASTAIR nods silently

MAYOR

Good, i've arranged for you two bedroom in this inn. We will discuss the details of the travel in the morning. Meanwhile the Relic will remain secure in the village's bank.

SHARON

That's very generous of you Mayor!

MAYOR

It's nothing! I owe you a great deal for taking care of this matter! I hope you do understand how important the safety of the relic is!

SHARON

We sure do, sir!

MAYOR

Magnificent. I'm going to head home now. I've arranged dinner for you here as well. I'll see you tomorrow morning at 7 o'clock, is that alright?

ALASTAIR

That will be perfect. See you later then.

15 INT. HALJL VILLAGE INN - SHARON'S ROOM - LATE AT NIGHT

15

SHARON can't sleep and is reading the mission's letter again. She hears a car stopping in front of the inn. After a short while she hears steps outside her room getting closer the room's door. Silently she stands up and stealthily walks towards the luggage she left just next to the door. While she tries to pull out a knife from it, she hears the sound of the door being broke down and she sees a gas cylinder being thrown towards her. She randomly swings the knife in the cloud of soporific gas before lying down asleep.