

MULAN

Written by

Rita Hsiao

EIGHTH DRAFT
December 21, 1996

Rev. 5/9/97
Rev. 5/12/97
Rev. 6/4/97
Rev. 6/5/97
Rev. 6/6/97
Rev. 6/24/97
Rev. 7/24/97

This material is the sole property of Walt Disney Pictures and is restricted for the use of Walt Disney Pictures and personnel only. Distribution, disclosure, reproduction, or sale of the material to unauthorized personnel is prohibited.

(

(

Y

MULAN

FADE IN:

EXT. THE GREAT WALL - NIGHT (SEQUENCE 1.0)

A MASSIVE, magnificent stone barrier snakes along the mountain tops of China. A lone GUARD patrols it. All's quiet, til...

WHOOSH! A falcon swoops over him, knocking off his helmet. It flies upward, RIPPING the Imperial flag from a pole; the crescent moon shines. The guard follows as the bird drops the flag. It flutters over the wall, revealing

A DARK, OMINOUS MAN in SHADOW, clinging to the side. He GRABS the Guard before he can scream - LIFTING him into the air as

HUNDREDS of grappling hooks clamp onto the wall.

IN THE GARRISON

Startled guards look up as the shadowy MAN enters their sanctuary. As he RAISES his distinctive, curved sword...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. EMPEROR'S PALACE - NIGHT

Doors burst open. The EMPEROR, his aide CHI FU, and several men quickly enter

A CAVERNOUS WAR ROOM - a huge model of China in its center.

EMPEROR
Your report, General.

The General steps through a section of 'The Great Wall.'

GENERAL
The Huns crossed our border here, Your Majesty!

CHI FU
(shocked)
Impossible! No one can get through the Great Wall.

The Emperor holds up his hand.

GENERAL
(solemnly)
Shan-Yu is leading them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sharp intakes. This is no ordinary invader.

MEN
(murmuring)
Shan-Yu...

The General strides across the model with his pointer.

GENERAL
He's already destroyed one village and is
expected to reach the Imperial City in a
matter of weeks.
(then)
We'll set up defenses around the city
immediately.

EMPEROR
No -- send the troops out to stop him. *

GENERAL
But you will be left unprotected. *

The Emperor slams the pointer.

EMPEROR
(sternly)
I'll not let him take the lives of any
more of my people.

The General nods respectfully.

EMPEROR
Chi Fu!

Chi Fu stands at attention.

CHI FU
Yes, Your Highness!

EMPEROR
Deliver conscription notices throughout
all the provinces, call up reserves and
as many new recruits as possible!

GENERAL
Forgive me, Your Majesty, but I believe
our present force will be sufficient to
stop him.

EMPEROR
I won't take any chances, General.
(then)
A single grain of rice can tip the
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EMPEROR (cont'd)
scale... one man may be the difference
between victory and defeat.

As he stares out at the pale crescent moon...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MULAN'S BEDROOM - DAY (SEQUENCE 1.9A)

CLOSE ON a bowl of rice. A pair of chopsticks reach for a mouthful. PAN UP to reveal MULAN, a high-spirited girl of 17 reading a scroll and copying notes onto her arm.

MULAN
(reading)
...Quiet and demure... graceful...
...polite...
(taking a bite)
...umph... delicate...
(mouth full)
...refined... poised...

She dips her brush in ink and adds one last thing.

MULAN
...always on time!

EXT. ROOF

A ROOSTER CROWS

INT. MULAN'S BEDROOM

Mulan looks out the window and quickly gets up.

MULAN
Aii-ya!

She rushes out into

INT. MAIN ROOM

Mulan looks around.

MULAN
Little brother!

She runs in another direction, blowing on her arm.

MULAN
Little brother! Lit--

She stops as she spots her dog lying on the ground.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN

Ahh, there you are!

On an adorable little, stupid dog.

MULAN

(playfully)

Who's the smartest doggie in the world?

C'mon, smart boy...

The dog pants excitedly. Mulan picks up a bag of grain.

MULAN

Ready to do my chores?

Tying the bag to his tail and a chicken leg over his head, she opens the door.

As the dog chases the chicken leg into the yard, the grain bag breaks, sending the chickens into a feeding frenzy.

Mulan watches -- it'll do -- and quickly starts to gather teacups.

EXT. FA FAMILY TEMPLE

The hungry dog pursues the leg, running towards the TEMPLE.

INT. FA FAMILY TEMPLE

FA ZHOU, Mulan's dignified father, kneels before the ancestral stone beis and lights incense.

FA ZHOU

(praying)

Honorable Ancestors, please help Mulan
impress the matchmaker today.

The dog runs in; seconds later the chickens enter, pecking at the spilled grain.

FA ZHOU

Please... please help her.

EXT. FA FAMILY HOUSE

Mulan hurries to the temple, stopping to feed her dog. *

INSIDE THE TEMPLE

Fa Zhou slowly rises from the floor with the help of his cane. He turns to see his beloved, tardy daughter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FA ZHOU
Mulan, shouldn't you be in the village? *

MULAN
(sweetly; setting out the tea)
Well, first I have to meet someone
special for tea.

She smiles at him; Fa Zhou tries not to smile, but can't help himself. She's got him.

FA ZHOU
Hmmm...

ON ONE RED TEACUP among GREEN ONES. Mulan's hand reaches in.

MULAN
Ready?

Mulan spins the tray -- as it circles around, they each grab a cup. Fa Zhou holds up the red one.

MULAN
How do you always do that?

Fa Zhou smiles and CHUCKLES, then stops the tray from spinning.

FA ZHOU
As much as I enjoy this... these games
must soon end.
(then; warmly)
The time has come for you to carry on the
family honor.

Mulan looks up at him -- she wants to please him.

MULAN
(small smile)
I won't let you down, Baba.

Full of hope, they sip their tea.

EXT. FRONT GATE - SHORTLY AFTER

Mulan comes charging out on KAHN, a magnificent black horse.

MULAN
Let's go, Kahn!

She waves at Fa Zhou before leaping over the wall.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN
Wish me luck!

Fa Zhou shakes his head.

FA ZHOU
Where does she get it from.

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE ROAD - CONTINUOUS

GRANDMOTHER FA, a tiny feisty woman, surveys a busy street filled with carts and travellers. She holds up a cage containing a CRICKET.

GRANDMOTHER FA
Okay, cricket, let's see how good you are.

With her eyes closed, she steps into traffic. All around her, vehicles SWERVE and COLLIDE to avoid her. Miraculously, she makes it across. Opening her eyes, she looks at the cricket gleefully.

GRANDMOTHER FA
Yep! You're a lucky one!

The cricket faints. FA LI, Mulan's mother, joins her.

FA LI
(worried)
Where's Mulan?

She points to a group of elegantly dressed girls.

FA LI
The other girls have been preparing all morning!

GRANDMOTHER FA
There was an accident. She's probably stuck in traffic.

SFX: THUNDERING HOOVES. A cloud of dust. Then, from within the mayhem trots

MULAN

elegantly seated on Kahn, side saddle, holding a parasol. She's oblivious to the leaves and brush entangled in her hair.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VILLAGERS
(GROANING; eyes rolling)

Mulan approaches her mother.

MULAN
(jumping off)
I'm here!

FA LI
You're filthy!

MULAN
But Mama, I had to--

FA LI
None of your excuses. You can't be late
for the Matchmaker. First impressions
are very important.

They lead her into...

INT. BATH SHOP (SEQUENCE 1.9B)

The BATHER looks Mulan over, and prepares her for a bath.

Bather:

THIS IS WHAT YOU GIVE ME TO WORK WITH
WELL HONEY I'VE SEEN WORSE
WE'RE GOING TO TURN THIS SOW'S EAR
INTO A SILK PURSE

Mulan sits in the tub, shivering.

MULAN
It's freezing!

FA LI
It would've been warm if you were here on
time.

SPLASH! The Bather dumps water onto Mulan, then begins
scrubbing her hair.

Bather:

WE'LL HAVE YOU
WASHED AND DRIED
PRIMPED AND POLISHED TILL YOU GLOW WITH PRIDE
TRUST MY RECIPE FOR INSTANT BRIDE
YOU'LL BRING HONOR TO US ALL

As Fa Li starts to wash Mulan's arm, she sees the crib notes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FA LI
Mulan, what's this?

MULAN
Uh, notes... in case I forget something?

Grandma Fa slaps her head and hands the cricket to Fa Li.

GRANDMOTHER FA
Hold this.
(turning away)
We'll need more luck than I thought.

CUT TO:

INT. HAIRDRESSER'S SHOP

ON MULAN'S contorted face as TWO HAIRDRESSERS pull and style her hair.

Hairdresser#1:

WAIT AND SEE
WHEN WE'RE THROUGH

Hairdresser#2:

BOYS WILL GLADLY GO TO WAR FOR YOU

Hairdresser#1:

WITH GOOD FORTUNE

Hairdresser#2:

AND A GREAT HAIR-DO

All 3:(Hairdresser#1 & #2 and Fa Li)

YOU'LL BRING HONOR TO US ALL

EXT. VILLAGE STREET

Mulan leaves the Hairdresser's shop. As she heads for her next stop, women smile at her.

All:(Group of approx. 15-20 women)

A GIRL CAN BRING HER FAMILY
GREAT HONOR IN ONE WAY
BY STRIKING A GOOD MATCH
AND THIS COULD BE THE DAY

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSMAKER'S SHOP

TWO DRESSMAKERS efficiently wrap Mulan in her gown.

Dressmaker #1: MEN WANT GIRLS WITH GOOD TASTE

Dressmaker #2: CALM

Fa Li: OBEDIENT

Dressmaker #1: WHO WORK FAST PACED

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Fa Li: WITH GOOD BREEDING
Dressmaker #2: AND A TINY WAIST (she pulls sash
 extremely tight)
Mulan: gasp
All: (Dressmaker #1 & #2 and Fa Li)
 YOU'LL BRING HONOR TO US ALL

EXT. VILLAGE STREET

Mulan and Fa Li continue to their next stop. Mulan watches
 as TWO LITTLE BOYS play war and TWO LITTLE GIRLS play with
 dolls.

All: (Group of approx. 15-20 women)
 WE ALL MUST SERVE OUR EMPEROR
 WHO GUARDS US FROM THE HUNS
 A MAN BY BEARING ARMS
 A GIRL BY BEARING SONS

They stop at the fan stall. Fa Li tries to teach Mulan how
 to hold a fan gracefully, only it flies out of Mulan's hands.

Fa Li:
 HERE'S WHAT MEN CAN'T RESIST
 HOLD YOUR FAN AND GIVE YOUR WRIST A TWIST
An Unlucky Passerby: (OWW)
Fa Li: NEXT TIME TRY IT WITH A BIT LESS WRIST
 YOU'LL BRING HONOR TO US ALL

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE MARKETPLACE

Grandmother Fa inspects goods at a stall. She touches an old
 stone statue. The head falls off. She quickly replaces it
 with a little doll's head. From out of the shadows steps a
 creepy MERCHANT. *

MONKEY MERCHANT
 Ahhh, Grandma Fa... In what might I
 interest you? Tea, perfume...

He looks around, furtively, then holds something up.

MONKEY MERCHANT
 Rent the monkey?

The monkey stares at her with a blank smile. Grandmother Fa
 picks up a jade necklace.

GRANDMOTHER FA
 I want these. They look lucky.

The merchant puts the monkey in her face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MONKEY MERCHANT

The monkey is lucky.

Grandmother Fa holds up the necklace.

GRANDMOTHER FA

I want the necklace!

The merchant swings the monkey around his neck.

MONKEY MERCHANT

The monkey is a necklace!

GRANDMOTHER FA

(picking her teeth with her
knife)

How 'bout I make you into a necklace?

CUT TO:

INT. MAKE-UP ARTIST'S SHOP

TWO MAKE-UP WOMEN paint Mulan's face.

Make-up Artist #1 & #2 and Fa Li:

WHEN WE'RE THROUGH YOU CAN'T FAIL
(when we're through you can't fail)
(when we're through you can't fail)
LIKE A LOTUS BLOSSOM SOFT AND PALE
(like a lotus blossom soft and pale)
(like a lotus blossom soft and pale)
HOW COULD ANY FELLOW SAY "NO SALE"
(how could any fellow say "no sale")
(how could any fellow say "no sale")
YOU'LL BRING HONOR TO US ALL
(you'll bring honor to us all)
(you'll bring honor to us all)

She holds a mirror up. Mulan is the perfect porcelain vision, like all the other girls, except... she takes a tiny piece of hair and curls it over her forehead. That's better.

Fa Li unwraps a cloth, revealing a beautiful hair comb. Lovingly, she places it in Mulan's hair.

FA LI

There, you're ready.

Mulan and her mother share a warm smile as Grandmother Fa enters, her arms full of various good luck charms.

GRANDMOTHER FA

Not yet.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She waddles over and stuffs an apple into Mulan's mouth.

GRANDMOTHER FA
An apple for serenity...
(pinning)
A pendant for balance...

She places the jade necklace around Mulan's neck.

Grandmother Fa:

BEADS OF JADE FOR BEAUTY
YOU MUST PROUDLY SHOW IT
NOW ADD A CRICKET JUST FOR LUCK
AND EVEN YOU CAN'T BLOW IT.

Grandma Fa ties the cricket to Mulan's waist.

EXT. VILLAGE PLACE

Fa Li and Grandmother Fa proudly watch as Mulan heads off to meet the Matchmaker.

Mulan:

ANCESTORS
HEAR MY PLEA
HELP ME NOT TO MAKE A FOOL OF ME
AND TO NOT UPROOT MY FAM'LY TREE
KEEP MY FATHER STANDING TALL

Mulan joins a row of girls approaching the Matchmaker's room.

Young Girls: (4 + Mulan)

SCARIER THAN THE UNDERTAKER
WE ARE MEETING OUR MATCHMAKER
All: (Group of 40-50 women)
DESTINY
GUARD OUR GIRLS
AND OUR FUTURE AS IT FAST UNFURLS
PLEASE LOOK KINDLY ON THESE CULTURED PEARLS
EACH A PERFECT PORCELAIN DOLL
PLEASE BRING HONOR TO US
PLEASE BRING HONOR TO US
PLEASE BRING HONOR TO US
PLEASE BRING HONOR TO US
PLEASE BRING HONOR TO US ALL

The girls bow down with parasols, waiting...

THE MATCHMAKER - (SEQUENCE 1.9C)

steps outside, looks at her notepad and calls out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MATCHMAKER

Fa Mulan!

Mulan eagerly looks up and waves.

MULAN

Present!

MATCHMAKER

(writing; displeased)
Speaking without permission...

MULAN

Oops.

Mulan steps inside as her mother and grandmother look after her apprehensively.

GRANDMOTHER FA

(re: Matchmaker)

Who spit in her bean curd.

INT. MATCHMAKER'S ROOM

Mulan stands silently as the Matchmaker circles her, inspecting.

MATCHMAKER

Too skinny...hmmf. Not good for bearing sons.

As she makes note, the cricket escapes and jumps onto the Matchmaker's shoulder. Mulan grabs him; tosses him. He hops back onto Mulan's shoulder, her head-- he won't leave. As the Matchmaker turns to face Mulan, she pops the cricket into her mouth.

MATCHMAKER

Recite the final admonition.

Mulan is caught.

MULAN

(mouth full)

Mmmmm...hmmmm.

MATCHMAKER

Well?

A pause, then Mulan opens her fan and...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN
(coughing; spitting)
Ptoo!

... spits out the cricket. Now, to impress her.

MULAN
Fulfill your duties calmly and...

Needing help, she pulls up her sleeve.

MULAN
(trying to read smeared arm)
...Respectfully. Reflect before you
snack-- act.

The Matchmaker circles her, listening.

MULAN
(quickly)
This shall bring you honor and glory.

She breathes a sigh of relief. Not so fast. The Matchmaker
snatches the fan away, looking it over.

MATCHMAKER
(suspiciously)
Hmmm...

Finding nothing, she grabs Mulan's arm and leads her off.

MATCHMAKER
This way!

She points to a table set with tea; her hand covered with
black ink from Mulan's arm.

MATCHMAKER
Now, pour the tea.

Mulan and the Matchmaker sit.

MATCHMAKER
To please your future in-laws, you must
demonstrate a sense of dignity...

She rubs her fingers on her face, leaving an ink moustache.
Mulan stares, and accidentally pours tea onto the table.

MATCHMAKER
(eyes closed; grandly)
...and refinement.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mulan sees the cricket relaxing in the tea cup. She panics.

MATCHMAKER

You must also be poised.

The Matchmaker takes the cup.

MULAN

Umm... pardon me.

MATCHMAKER

... and silent!!

Mulan's stuck. She watches as the cricket's antennae curl up towards the Matchmaker's nose on each inhale.

MULAN

(trying to remain calm)

Ummm... uh... could I just--

(reaching for the cup)

... take that back-- for a moment...

She tugs at the cup. SPLASH! The tea spills on the Matchmaker as the cricket leaps down her dress.

MATCHMAKER

Why you clumsy...

(noticing the cricket)

Whaa...Ooh! Aaagh! Oooh!

CRASH! The Matchmaker knocks over and lands in the incense burner.

MATCHMAKER

(running around)

Wah-ahhhh!

Mulan, trying to help, fans the Matchmaker's rear with her fan.

WHOOMP! Her clothes catch fire.

MATCHMAKER

Whoogghh!

EXT. VILLAGE PLACE

Fa Li, Grandmother Fa and the villagers listen to hysterical screams and crashing sounds.

Mulan bursts outside, holding the tea pot. The Matchmaker follows, still on fire.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MATCHMAKER

Put it out! Put it out! Put it ow--

SPLASH! Mulan throws tea in the Matchmaker's face, dousing the flames.

The cricket hops out. Frightened, he jumps back into his little cage.

The Matchmaker, steaming, turns to Mulan.

MATCHMAKER

You may look like a bride, but you will never bring your family honor!

Fa Li and Grandma gather around Mulan consolingly. The villagers bow their heads and start to turn away.

VILLAGERS

Her poor family... what a shame...

Mulan listens to the whispers.

CUT TO:

EXT. MULAN'S HOUSE - LATER (SEQUENCE 3.9)

Mulan solemnly leads Kahn through the front gate. She sees Fa Zhou smiling hopefully at her. She can't break his heart. Ducking behind Kahn, she walks off as her father watches.

EXT. STABLE

Kahn drinks from a trough. Mulan stands beside him, looking at her reflection in the water.

REFLECTION SONG

MULAN

LOOK AT ME
I WILL NEVER PASS FOR A PERFECT BRIDE
OR A PERFECT DAUGHTER
CAN IT BE
I'M NOT MEANT TO PLAY THIS PART
NOW I SEE
THAT IF I WERE TRULY
TO BE MYSELF
I WOULD BREAK MY FAM'LY'S HEART

Throughout, Mulan sees her image in the garden pond, in the family temple...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN

WHO IS THAT GIRL I SEE
STARING STRAIGHT
BACK AT ME
WHY IS MY REFLECTION SOMEONE
I DON'T KNOW
SOMEHOW I CANNOT HIDE
WHO I AM
THOUGH I'VE TRIED
WHEN WILL MY REFLECTION SHOW
WHO I AM INSIDE
WHEN WILL MY REFLECTION SHOW
WHO I AM INSIDE

EXT. FA FAMILY GARDEN

Mulan sits quietly under a blossoming tree, trying to fight back tears.

FA ZHOU O.S.
(clears his throat)

*
*

Mulan looks up, then hangs her head.

Fa Zhou sits beside her, taking in the beauty of the trees.

FA ZHOU
My my... what beautiful blossoms we have
this year. But look...

He points to an unopened blossom.

FA ZHOU
This one's late. But I'll bet that when
it blooms...

He takes Mulan's haircomb from her hands and gently puts it in her hair.

FA ZHOU
...It will be the most beautiful of all.

Mulan can't help but smile.

SFX: LARGE DRUMS IN THE DISTANCE

Fa Zhou rises.

MULAN
(concerned)
What is it?

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE - MOMENTS LATER (SEQUENCE 4)

A VILLAGER BANGS a huge drum as SOLDIERS ON HORSES gallop into town.

INSIDE THE FA GATE

Fa Zhou and Fa Li peek into the street. Mulan tries to see.

FA LI
Mulan, stay inside.

Grandmother Fa motions towards the wall, "you'll get a better view from there."

Mulan quickly climbs it to see VILLAGERS gathered around the soldiers.

CHI FU
Citizens! I bring a proclamation from
the Imperial City! The Huns have invaded
China!

Mulan reacts, shocked. The crowd gasps in horror as panic ensues.

CROWD
What? The Huns!

Chi Fu reads the Emperor's decree.

CHI FU
By order of the Emperor, one man from
every family must serve in the Imperial
Army.
(calling)
The Hsiao family!

A middle-aged man steps forward to take his notice from a SOLDIER.

CHI FU O.S.
The Yi family!

An OLD MAN steps forward, accompanied by his tall, healthy SON.

SON
I will serve the Emperor in my father's
place.

The son respectfully takes the conscription notice as Chi Fu reads the next name.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHI FU
The Fa family!

MULAN
(softly)
No!

The crowd murmurs. Fa Zhou hands his cane to his wife.
Gathering his strength, he steadily walks forward.

FA ZHOU
I am ready to serve the Emperor.

As he prepares to take the notice from the soldier...

Mulan RUNS OUT into the street.

MULAN
Father, you can't go!

FA ZHOU
Mulan...

MULAN
(addressing Chi Fu directly)
Please, Sir, my father has already fought
bravely for the Emperor.

Chi Fu points at her.

CHI FU
Silence!
(to Fa Zhou)
You would do well to teach your daughter
to hold her tongue in a man's presence.

Fa Zhou looks ashamed.

FA ZHOU
Mulan, you dishonor me.

Mulan lowers her head. Grandmother Fa starts to lead Mulan
away.

CHI FU
(to Fa Zhou)
Report tomorrow to the Wu Zhong camp.

FA ZHOU
Yes, sir.

Fa Zhou walks proudly past Fa Li, refusing to take his cane.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHI FU O.S.
(calling more names)
The Chu family! The Wen family! The
Chan family!

As Mulan, Fa Li and Grandma Fa quietly follow him...

CUT TO:

INT. FA ZHOU'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT DAY (SEQUENCE 5)

CLOSE ON a cabinet opening, revealing Fa Zhou's magnificent armor and sword. Mulan stands in the hallway, holding a candle. She watches as

Fa Zhou picks up his sword and gracefully manuevers it through a series of moves. He handles it well until PAIN SHOOTS through his leg.

FA ZHOU

Aagh!

CLANG! The sword drops to the ground. Grabbing his leg, Fa Zhou slowly stands against the wall, clutching his conscription notice.

IN THE HALLWAY

Mulan presses against the wall, anguished. She's just seen the fate of her father. She hurries away.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - LATER THAT NIGHT

Mulan, Fa Zhou, Fa Li and Grandma silently eat, ignoring the fact that this could be their last night together.

Finally, Mulan is unable to contain herself.

MULAN

Why isn't anyone saying anything?

FA LI

Mulan...

MULAN

(standing; to Fa Zhou)
You shouldn't have to go. There are plenty of young men to fight for China!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FA ZHOU

It is an honor to protect my country, and
my family.

MULAN

So you'll die for honor?

FA ZHOU

(voice rising)
I will die doing what's right!

MULAN

But if you--

FA ZHOU

I know my place!
(then)
It is time you learned yours.

Mulan, hurt, runs out of the room. A moment before Fa Zhou slowly sits, and resumes eating.

OUT ON THE PORCH

Mulan leans against the post.

MULAN

(BREAKING DOWN)

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GARDEN - LATER THAT NIGHT - (SEQUENCE 6)

RAIN beats down on the Great Stone Dragon, a magnificent statue. Mulan, lost in thought, sits at the base, staring at her reflection in a puddle. A LIGHTNING FLASH streaks across the sky; A CLAP OF THUNDER roars.

Mulan is shaken from her reverie. She looks across the garden at her parents' bedroom window.

MULAN'S POV

Her parents silhouetted in the window. Fa Zhou tries to console Fa Li, only she tears away from him. A beat before Fa Zhou blows out a candle, sending the room into darkness.

MULAN

takes this in as the rain spills down her face. She can't just sit by... She makes her decision.

INT. FA FAMILY TEMPLE

Mulan enters; she lights a stick of incense and places it in a little dragon incense holder. The cricket watches as she says a prayer to her ancestors, then hurries out. He follows her.

INT. FA ZHOU'S BEDROOM

Hard rain, lightning, thunder. Mulan approaches her sleeping parents and replaces the conscription notice on her father's nightstand with her hair comb. She looks at him tenderly, then leaves.

INT. FRONT ROOM

Mulan removes her father's sword from its sheath and stretches out her long hair; she pauses for a moment--

then SLASH! She CUTS her hair; it spills to the floor. She ties it up, then goes to her father's closet, staring in awe at his armor. She puts it on and holds his sword.

INT. STABLES

A shadow falls over Kahn. He looks up and WHINNIES in alarm.

KAHN'S POV

A warrior stands in the shadows. The figure moves forward, revealing Mulan dressed in her father's armor. Kahn stamps the ground. Mulan comforts him.

EXT. COURTYARD GATE

The Cricket watches as Mulan quietly walks Kahn out. She turns and takes one last look at her house. Seconds later,

Mulan and Kahn BURST through the FRONT GATE.

Lightning and thunder. The wind SLAMS the gate shut behind them. As they GALLOP into the night...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. FA FAMILY TEMPLE

CLOSE ON the frightening face of an ancestral guardian statue.

INT. GRANDMOTHER FA'S BEDROOM

Grandmother Fa bolts up in her bed, her eyes wide with terror. Another peal of THUNDER.

INT. FA ZHOU'S BEDROOM

Grandmother Fa bursts into the room.

GRANDMOTHER FA
Mulan is gone!

Fa Zhou sits up.

FA ZHOU
What?

He sees her haircomb on his nightstand, and slowly picks it up.

FA ZHOU
It can't be...

He runs to his closet-- his armor is gone.

LIGHTNING, THUNDER.

EXT. COURTYARD

HARD RAIN. Fa Zhou runs into the courtyard still clutching the hair comb.

FA ZHOU
(painful wailing)
MULAN!

He stumbles and falls, then sees something.

FA ZHOU
No...

The front gate is BANGING open and shut. Fa Li rushes to her husband's side.

FA LI
You must go after her -- she could be killed!

FA ZHOU
(solemnly)
If I reveal her, she will be.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A CLAP OF THUNDER. Grandmother Fa looks imploringly towards the temple.

GRANDMOTHER FA
(pleading)
Ancestors, hear our prayer. Watch over
Mulan.

*
*
*

A FLASH OF LIGHTENING FILLS THE SKY.

CUT TO:

INT. TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS - (SEQUENCE 7)

The last wisps of incense burn out as the WIND GUSTS.

The Chinese characters on a great stone bei GLOW hot red. Moments later, A GHOST materializes on top of the bei. This is THE GHOST OF THE FIRST ANCESTOR.

He peers at the little dragon incense burner and speaks with a deep, imposing voice that echoes through the temple.

FIRST ANCESTOR
Mushu... awaken!

Close on the dragon incense burner - trembling as his metal body transforms into a live dragon, and CRASHES to the ground. This is Mushu, a mini-sized dragon with a deep drive to prove he's as good as any guardian. What he lacks in magical powers, he makes up in charm. He rises out of the incense smoke.

MUSHU
(powerfully)
I live!
(then)
So tell me what mortal needs my
protection, Great Ancestor. You just say
the word and I'm there!

FIRST ANCESTOR
Mushu...

MUSHU
And lemme say something -- anybody who's
foolish enough to threaten our family,
vengeance will be mine!!!

He begins growling and stalking the room, monster-like.

FIRST ANCESTOR
Mushu!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mushu stops cold. He looks up to see the First Ancestor pointing to a row of stone animals atop pedestals.

FIRST ANCESTOR

(to Mushu)

These are the family guardians.

(like a teacher)

They...?

MUSHU

(obviously)

... protect the family.

FIRST ANCESTOR

And you, oh demoted one?

MUSHU

(put in his place)

I... ring the gong.

FIRST ANCESTOR

That's right.

(parent to child)

Now wake up the ancestors.

MUSHU

(sighing)

One family reunion coming right up.

He leaps in front of the crowd of ancestral tablets.

MUSHU

(banging his gong)

Okay, people, people! Look alive! Let's go, c'mon, get up! Let's move it! Rise and shine! You're all way past the beauty sleep thing! Trust me!

The room fills with THE GHOSTS OF THE FA ANCESTORS rising from the tablets lining both sides of the temple.

ANCESTOR 2 (FEMALE)

I knew it! I knew it! That Mulan was a troublemaker from the start.

ANCESTOR 3 (MALE)

Don't look at me - she gets it from your side of the family.

ANCESTOR 5 (FEMALE)

She's just trying to help her father.

Ancestor 6 tallies on an abacus.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANCESTOR 6 (MALE)

But if she's discovered...

(clicking the beads)

Fa Zhou will be forever shamed, dishonor
will come to the family, traditional
values will disintegrate...

Ancestors 7 and 8 stand in an "American Gothic" pose.

ANCESTOR 7 (MALE)

Not to mention they'll lose the farm!

Mushu sits back, reading the paper.

ANCESTOR 2 (FEMALE)

My children never caused my trouble,
they all became acupuncturists.

ANCESTOR 3 (MALE)

Well, we can't all be acupuncturists.

ANCESTOR 8 (FEMALE)

No - Your great granddaughter had to be a
cross-dresser!!

An imposing male ancestor points to the row of stone animals.

ANCESTOR 9 (MALE)

Let a guardian bring her back!

An excited murmur sweeps through the room. Ancestor 3 grabs
Mushu and his gong and points to a stone animal.

ANCESTOR 3 (MALE)

Yes! Awaken the most cunning...

ANCESTOR 6 (MALE)

(grabbing Mushu)

No! The swiftest...

ANCESTOR 10 (FEMALE)

(grabbing Mushu)

No, send the wisest!

FIRST ANCESTOR

Silence!

The ancestors grow still.

FIRST ANCESTOR

We must send the most powerful of all!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU O.S.

(laughing)

Okay, okay, I get the drift.

Mushu stands proudly on his pedestal.

MUSHU

I'll go!

The ancestors burst into derisive laughter.

MUSHU

You all don't think I can do it? Watch this here.

He blows a tiny little flame from his mouth.

MUSHU

Oww! Jump back -- I'm pretty hot, huh?

FIRST ANCESTOR

(admonishing)

You had your chance to protect the Fa family.

ANCESTOR 8 (FEMALE)

Your misguidance led Fa Deng to disaster.

FA DENG, an ancestor holding his head in his hands, glares at Mushu.

FA DENG (MALE)

Yeah, thanks a lot.

MUSHU

(staring blankly)

And your point is...

The First Ancestor appears beside Mushu, floating in mid-air.

FIRST ANCESTOR

The point is we will be sending a real dragon to retrieve Mulan.

MUSHU

What-- what-- who you calling-- I'm a real dragon!

FIRST ANCESTOR

You are not worthy of this spot...

(leaning in; sneering)

... and you never will be.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FIRST ANCESTOR (cont'd)
(snarls)
Now awaken the Great Stone Dragon!

He throws Mushu out the door. A beat before Mushu pokes his head back in.

MUSHU
(smiling)
So, you'll get back to me on the job thing.

A GONG FLIES through the air, hitting Mushu in the face. The First Ancestor rubs his temple and sighs.

EXT. COURTYARD

Mushu starts down to the Great Stone Dragon.

MUSHU
(frustrated)
Just one chance; is that too much to ask?
I mean, it's not like it'd kill you!

Mushu walks up to the enormous Stone Dragon perched on a crumbling pedestal and starts BANGING his gong.

MUSHU
Yo, Rocky! Wake up! You've got to go fetch Mulan!
(boy to dog)
C'mon, boy! Go get her! Go on!

Mushu throws his mallet over his shoulder and starts to climb the Dragon.

MUSHU
(GROWLING)

No response. Mushu hits the Dragon's ear with his gong.

MUSHU
Hello... hellooo!!!
(off huge whack)
Hello!!!

The Dragon's ear comes loose in his hand.

MUSHU
Uh-oh.

He tries to stick the ear back on, but it's hopeless. The Great Stone Dragon CRUMBLES, taking Mushu down with it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As the dust clears, Mushu COUGHS and peers at the Great Stone Dragon's face, the only piece intact.

MUSHU

Uh, Stony... Stony?

(panicking)

Oh man, they're gonna kill me.

FIRST ANCESTOR O.S.

Great Stone Dragon!

Mushu freezes, then sees

The First Ancestor, at the window of the family temple.

FIRST ANCESTOR

Have you awakened?

A beat before the head of the Great Stone Dragon pops up from the bushes. Mushu struggles to hold it steady. Then, he lowers his voice and assumes a persona, a la the Great and Powerful Oz. He waggles the stone face as he speaks.

MUSHU

(god-like)

I, ah, I ah, yes I just woke up! I am the Great Stone Dragon. Good morning! I will go forth and fetch Mulan! ...Did I mention that I was the Great Stone Dragon?

FIRST ANCESTOR

Go! The fate of the Fa family rests in your claws!

MUSHU

(as the Great Stone Dragon)

Don't even worry about it! I will not lose face!

He loses his grasp on the face. It rolls down the hill, Mushu still holding on.

MUSHU

(falling)

Ahhh oww, oh ohh owwww...

SMASH! He lands beside the Great Stone Dragon's pedestal; the head on top of him.

MUSHU

(in pain)

Owww, my elbow. Ohh...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He kicks off the head and sits up dejectedly.

MUSHU

That's just great-- now what?! I'm
doomed! And all 'cause Miss Man decided
to take her little drag show on the road!

Cri-Kee, the cricket, tugs on Mushu, CHIRPING, "Why don't you
go get her?" Mushu looks down at him. *

MUSHU

Whaddya mean, go get her? Are you crazy?
The Ancestors don't want me near her.
(then, picking up a piece of
Stony)
After this mess, I'd have to bring her
home with a medal to get back in there. *

Mushu stares at the temple, thinks a beat, then smiles. *

MUSHU (CONT'D)

That's it! I'll make Mulan a hero and
they'll have to give me my pedestal back!
Ooh, I am brilliant! *

The CRICKET NODS and starts to take off as Mushu follows. *

MUSHU (cont'd)

And what makes you think you're comin'?! *

Mushu runs past him. Cri-Kee panics, watching Mushu exit
towards the gate. Cri-Kee CHIRPS, "*I'm Lucky.*" Mushu keeps
running. *

MUSHU

You're lucky? Ha! Do I look like a
sucker to you? *

The cricket CHIRPS some more as he catches up to Mushu. *

MUSHU (CONT'D)

What do you mean a loser?! How about I
pop one of your antennae off and throw
it across the yard? Then who's a loser?
Me or you? *

And as they take off down the road... *

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EXT. HUN CAMP - NIGHT (SEQUENCE 8.6)

The still night sky - a FALCON cuts across. Then, a shadowy figure gallops by on a horse... Shan-Yu.

SFX: THUNDERING HOOVES

as a swarm of Huns closely follow. They race through the night, until

CLOSE ON SHAN-YU. Sensing something, he quickly motions his army to be still. Reins pull, horses instantly quiet. He signals, sending his ELITE SQUAD of five into the brush.

Seconds later, TWO CHINESE SOLDIERS are thrown at Shan-Yu's feet.

ELITE HUN
Imperial scouts.

Shan-Yu jumps off his horse, carrying a torch. SLOWLY PAN up to reveal his huge, threatening form for the first time. The men gasp. He drops the torch in front of them and approaches, the falcon alighting on his arm.

SHAN-YU
Nice work, gentlemen... you found the hun
army.

The Huns CHUCKLE. Shan-Yu moves in closer, and starts to fix SCOUT ONE'S scarf.

SHAN-YU
Wouldn't your superiors be proud.

IMPERIAL SCOUT 2
(scared)
The Emperor will stop you.

SHAN-YU
(calmly)
Stop me? He invited me.

He grabs Scout 2, lifting him high into the air.

SHAN-YU
(voice rising)
By building his wall, he challenged my
strength. Well, I'm here to play his
game.
(quietly; in his face)
Who are you betting on?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Scout sweats. Shan-Yu throws him to the ground.

SHAN-YU
Go! Tell your Emperor to send his
strongest armies!

Shan-Yu watches them run off.

SHAN-YU
I'm ready.

He thinks for a moment, then turns to the ARCHER HUN.

SHAN-YU
How many men does it take to deliver a
message?

The Archer lines up an arrow on his bow.

ARCHER
One.

As he pulls the arrow back...

CUT TO:

EXT. HILLTOP - DAY - (SEQUENCE 7.5)

CLOSE-UP on Mulan's determined face as she holds her sword
before her.

MULAN
Alright, you slimey Hun, prepare to meet
your ancestors!
(then)
Eeeyaah!

She thrusts her sword at Kahn-- he easily lifts a leg and
STOMPS on it. Mulan flips over, falling flat on her back.
Kahn WHINNIES, shaking his head.

MULAN
Maybe if I just lie here, the Huns'll
trip over me.

She gets up and looks forlornly at the army camp.

MULAN
It's going to take a miracle to get me
into the army.

Suddenly, from the forest comes Mushu's version of a Southern
Baptist minister.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU O.S.

(powerful)

Did I hear someone ask for a "miracle!?!"

Mulan looks up, shocked, to see a huge, horrific shadow on the rocks. KAHN WHINNIES.

MUSHU

Lemme hear you say, "Owww!"

MULAN

(frightened)

Ahhh!

MUSHU

(as preacher)

That's close enough!

MULAN

(GASPS)

A ghost!

She quickly picks up her sword, holding it defensively as she watches Mushu's giant shadow.

MUSHU

Get ready, Mulan - your serpentine salvation is at hand! For I have been sent by your ancestors to lead you...

Mushu LAUGHS, then blows fire.

MUSHU (cont'd)

...through the hood of man and onto the path of glory! So heed my words, 'cause if the Army finds out you're a girl, the penalty is death!

(to cricket)

C'mon, if you're gonna stay, you're gonna work.

The cricket furiously fans the flames.

MULAN

(in awe)

Who are you?

MUSHU

Who am I? Who am I? I am the guardian of lost souls! I'm the powerful, the pleasurable, the indestructible -- Mushu!

Mushu makes his grand entrance from the bushes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU

Ha, I'm pretty hot, huh?

WHAM! Kahn stomps on him... and keeps stomping. He stops, eventually.

MUSHU

(a mess; to Mulan)

What, you've never seen a guardian before?

MULAN

(polite; confused)

You're-- I just... ahh, my ancestors sent a little lizard to help me?

Mushu takes offense.

MUSHU

Hey, dragon, dragon-- not lizard. I don't do that tongue thing.

Mushu HISSES in a poor attempt to be a lizard.

MULAN

But... you're... uh...

MUSHU

(cutting her off)

Intimidating? Suave and dashing?

MULAN

Tiny?

MUSHU

Of course! I'm travel size for your convenience! If I were my real size...

(motioning to Khan)

Your cow here would die of fright. And we need him to carry us!

Khan tries to bite Mushu's hand, but Mushu jerks it away in time.

MUSHU (CONT'D)

Down, Bessie.

(then)

Yes, my powers are beyond your mortal imagination! For instance, my eyes can see straight through your armor.

He starts to look-- Mulan instinctively slaps his face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU (cont'd)

Oww!

(then; indignant)

That's it! Dishonor, dishonor on your
whole family!

(to Cri-Kee)

Make note of this.

Cri-Kee pulls out a leaf and a twig and begins to take notes.

MUSHU (cont'd)

(placing a curse)

Dishonor on you, dishonor on the bug,
dishonor on your cow...

Mulan, worried, grabs Mushu.

MULAN

Stop-- I'm sorry, I'm sorry!

(then; setting him down)

I'm just... nervous. I've never done
this before. And I could certainly use
your help.

MUSHU (CONT'D)

Then you're gonna have to trust me. And
keep your hands to yourself. We clear on
that?

Mulan nods.

MUSHU (CONT'D)

Good, then let's move it out!

(to Cri-Kee)

Bug boy, get the bags!

(to Khan)

Bessie, giddyap!

CROSS DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ARMY ENCAMPMENT - DAY - (SEQUENCE 8)

Mulan self-consciously gets off her horse as a group of
recruits give her blank stares. She watches them with
apprehension, then removes her helmet.

Mushu and the cricket peer at her from inside.

MUSHU

Okay, this is it. Time to show 'em your
"man walk." Shoulders back, chest high,
feet apart, head up... and strut!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mulan starts awkwardly walking through camp, observing the troops itching, scratching and picking various body parts.

MUSHU

(in awe)

Beautiful, isn't it?

MULAN

They're disgusting.

MUSHU

No, they're men. And you're gonna have to act just like them, so pay attention.

Mulan and Mushu approach a SOLDIER, displaying a dragon tattooed on his chest to YAO, a short kid-like man always spoiling for a fight. His friends LING, a tall, thin joker and CHIEN PO, a large taciturn man, look on.

SOLDIER

(to Yao and Ling)

Look! This tattoo will protect me from harm.

YAO

Hmmm...

WHAM! He punches him in the chest.

LING

(laughing)

Hope you can get your money back.

Mulan reacts.

MULAN

(eyes wide)

I don't think I can do this.

Yao notices Mulan.

YAO

What're you looking at?

He spits in front of her.

MUSHU

Ooh, nice distance. Now slap his behind! It means he did good.

Mulan tentatively slaps Yao's behind. Yao freezes, unable to believe what just happened. Then... he GRABS her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

YAO

I'm gonna hit you so hard, it'll make
your ancestors dizzy!

CHIEN PO gently picks up Yao.

CHIEN PO

Yao... relax and chant with me.

YAO

(angry)

Grrrrr...

CHIEN PO

(calmly)

Nan-wu-ah-me-toe-fu-da...

YAO

(angrily)

Nan-wu-ah-me-toe-fu-daaa...

CHIEN PO

Feel better?

YAO

(not really)

Yeah.

Chien Po sets Yao down. Yao starts to walk off.

YAO

(to Mulan; over his shoulder)

Eh, you ain't worth my time, chicken boy.

Suddenly, Mushu pops out of Mulan's collar.

MUSHU

(yelling)

Chicken Boy?!? Say that to my face, ya
limp noodle!

Yao grabs Mulan.

YAO

Grrrrrr!

He throws a punch; she ducks. Yao HITS Ling, dropping him to
the ground.

YAO

(sweetly)

Oh, sorry, Ling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Yao turns around and sees Mulan sneaking away.

YAO

Hey!

He grabs for her foot, but Ling tackles him into Chien Po.

LING

(fighting; to Yao)

You're dead...

Mid-punch, Ling looks up to see Mulan running away.

LING

Oh, there he goes!

Yao, Chien Po and Ling chase after Mulan. She runs into a tent; they follow-- but come out without her.

Moments later, Mulan sneaks out of the tent to see

Yao, then Ling stop short before a long line of men waiting for food. Chien Po runs up, but can't brake. Boom-- he starts a domino effect, sending the last man into a giant cauldron. As rice flies everywhere, the men turn and stare at Mulan, fuming.

Chi Fu observes the mess, makes note, then enters...

INT. ARMY TENT (SEQUENCE 8 INSERT)

The General goes over a map of China while SHANG, a young officer, listens intently.

GENERAL

(pointing)

The Huns have struck here, here, and here.

(then)

I will take the main troops up towards the Tung-Shao pass, and stop Shan-Yu before he destroys this village.

CHI FU

Excellent strategy, Sir.

(then)

I do love surprises.

(LAUGHS)

GENERAL

(to Shang)

You will stay and train the new recruits.

(motioning to Chi Fu)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GENERAL (cont'd)

When Chi Fu believes you are ready, you
will join us... Captain.

He hands Shang a beautiful sword. Shang takes this in. He
wasn't expecting this.

SHANG

(taking sword; surprised)
Captain?

Chi Fu mouths the word, "Captain?"

CHI FU

This is an enormous responsibility,
General. Perhaps a soldier with more
experience--

GENERAL

(reciting)
Number One in his class, extensive
knowledge of training techniques, an
impressive military lineage -- I believe
Li Shang will do an excellent job.

SHANG

(excited)
Oh, I will! And I won't let you down;
this is, I mean--
(staring straight ahead)
Yes, Sir.

GENERAL

Very good, then.

He gathers his helmet.

GENERAL

(to Shang)
We'll toast China's victory at the
Imperial City.

He turns to Chi Fu.

GENERAL

I'll expect a full report in three weeks.

The General exits.

CHI FU

(to Shang; snide)
And I won't leave anything out.

He shoots an "I'll be watching you" look to Shang before
leaving.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A moment before Shang reacts, thrilled with his new position.

SHANG
(impressively)
"Captain Li Shang."
(then; regally)
"Leader of China's finest troops"-- no,
"the greatest troops, of all time."

He likes the way that sounds, and proudly walks out of the tent.

EXT. ARMY ENCAMPMENT

Shang stands beside

THE GENERAL AND CHI FU

who are observing a massive fight. Head slamming, teeth flying. Shang, flustered, watches as a soldier keels over in front of them.

CHI FU
Most impressive.

The General steps over the fallen soldier and climbs onto his horse.

GENERAL
Good luck, Captain.

Shang watches as he rides off with his battalion of men.

SHANG
(under his breath)
Good luck, father.

Chi Fu turns to Shang and WHIPS out his brush and pad.

CHI FU
(smiling)
Day One...

Shang gathers himself and turns to his men.

SHANG
(yelling)
Soldiers!

The men immediately pull back, leaving Mulan alone on the ground. They all point at her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SOLDIERS

He started it!

Shang approaches Mulan.

SHANG

(to Mulan)

I don't need anyone causing trouble in my camp.

MULAN

(nervously)

Sorry...

(recovering; manly)

I mean sorry you had to see that, but you know how it is when you get those manly urges, and ya just gotta kill something, (cleaning her ears)

Umph... fix things... cook outdoors...

Shang grabs Mulan by the collar.

SHANG

What's your name?

MULAN

(nervously)

Uh... I, uhh...

Chi Fu appears beside Shang.

CHI FU

Your commanding officer just asked you a question!

Mulan is totally flumoxed.

MULAN

(sweating)

I've got a name, heh... and it's a boy's name, too.

Mushu pops out behind her head and whispers in her ear.

MUSHU

(prompts her)

Ling! How 'bout Ling?

MULAN

(points to Ling)

His name is Ling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANG

I didn't ask for his name. I asked for yours.

MUSHU

(thinking)

Try... uhh... Chu!

MULAN

(blurts out)

Ah-Chu!

SHANG

Ah-Chu?

MUSHU

Gesundheit!

(laughing)

I kill myself.

MULAN

Mushu!

SHANG

Mushu?

MULAN

No!

SHANG

Then what is it?

MUSHU

Ping. Ping was my best friend growing up.

MULAN

(to Shang)

It's Ping.

SHANG

Ping?

MUSHU

'Course Ping did steal my--

(MUFFLED)

...girlfriend while I was molting.

Mulan keeps her hand over Mushu's mouth.

MULAN

(certain)

Yes. My name is Ping.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shang stares intently at Mulan as he holds out his hand.

SHANG

Let me see your conscription notice.

She nervously hands it to him.

CHI FU

(reading; shocked)

"Fa Zhou"... the Fa Zhou?

SHANG

I didn't know Fa Zhou had a son.

MULAN

(manly)

He doesn't talk about me much.

(hocking a loogie)

Hwaaaark...

(spitting)

Ptooeey...

Only she can't get the saliva dangler to fall.

CHI FU

(whispering to Shang)

I can see why-- the boy's an absolute lunatic.

Shang assumes his officious manner and turns to the troops.

SHANG

Thanks to your new friend Ping, you'll spend tonight picking up every single grain of rice. And tomorrow, the real work begins!

Yao, Ling and Chien Po GLARE and GROWL at Mulan.

MUSHU

You know, we have to work on your people skills.

CUT TO:

EXT. ARMY CAMP - MORNING (SEQUENCE 8.7)

A lone little tent stands outside the main group of tents.

INT. MULAN'S TENT

MUSHU picks up the cricket, winding his wings like an alarm clock. He sets the cricket down beside Mulan, who's asleep.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RRRINGGG!!!!

MULAN'S POV -

Mushu smiles proudly in her face.

MUSHU
(yelling)
Alright, rise and shine, sleeping beauty!

Mulan slowly sits up as Mushu rips away her blanket and rushes around the tent.

MUSHU
C'mon, hup, hup, hup! Get your clothes on, get ready-- got breakfast for you...

Mulan wipes her eyes.

MUSHU
(holding out a bowl)
Look-- you get porridge...

ON THE PORRIDGE - two eggs and a piece of pork make a smiley face.

MUSHU
... and it's happy to see you!
(noticing cricket in porridge)
Hey-- get outta there.
(flicking him away)
You're gonna make people sick!

MULAN
(dressing)
Am I late?

Mushu stuffs food into her mouth.

MUSHU
No time to talk. Now remember, it's your first day of training, so listen to your teacher, and no fighting -- play nice with the other kids... unless, of course, one of the other kids want to fight, then you have to kick the other kid's butt.

MULAN
(eating)
But I don't want to kick the other kids' butts.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU

Don't talk with your mouth full. Now
let's see your war face...

Mulan attempts a pathetic fierce look. Mushu raises a brow.

MUSHU

Oooh, I think my bunny slippers just ran
for cover...

(grabbing her collar)
C'mon, scare me, girl!

Mulan GROWLS at him, annoyed. He smiles, satisfied.

MUSHU

That's my tough looking warrior! That's
what I'm talkin' about! Now get out
there and make me proud!

KAHN pokes his head into the tent and WHINNIES.

MUSHU

Whaddya mean the troops just left?

MULAN

They what?

OUTSIDE THE TENT

Mulan hurries off as Mushu starts after her.

MUSHU

Wait! You forgot your sword!

Only she's gone. He sighs.

MUSHU

(wiping a fake tear; to the
cricket)
My little baby... off to destroy people.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRAINING GROUNDS - MOMENTS LATER (SEQUENCE 8.8)

The soldiers are goofing off. Chi Fu tries to control them.

CHI FU

Order, people, order!

SOLDIER

I'd like a pan-fried noodle!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHIEN PO

Ooh-- sweet and pungent shrimp!

SOLDIER 2

Moo goo gai pan!

CHI FU

(furious)

That's not funny!

Ling sees Mulan heading towards them.

LING

(smirking; to men)

Looks like Rice Boy slept in this morning.

She tries to join them, only they push her down the line. *

Mulan comes to a stop beside Ling and Yao.

LING

(to Mulan; fake concern)

Ohh, your shoes are on the wrong feet.
You must be really tired.

YAO

How 'bout a little...
(giving her a wedgie)
... pick me up?

Mulan gasps as the men laugh at her underwear necklace.

SHANG O.S.

Soldiers!

The men stand at attention as Shang enters.

SHANG

You will assemble swiftly and silently
every morning.

He takes off his shirt-- he's hot. Mulan sneaks a peek.

SHANG

Anyone who acts otherwise, will answer to
me.

YAO

(whispering to Ling)
Ooh, tough guy.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANG

Yao.

Shang pulls out an arrow and draws his bow. The row of men step back, leaving Yao front and vulnerable. Shang FIRES it high into a pole behind him.

SHANG

Thank you for volunteering.
(gesturing)
Retrieve the arrow.

Yao bows, then approaches the pole.

YAO

(mumbling)
Oh, I'll get that arrow, Pretty Boy--
and I'll do it with my shirt on.

Shang holds up his hand.

SHANG

One moment. You seem to be missing something.

Shang opens a box and takes out an elaborately carved disc of stone. He holds up Yao's wrist and ties the disc to it with a colorful silk ribbon.

SHANG

(re: the disc)
This -- represents discipline.
(tying on another disc)
And this, represents strength.

Yao falls to the ground under the weight of the stones.

SHANG

You need both to reach the arrow.

Yao looks at the top of the pole, then aggressively begins his climb. Grunting, sweating-- he starts to make it up, but the weights are too much. He CRASHES to the ground. Chien Po, Ling and Mulan attempt the same and fail. Mulan slowly walks past Shang.

SHANG

We've got a long way to go.

Shang tosses long, wooden poles to the men as he begins TRAINING. Throughout, the men try to sabotage Mulan.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

"I'LL MAKE A MAN OUT OF YOU" SONG - SEQUENCE 9.0

Shang:

LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS -- TO DEFEAT THE HUNS
DID THEY SEND ME DAUGHTERS WHEN I ASKED FOR SONS
YOU'RE THE SADDEST BUNCH I'VE EVER MET
BUT YOU CAN BET BEFORE WE'RE THROUGH
MISTER I'LL MAKE A MAN OUT OF YOU

TRANQUIL AS A FOREST
BUT ON FIRE WITHIN
ONCE YOU FIND YOUR CENTER
YOU ARE SURE TO WIN
YOU'RE A SPINELESS, PALE, PATHETIC LOT
AND YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CLUE
SOMEHOW I'LL MAKE A MAN OUT OF YOU

A Soldier - I'M NEVER GONNA CATCH MY BREATH
Another Soldier- SAY GOODBYE TO THOSE WHO KNEW ME
Ling - BOY, WAS I A FOOL IN SCHOOL FOR CUTTING GYM
Mushu - THIS GUY'S GOT 'EM SCARED TO DEATH
Mulan - HOPE HE DOESN'T SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME
Ling - NOW I REALLY WISH THAT I KNEW HOW TO SWIM

(BE A MAN)
WE MUST BE SWIFT AS THE COURSING RIVER
(BE A MAN)
WITH ALL THE FORCE OF A GREAT TYPHOON
(BE A MAN)
WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF A RAGING FIRE
MYSTERIOUS AS THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

Mulan collapses, exhausted. Shang hands her Kahn's reins through the following:

Shang:

TIME IS RACING TOWARD US TILL THE HUNS ARRIVE
HEED MY EVERY ORDER AND YOU MIGHT SURVIVE
YOU'RE UNSUITED FOR THE RAGE OF WAR
SO PACK UP GO HOME YOU'RE THROUGH
HOW COULD I MAKE A MAN OUT OF YOU

Mulan turns to leave when she spies the arrow atop the pole. Determined, she starts to climb the pole. She falls, then gets an idea. Tying the stone discs together, she uses them to pull herself up the pole. The men come to watch, admire, and be motivated by her.

(BE A MAN)
WE MUST BE SWIFT AS THE COURSING RIVER
(BE A MAN)
WITH ALL THE FORCE OF A GREAT TYPHOON
(BE A MAN)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF A RAGING FIRE
MYSTERIOUS AS THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON
(BE A MAN)
WE MUST BE SWIFT AS THE COURSING RIVER
(BE A MAN)
WITH ALL THE FORCE OF A GREAT TYPHOON
(BE A MAN)
WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF A RAGING FIRE
MYSTERIOUS AS THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

The soldiers, in perfect unison, complete elegant, skilled martial arts kicks and leaps into the air.

Mushu and the cricket relax on lounge chairs, satisfied.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT (SEQUENCE 7.3)

SHADOWS AND LIGHT illuminate Shan-Yu as he swiftly climbs a tree. Reaching the apex, he HACKS off the top and waits... searching the sky.

Finally, he sees it -- the FALCON swoops past him, dropping something into his hand.

He opens it, revealing a LITTLE DOLL. A beat before the falcon alights on his shoulder.

Shan-Yu studies the doll, then brings it in close... SNIFFING it. His eyes go wide, and he quickly JUMPS down from tree to tree -- landing in front of his MEN.

They see the doll in his hand.

BIG ELITE HUN
(LAUGHS)

The other elite Huns stare him silent. Shan-Yu TOSSES the doll to him.

SHAN-YU
Look closer... what do you see?

The Big Hun lifts the doll's arm.

BIG ELITE HUN
Black pine...
(realizing)
...from the high mountains!

Shan-Yu reacts, "*that's right.*" The Big Hun tosses the doll to TWIN HUNS. One of them lifts a piece of hair from the doll.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TWIN HUN
White horsehair...
(concerned)
...Imperial stallions!

He tosses the doll to another Hun.

PREZ HUN
(sniffing)
Sulphur... from cannons.

Shan-Yu takes the doll back.

SHAN-YU
This doll came from a village in a high
mountain pass... where the Imperial army
is waiting for us.

ARCHER
We can avoid them easily.

Shan-Yu mounts his horse.

SHAN-YU
No, the quickest way to the Emperor is
through the Tung-Shao pass.

He looks at the doll.

SHAN-YU
Besides, the little girl will be missing
her doll... we should return it to her.

And off their smiles...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LAKE - NIGHT - (SEQUENCE 8.3)PAN DOWN from a FULL MOON to a small, pristine lake nestled
in the midst of towering rocks and sweeping trees.

Mushu paces nervously in front of a large bush near the lake.

MUSHU
Oh no. This is not a good idea. What if
somebody sees you?

MULAN
Just because I look like a man doesn't
mean I have to smell like one!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN

surfaces from the water, shoulder-high.

MULAN
(refreshed)
Ahhh...

Mushu, his ears acting as blindfolds, holds out her clothes.

MUSHU
Alright, alright-- that's enough! Now
come on, get out before you get all pruny
and stuff.

MULAN
(relaxed)
Mushu, if you're so worried, go stand
watch.

Mushu walks back to the cricket, his eyes still covered.

MUSHU
(imitating Mulan)
Yeah yeah, "stand watch Mushu while I
blow our secret with my stupid girly
habits." Pffft. Hygiene.

Suddenly, from the hill comes the sound of running feet. The
cricket starts CHIRPING.

LING O.S.
Whaaa!!!

YAO O.S.
Me first! Me first! Me first!

Mushu opens his eyes to see the Gang of Three running towards
the lake, shedding their clothes.

MUSHU
(panicked)
Aaaaah! We're doomed! There are a
couple of things I know they're bound to
notice!

He heads towards the lake.

LING O.S.
Hi-yaaahh!!!

Mulan panics and ducks into the water.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LING/YAO O.S.
Aii-yahyahyah!!

Ling, then Yao jump into the lake. Chien Po tests the water with his big toe, then does a cannonball.

CHIEN PO
Whoo!!!

The Gang of Three splash about, having fun. Under cover of a lily pad, Mulan makes her way towards a rock. Yao sees her.

YAO
(happily)
Hey, Ping!

Mulan freezes.

MULAN
(smiling; feigning surprise)
Oh -- hi, guys. I didn't know you were here.

They look at each other, confused.

MULAN
I was, just, washing, so now I'm clean,
and I'm going to go... bye bye.

She ducks behind a rock. Ling backstrokes towards her, a lotus lily pad strategically placed.

LING
Come back here!
(swimming to her)
I know we were jerks to you before, so...
let's start over.
(holding out his hand; assuming
a persona)
Hi, I'm Ling.

Mulan quickly shakes his hand.

MULAN
(nervously)
Heh.

Before she can get away, Chien Po appears beside her.

CHIEN PO
(smiling)
And I'm Chien Po.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN
(fake smile)
Hello, Chien Po...

SPLOOSH -- A pair of naked legs climb onto a rock in front of them.

YAO O.S.
And I... am Yao!

Mulan turns around to see Yao. Horrified, she covers her eyes.

YAO
King of the Rock!
(teasing)
And there's nothing you girls can do
about it!

LING
Oh yeah? Well I think--
(pointing to her)
...the Ping and I can take you.

Mulan starts to swim off.

MULAN
I really don't want to take him anywhere.

LING
Ping -- we've been challenged. We have
to fight!

MULAN
No, we don't. We could just, close our
eyes...
(miming swimming)
-- and swim around...

Ling grabs her arm.

LING
C'mon, don't be such a gir--
(grabbing his butt)
OUCH! Something bit me!

CLOSE-UP of Mushu, making a disgusted face behind Ling.

MUSHU
Uggh, what a nasty flavor!

Ling turns and sees him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LING

Snake!
(running towards the men)
Ahhhh!

Chien Po and Yao react, quickly hopping onto a rock.

CHIEN PO/YAO

Aaaah! Snake! Snake!!!

Mulan WHISTLES for Kahn. As the Gang of Three peer nervously into the water, Mulan gets out of the lake using Kahn as a shield. Mushu rides on Kahn's tail.

The Gang of Three remain huddled on the rock.

LING

(to Yao)
Some king of the rock.

Yao shoves Ling into the water.

Mulan starts putting on her clothes.

MULAN

Boy, that was close.

MUSHU

(brushing his teeth)
No, that was vile! You owe me big!

Squirting more toothpaste on his brush, he continues SCRUBBING.

SOLDIERS O.S.

(yelling)
Yaaaaaaahhhh!!!!'

As the rest of the troop's naked legs stampede past them, Mulan looks at Mushu.

MUSHU

Don't look at me. I ain't biting no more butts.

And off his attitude...

CUT TO:

EXT. CHI FU'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER (SEQUENCE 8.4)

Chi Fu smugly scolds Shang as Mulan, Mushu, Kahn and Cri-Kee approach.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHI FU O.S.

You call yourself a Captain? Those boys
aren't ready to fight...

INSIDE THE TENT

Chi Fu paces as Shang sits silently, trying to compose
himself.

SHANG

They completed their training.

CHI FU

They wouldn't last a day against the
Huns. Hmph. Once the General reads my
report, your men will never see battle.

OUTSIDE THE TENT

Mushu reacts, worried.

MUSHU

(to Cri-Kee)

Now how am I gonna make Mulan a hero if
she doesn't fight?

INSIDE THE TENT

Shang grabs Chi Fu by the collar, turning him to face him.

SHANG

You can't do that. You know--

CHI FU

(taking his hand off his
shoulder)

Be careful, Captain. The General may be
your father, but I am the Emperor's
counsel.

(smugly)

And by the way, I got that job on my own.

Chi Fu haughtily moves towards the entrance.

CHI FU

You're dismissed.

As Shang storms out of the tent...

EXT. CHI FU'S TENT - CONTINUOUS

He passes Mulan.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN
(manly; awkward)
I, uh, didn't mean to over--

Shang gives her a harsh glance.

MULAN (cont'd)
(meekly)
--hear.

Shang continues to walk off. Mulan thinks a moment, then:

MULAN
(calling)
We may not see battle, Captain. But
we're ready. Thanks to you.

Shang takes that in for a second, then continues off. Mushu
looks up at Mulan, watching her stare after him.

MUSHU
(not liking it)
I saw that.

MULAN
Saw what?

Mushu mimes her gaze after Shang.

MUSHU
That. You like him, don't you.

MULAN
(defensively)
What? No... I...uh...

MUSHU (cont'd)
Uh-huh.
(then; disgusted)
Go get dressed, and focus!

Mulan walks off as Mushu turns to Cri-Kee.

MUSHU (cont'd)
C'mon, we've got work to do.

CUT TO:

EXT. CHI FU'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER

As Chi Fu exits with a bath brush, towel and soap, Mushu and Cri-Kee sneak inside.

CUT TO:

INT. CHI FU'S TENT

CLOSE ON a picture of Chi Fu in a cheesy pose with the Emperor. Pull back to reveal Mushu, staring at the picture in disbelief and Cri-Kee writing on a piece of paper.

Cri-Kee CHRIPS, "*I'm done!*" and points proudly at the note.

MUSHU

(reading)

Okay, lemme see what you've got.
From General Li... "Dear Son-- We're waiting for the Huns at the pass. It would mean a lot if you'd come back us up."

(nicely)

Hmm, that's great, except you forgot, "and since we're out of potpourri, perhaps you wouldn't mind bringing some up."

(as Mushu)

Hello! This is the army! Make it sound more urgent, please. You know what I'm talking about?

Cri-Kee salutes and starts rewriting.

MUSHU

(looking over his shoulder;
excited)

That's better! Much better! Let's go.

Mushu grabs the notice and runs out.

AT THE WATER TROUGH

Kahn takes a leisurely drink; then stops, turning to see Mushu on his back.

MUSHU

(smiling)

Kahnny, baby... we need a ride!

Kahn spits a huge stream of water at him, knocking him to the ground. A beat as Kahn LAUGHS, getting in a good SNORT.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU O.S.

You liked that, didn't you.

And off Kahn's smile...

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - A LITTLE LATER

Chi Fu, dressed in a towel, angrily heads back towards his tent, holding a shoe.

CHI FU

(mumbling)

Insubordinate ruffians.

(yelling towards lake)

You men owe me a new pair of slippers.

And I do not squeal like a girl!

A panda appears, takes the slipper out of Chi Fu's hand and nonchalantly chews it.

CHI FU

(SQUEALS LIKE A GIRL)

Riding on the panda is a soldier "puppet" constructed of real armor, controlled by Mushu. Cri-Kee holds a megaphone to Mushu's mouth.

MUSHU

(lowering voice)

Urgent news from the General!

(off Chi Fu's shocked look)

What's the matter, haven't you ever seen
a black and white before?

*
*

The puppet shakily extends its arm which holds a scroll. Chi Fu takes the note, looks at the panda, then back at the puppet.

CHI FU

(suspiciously)

Who are you?

MUSHU

(indignant)

Excuse me?! I think the question is,
"who are you?" We're in a war, man!
There's no time for stupid questions! I
should have your hat for that-- snatch it
right off your head! But I'm feeling
gracious today, so carry on before I
report you!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mushu rides off as Chi Fu reads the notice. In the background, Mushu tries vainly to steer the panda as it climbs up a tree. Chi Fu reacts to the note, then looks back, only Mushu and the panda are gone.

INT. SHANG'S TENT - MOMENTS LATER

Shang starts to hang up his armor. Chi Fu bursts into the tent, holding up the notice.

CHI FU
Captain... important news from the
General! We're requested at the front!

OUTSIDE THE TENT IN A TREE

Mushu looks to CRI-KEE and smiles.

MUSHU
(cocky)
Pack up, Cri-Kee, we're movin' on out!

CUT TO:

EXT. ARMY ENCAMPMENT - THAT NIGHT (SEQUENCE 9.6)

Shang stands in front of his troops, who have gathered their belongings and are awaiting their assignment.

SHANG
Men... The General has located Shan-Yu
and the Huns, and our assistance is
requested.

ON CHIEN PO

solemnly taking in the news.

SHANG O.S.
We have a long distance to travel, so we
must move quickly.

PAN past LING, eagerly listening, and YAO, practically drooling with excitement.

SHANG
Ping, we'll need your horse to pull the
lead munitions wagon.

MULAN
Yes, Sir.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANG

The rest of you -- load the cannons and
explosives. Now!

(turning to Chi Fu)

Did you get that?

*

Shang turns away as Chi Fu faces the men.

CHI FU

Alright, people. You heard him. Let's
move - move - move!

*

As the men break up, Mushu stands on Kahn's head, patting the
cricket on the back.

MUSHU

Now can I make things happen, or what?
How do I do it...

The cricket gives him a look as

Mulan unties Kahn.

MULAN

(concerned)

We're really going to fight.

MUSHU

(smiling)

You bet your Baba's boxers we are!

Mushu slides down Kahn's nose.

MUSHU

I'm telling you-- we're going places,
Mulan.

ON CHIEN PO, elbowing Ling.

CHIEN PO

Oh boy, this is our chance to help save
China.

(then)

Maybe we'll gain honor.

YAO

(excited)

Maybe? Ha! We'll be rolling in it!

And off his broad smile...

CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY - (SEQUENCE 9.5)

CLOSE ON a wagon wheel, uselessly spinning. SPLAT! Mud flies as YAO falls face first into a giant puddle. Mulan and Ling stop straining against the wagon.

YAO
(worn-out)
The Huns can have this part of China.

Chien Po comes in to help get the wagon out of the ditch.

LING
You just have to remember why we're doing this, Yao.

YAO
So we can be overworked and underfed?

CHIEN PO
So our Emperor will be--
(pushing cart)
--ugh-- ever grateful?

LING
(shaking his head; smiling)
No no no.
(then)
The ladies love a war hero...

Mulan looks at him.

LING
(authoritatively)
They see a man in uniform, and they lose control!

The wagon slips.

LING
Whoa!

A beat before Shang appears beside them, helping to push the wagon.

SHANG
Hut two three four! Hut two three four!

Ling sees some girls working in the fields.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A GIRL WORTH FIGHTING FOR

(chanted)

SHANG: HUT TWO THREE FOUR

LING: I MISS MY LIFE BACK HOME IN SZECHUAN
WHEN I WANTED A GIRL IT WAS EASY TO KETCH ONE

SOLDIERS: WHEN WE CAN TALK ABOUT THE ARMY IN THE PAST
TENSE

WHEN WE'VE CLEANED OUR LAST LATRINE AND PITCHED OUR LAST
TENTS

They see TWO attractive GIRLS carrying buckets of water
alongside the road. The girls smile at Mulan; she gives them
a weak smile back.

SOLDIERS: WE'LL GO AFTER WHAT WE MISSED THE MOST SINCE
WE WENT OFF TO WAR

WHAT DO WE WANT
A GIRL WORTH FIGHTING FOR

LING: (YOU CAN) SAY THAT AGAIN

ALL: A GIRL WORTH FIGHTING FOR

They each go into their fantasy scenarios...

LING: I WANT A PORCELAIN CHINA DOLL WITH CHERRY
BLOSSOM LIPS

YAO: MY DREAM GIRL'S STURDY AS AN OX WITH CHILDBEARING
HIPS

CHIEN PO: MY FANTASY WILL COOK FOR ME, CAN THAT GIRL
STIR FRY

I'LL EAT ALL DAY AS I WATCH HER FRY...

SPOKEN: (DREAMILY) BEEF, PORK, CHICKEN

ANIMALS: MMMMMMM

CHI FU: I'VE A GIRL BACK HOME WHOSE UNLIKE ANY OTHER

MULAN: YEAH, THE ONLY GIRL WHO'D LOVE HIM IS HIS MOTHER

ALL: BUT WHEN WE COME HOME IN VICTORY THEY'LL LINE UP
AT THE DOOR

LING: WHAT DO WE WANT

A GIRL WORTH FIGHTING FOR

CHIEN PO: I WANT HER GRACEFUL AS A SWAN WITH VERY TINY
FEET

MULAN: (NERVOUSLY TAKING HER TURN WITH MUSHU DOING A
CHARADE TO HELP HER)

THE GIRL FOR ME HAS GOT - A LIMP AND TWO ENORMOUS -
HANDS

LING: MY MANLY WAYS AND TURN OF PHRASE ARE SURE TO
THRILL HER

ALL: HE THINKS HE'S SUCH A LADY KILLER

SPOKEN: WRONG!!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They head up a steep, cold incline.

ALL: IN THE MEANTIME WE GO BRAVELY OFF TO BATTLE
HEY, IS THAT OUR TEETH OR JUST OUR SWORDS THAT RATTLE
THERE'S A LOOMING THREAT WE'RE HEADING TOWARD THAT'S
BETTER TO IGNORE
THINK OF, INSTEAD
A GIRL WORTH FIGHTING FOR
(RUEFULLY TO SELF) WISH THAT I HAD
A GIRL WORTH FIGHTING FOR
(WHISTLE)
A GIRL WORTH FIGHTING --

The men stop singing as they see

BLACK SMOKE curling up into the desolate sky.

CUT TO:

EXT. BURNED OUT VILLAGE (SEQUENCE 9.8)

The men slowly enter the smokey remains of a burned out village. It's silent, except for THE HOLLOW CLANG OF A BRONZE PRAYER BELL blown by the wind.

SHANG
(solemnly)
Search for survivors.

They make their way among the ruins. Shang enters a charred home, narrowly escaping a falling beam. Yao and Ling look into a wagon, then turn away sadly.

Mulan walks slowly through the village, then stops as she sees a doll, laying on the ground. It is the same doll Shan-Yu held. She picks it up and lowers her head, filled with grief.

Shang dismounts his horse and approaches her.

SHANG
I don't understand... My father should
have been here.

CHI FU O.S.
Captain!

Shang turns to see Chi Fu, standing on the bluff. Shang goes to him; looks down to see

The mass destruction of the ARMY.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANG, in shock. Chien Po comes up the hill, holding a military helmet.

CHIEN PO
(saddened)
The General...

Shang slowly takes his father's helmet... and turns away.

As the rest of the troops gather along the bluff...

Mulan sees Shang walk off and ceremoniously plant his sword. He takes a moment, putting his father's helmet on top in tribute. She goes to him.

MULAN
I'm sorry.

Shang gathers his composure, rises, and mounts his horse.

SHANG
(to the men)
The Huns are moving quickly.

He points towards the mountains.

SHANG
We'll make better time to the Imperial
City through the Tung-Shao pass.

CLOSE ON Shang.

SHANG
We're the only hope for the Emperor now.
(then)
Move out!

The men slowly follow, leaving Mulan alone. Before she joins them, she lays the doll beside the General's helmet. As the WIND HOWLS...

CUT TO:

EXT. TUNG-SHAO PASS - DAY (SEQUENCE 9.9)

Mulan and the troops, weary and cold, march towards a mountain pass.

BAM! A ROCKET EXPLODES from the munitions wagon.

The troops stop and look up. Mulan turns and sees

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU AND THE CRICKET

sitting in the wagon. Mushu points a finger at the cricket.
Mulan gives Mushu a look as Shang rides over to her.

SHANG
What happened!?!

MULAN
Uh...

SHANG
(angrily)
You just blew any chance of surprising-

THUNK!

AN ARROW flies into Shang's armor, knocking him off his horse.

From the mountain crest, A HAIL OF FLAMING ARROWS FIRE towards them.

The men and Mulan look up in surprise.

Shang pulls the arrow out of his armor.

SHANG
Get out of range!

The soldiers start to run as

HUNS, up in the mountains, launch HUNDREDS of arrows. Several HIT the munitions wagon, setting it on fire.

SHANG
(pointing)
Save the cannons!

The soldiers retrieve the cannons, heading for the rocks.

Mulan starts to grab a cannon when

THUNK THUNK THUNK!

a fresh onslaught of flaming arrows hit.

Attached to the wagon, KAHN rears, WHINNIES.

Mulan cuts him free and rides off just as

BOOM! The wagon EXPLODES.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mulan and Kahn are knocked to the ground. A beat before Mushu drops out of the sky in front of them.

MUSHU

Oh sure, save the horse.

Mulan grabs him and heads towards the troops, positioned behind the rocks.

ON SHANG

directing the men.

SHANG

Fire!

CLOSE ON a fuse being lit. BOOM! Mulan fires.

The troops continue firing, dislodging Huns from their sniper positions.

A row of cannons are grabbed -- revealing Chi Fu, cowering behind them.

CHI FU

(Auhhh)

The next line of men quickly position their cannons.

THE HUNS

launch another onslaught of arrows as the troops duck.

SHANG

Fire!

THE TROOPS set off their cannons.

BOOM! The mountain rocks from the explosion, sending Huns FLYING. Shang raises his hand.

SHANG

Hold the last cannon!

It's quiet as they look up towards the empty mountain.

Mulan remains silent, watching, transfixed as the last wisps of smoke clear from the mountain slope. Then, A LONE HORSEMAN appears... followed by a massive line of Huns stretching out along the horizon.

The faces of the men drop. They're doomed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHI FU

Ohhh...

Shang turns to his men.

SHANG

Prepare for battle.

(then)

If we die, we die with honor.

UP ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP

Shan-Yu lets out a barbaric war cry and CHARGES down the slope.

SHAN-YU

Heeeeahhh!!!

The entire group of Huns GALLOP towards them, swords raised.

Shang turns to Yao.

SHANG

Yao-- aim the cannon at Shan-Yu!

As Yao sets his sights...

MULAN

draws her sword and looks down at her blade; the mountain reflecting in it. She looks up at the mountain, then down to the approaching Huns.

SHIINK! She sheathes her sword.

Mulan pushes Yao aside and GRABS the cannon.

YAO

Hey!

She runs towards the Huns.

SHANG

Ping! Come back! ...Ping!

KAHN WHINNIES as the troops react, "what is he doing?!"

Mushu pops out of Mulan's collar.

MUSHU

Don't worry, I've got you covered...

(unsure)

-- with whatever it is you're doing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GASPING, he sees

THE HUNS

charging straight towards them.

MUSHU

Yep, I'm right behind you.

He quickly ducks into her helmet.

SHANG runs after Mulan.

SHANG

Stop!

Mulan plants the cannon and aims at

SHAN-YU

galloping closer, the look of death on his face.

MUSHU

(panicked)

Alright, you might want to light that thing right about now... quickly, quickly!

Mulan starts to light the flint when

BAM! The falcon KNOCKS it out of her hands and sends Mushu flying back into the snow. Mulan grabs Mushu and PULLS on his tail.

WHOOSH! A flame SHOOTS out of his mouth and LIGHTS the fuse.

MUSHU

(coughing)

As the falcon flies off, Mulan sees

SHAN-YU, his sword drawn, right upon her.

Mulan holds up the cannon to block his blow -- he KNOCKS it behind him.

ZIP PAN to the LIT FUSE, ready to go off any second.

Shan-Yu SLASHES his sword at Mulan.

MULAN

Aughh!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

YAO, LING AND CHIEN PO

stand on a ridge, watching the confrontation.

YAO
C'mon, we gotta help!

They head down as

MULAN

barely escapes the blade of Shan-Yu's sword. She DIVES under his horse, grabs the cannon and points it at Shan-Yu.

The rocket FIRES. Mushu hangs on to it as it flies high above Shan-Yu's head.

MUSHU
You missed! How could you miss! He was three feet in front of you!

(SEQUENCE 10)

WHAM! The rocket lodges into an overhanging mountain top.

MUSHU emerges from the smoking hole.

MUSHU
(COUGHING)

THE MOUNTAIN

suddenly explodes and crumbles... causing a huge AVALANCHE.

SHAN-YU

looks back at the thundering mountain side in shock.

MULAN

smiles, relieved her plan worked. Shang looks at her in surprise. She drops the cannon and grabs his hand as

THE AVALANCHE

spills towards them.

THE HUN HORDE

panics and flees.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

YAO, LING AND CHIEN PO

continue charging towards the Huns.

YAO/LING/CHIEN PO
Yaahhhhh!!!

They stop, watching the avalanche bury the enemy. They start running in the opposite direction.

YAO/LING/CHIEN PO
Agggghhh!!!

KAHN

reacts and charges straight towards the avalanche.

SHAN-YU AND HIS ELITE SQUAD

gallop for safety, but it's no use. The avalanche overtakes and BURIES them.

SHAN-YU
Auggghh!

MULAN AND SHANG

try to outrun the snowy force, but it's relentless.

KAHN

gallops towards them.

MULAN

sees him, jumps on, then holds her hand out to Shang.

SHANG

reaches for it, only they're ripped apart by a giant sheet of whiteness.

UP IN THE ROCK SHELTER

YAO, LING AND CHIEN PO

barely have time to jump behind the rocks as

THE AVALANCHE

thunders over the troops, safely ensconced.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ON THE MOUNTAIN SLOPE

MUSHU rides down on a shield, searching.

MUSHU

Mulan!

He sees some hair sticking out of the snow.

MUSHU

Mulan?

He pulls the head up, revealing the scary face of a Hun.

HUN

(angrily)

Arrrrr!

MUSHU

(pushing his head back down)

Nope.

He sees something else.

MUSHU

Mulan!

He pulls up the cricket.

MUSHU

Man, you are one lucky bug.

THE AVALANCHE

continues its course, SWEEPING Mulan and Kahn away.

MULAN

(GASPS)

They finally gain some solid footing. Then, Mulan turns and sees a body sliding down the slope.

MULAN

Shang!

She rides up to him, LIFTS him onto the horse.

THE TOP OF A RIDGE

Ling stands on Chien Po's shoulder, Yao beside them.

CHIEN PO

Do you see them?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

 LING
 (pointing)
Yes!
 (then; to Yao)
Go ahead!!

Yao aims and fires an arrow with a rope attached.

 YAO
Perfect!
 (reaching for the rope)
Now I'll pull them to safe...

The rope slips out of his hands.

 YAO
...ty.

MULAN and KAHN forge up the mountain; SHANG unconscious.

MUSHU AND THE CRICKET

see them; head over. Mushu holds up Shan-Yu's sword.

 MUSHU
Hey, look what I found!

Mulan grabs him.

 MULAN
Mushu, I need a rope!

WHACK! Yao's rope flies down beside them. Mulan grabs it.

 MULAN
Thanks!

She tosses Mushu behind her; he barely holds on to Kahn's tail as they continue to slip down the mountain.

Then he sees where they're heading-- the EDGE OF THE CLIFF.

 MUSHU
We're gonna die we're gonna die! No way
can we survive this. Death is coming!

MULAN ties one end of the rope to Kahn's saddle, then picks up the other end, attached to the arrow. She readies the arrow to shoot... they're sliding closer to the edge...

THEY GO OVER! As they start to fall, Mulan SHOTS the arrow upwards.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ON THE ROCKY LEDGE ABOVE THE CLIFF

The soldiers gather around Yao, trying to comfort him.

YAO

(crying)

I let them slip through my fingers!

WHAP! The rope and arrow land in his hands. He grabs it, and is yanked towards the edge of the rock.

YAO

Ahhh! Ahhh!

THE TROOPS

grab onto Yao, but the momentum pulls them forward.

SOLDIERS

(panicked; pulling)

Uhh! Aughh! Whoa... Pull!

Chien Po calmly approaches, picks them up in one huge group hug, and starts PULLING them back.

DOWN OVER THE PRECIPICE

Mulan, Mushu, Kahn and Shang begin their ascent.

MUSHU

(to Mulan; re: Shang)

You know, if we dump the stiff, we'll get up much faster.

He pops back into her saddlebag.

THE TROOPS

finally pull them to safety. They encircle Mulan and Shang, exhausted but victorious.

LING

Alright, let's give them some air!

YAO O.S.

Who wants to see my blister...

As they back off, Shang looks up at Mulan.

SHANG

Ping... you are the craziest man I've ever met... and for that I owe you my life.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANG (cont'd)

(then)

From now on, you have my trust.

Off Mulan's smile...

*
*
*

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPSITE - LATER (SEQUENCE 15)

Chi Fu watches with disgust as

THE SOLDIERS hoist MULAN on their shoulders.

LING

Let's hear it for Ping--

Chien Po throws her backwards-- the soldiers catch her.

LING

The bravest of us all!

CLOSE ON MULAN - wide-eyed as they toss her into the air.

SOLDIERS/GANG OF THREE
(CHEERING)

Mulan smiles. As they toss her again...

YAO

(to Mulan)

You're king of the mountain!

MULAN

(grabbing her side)

Uggh!

She lands in their arms, but before they can toss her again...

MULAN

Guys, guys-- enough!

(getting down)

I've, uh, been tossed around too much today.

YAO

(disappointed)

Ohhh...

(then; brightening)

Okay, my turn! My turn!

Mulan holds her side, heading off in pain. She looks at her hand-- it's covered with blood.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shang approaches.

SHANG
(smiling)
Ping --

Mulan stops.

MULAN
Sir?

SHANG
I was thinking, when we reach the
Imperial City, I'd like you to present
Shan-Yu's sword to the Emperor.

He holds it out to her.

MULAN
(surprised)
Me, Sir?

SHANG
China should know what you've done.
(then; quietly)
Because of you, no more lives will be
taken.

A beat as Mulan takes this in. She wishes she could say something to him, but he retains a quiet dignity.

MULAN
I'd be honored, Captain.

Shang gives her a small, heartfelt smile, then leaves.

Mulan smiles as MUSHU approaches, ecstatic.

MUSHU
Did I hear that right? You-- the sword--
the Big Guy?

Mulan nods.

MUSHU
(euphoric)
I knew we could do it! All you had to do
was trust me!

MULAN
(smiling)
We did it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU
That's right!
(lightly punching her)
You're the man!
(then)
Well... sort of.

Mushu starts to dance victoriously as Mulan grabs her side.

MUSHU
Hey, Mulan, help me pick my victory pose--
(posing)
Whatcha think?

MULAN
Augggh...

Mushu looks up at her.

MUSHU
Mulan?

AT THE CAMPFIRE

Shang and the men laugh, looking at Shan-Yu's sword.

KAHN WHINNIES.

Shang turns to see Mulan, doubled over in the snow. He hurries to her.

SHANG
Ping! What's wrong?

He stops as he sees BLOOD on her side.

SHANG
(calling to the men)
He's wounded! Get help!

Mulan looks groggily at Shang - her vision blurring.

SHANG
Ping! Hold on... hold on...

Close on his mouth as it goes out of focus.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MEDIC'S TENT - LATER

Yao, Ling, and Chien Po sit in front of the tent as Shang paces, awaiting the Medic's diagnosis.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mushu and the cricket pace in a circle off to the side.

Finally, the Medic exits the tent. He solemnly approaches Shang and tells him something.

Shang steps back, in shock, then enters the tent. The Gang of Three look at each other apprehensively.

INT. TENT

Mulan lies on a cot. She looks up to see

SHANG

slowly moving towards her.

Mulan gives him a soft, groggy smile. Then freezes as she sees how angry he looks.

She reflexively touches her chest-- and looks down to see bandages wrapped around her torso. She's been discovered. She covers herself.

MULAN

I can explain--

CHI FU bursts into the room. He looks at Mulan in horror.

CHI FU

So it's true!

Shang starts to leave.

MULAN

Shang!

EXT. TENT

The rest of the troops have gathered. They watch in shock as Chi Fu exits the tent holding Mulan.

CHI FU

(to Mulan)

I knew there was something wrong with you!

(to troops)

A woman! Treacherous swine.

He throws her to the ground as the men gape in utter disbelief.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN
(to Shang)
My name is Mulan.

CHI FU
(to the troops)
High treason!

MULAN
(to Shang)
I did it to save my father.

CHI FU
Ultimate dishonor!

MULAN
It was the only way. Please believe me--

Chi Fu gets in Shang's face.

CHI FU
Carry out the penalty...
(questioning)
Captain...?

Shang sees Mulan, laying on the ground, defenseless.

The Gang of Three move to protect her, but Chi Fu cuts them off.

CHI FU
You know the law!

Mulan looks up to see

SHANG

standing above her, his sword drawn.

MULAN

awaits her punishment, staring at him through moist eyes.
Then drops her head.

Shang throws his sword in the snow, and turns away from her.

SHANG
Move out!

CHI FU
(interjecting)
But you can't just--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANG
(quietly; threatening)
I said move out.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CAMPSITE - LATER

The soldiers solemnly leave camp, avoiding eye contact with Mulan. Shang rides up, Kahn beside him. He doesn't look at her.

SHANG
A life for a life.
(turning)
My debt is repaid.

He gives her Kahn's reins. Mulan looks up at him, pained.

SHANG O.S.
Hiyaa!

And as she watches him ride off...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROCK SHELTER - LATER THAT AFTERNOON - (SEQUENCE 17.5)

CLOSE ON A FIRE. Pull back to reveal the cricket tossing twigs into the flame. Mulan huddles beside it as Kahn covers her with a blanket. The cricket crawls in next to Mulan.

Off to the side, Mushu breaks a roasting stick from a tree.

MUSHU
(depressed)
I was this close... This close to
impressing the Ancestors... getting the
top shelf, an entourage... all my fine
work, pfft!

Mushu spears a dumpling and goes to roast it beside Mulan.

MUSHU
(softly)
Hi.

MULAN
I should never have left home.

He checks his dumpling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU

(making the best of it)
Hey, c'mon, you went to save your
father's life. Who knew you'd end up
shaming him, disgracing your ancestors,
and losing all your friends?
(then; voice breaking)
You've just gotta learn to let these
things go...

He lets out a small SOB.

MULAN

Maybe I didn't go for my father... Maybe
what I really wanted was to prove I could
do things right... so when I looked in
the mirror--
(picking up her helmet)
I'd see someone worthwhile.

She looks at her reflection in the helmet.

MULAN

But I was wrong... I see nothing.

She blinks back tears as she lets the helmet roll from her
hands. Mushu, touched by her sadness, picks it up and spits
on it.

MUSHU

(wiping vigorously)
Well, that's just 'cause this needs a
little spit, that's all. Let me shine
this up for you; here, look at you, you
look so pretty...

He shows her the helmet -- only she doesn't look.

Mushu stares at his reflection in Mulan's helmet. Then...

MUSHU

Look, the truth is, we're both frauds.
The Ancestors never sent me, they don't
even like me. You risked your life to
help people you love. I risked your life
to help myself. At least you had good
intentions.

CRI-KEE
(CHIRP CHIRP)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU

Whaddya mean, you're not lucky? So all this time I've been draggin' around a DUD?!

(turning to Kahn; sarcastically suspicious)

What're you... a sheep?

MULAN

I guess we go home now. I'll have to face my father sooner or later.

Mushu looks up, then approaches her.

MUSHU

Don't worry, 'kay? We started this together and that's how we'll finish it. I promise.

He hugs her.

As Shan-Yu's FALCON FLIES over the dejected trio...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SNOWFIELD - DUSK (SEQUENCE 16)

A vast expanse of whiteness. A shadow floats across it. It's the FALCON, searching through the debris for something, or someone...

ICE SMASHING as

SHAN-YU'S ARM

thrusts through the snow.

THE FALCON

screeches and dives.

SHAN-YU

climbs out of his grave and surveys the damage around him -- all his men are lost.

SHAN-YU
(HOWLING)

A large shield, embedded in a snowbank, suddenly falls. From the other side, a Hun emerges, walks. As he passes a cart

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANOTHER HUN bursts from within. The wheel of the cart rolls down a ravine, revealing TWO MORE HUNS, climbing out.

Their eyes-- icy, as one spits out his tooth and another grabs the sword from a frozen gloved hand. They approach

SHAN-YU

who sees that his elite squad is alive. Perfect. He turns and heads towards the distant lights of the Imperial City with his men and a smile.

ON THE MOUNTAINTOP

Mulan and Mushu watch them in fear. Mushu's jaw is dropped.

MUSHU
Wow. Quick defrost.

Mulan runs back to Kahn, picking up the sword Shang left behind. She rushes to Kahn.

MULAN
C'mon, we have to warn them!

MUSHU
No we don't...

But she's already on Kahn.

MUSHU
Did you see those Huns? They POPPED outta the snow! Like daisies!
(running after her)
Why do ya always have to be so stubborn!
And how stupid am I for following you!

CUT TO:

EXT. THE IMPERIAL CITY - EARLY EVENING (SEQUENCE 19)

Beautiful kites fly in the air. Pan down to reveal a large CROWD OF PEOPLE lining the streets of the Imperial City.

GUARD
(shouting)
Make way for the heroes of China!

CROWD
(ad-lib)
Hooray! Hail the saviors of China!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mulan peers through the crowd as SHANG rides by on his horse. Chien Po, Ling, Yao and the rest of the men march solemnly behind him.

MULAN

Shang!

Shang and the Gang of Three stop, and turn in surprise.

SHANG

Mulan?

MULAN

The Huns are alive!

(motioning)

They're in the city!

SHANG

What?

(then; dismissive)

You don't belong here, Mulan. Go home.

MULAN

Shang, I saw them in the mountains. You have to believe me!

SHANG

Why should I?

MULAN

Why else would I come back?

(then)

You said you'd trust Ping... why is Mulan any different?

He remains silent.

MULAN

If you won't believe me, then take this!
You'll need it.

Mulan tosses Shang his sword. He catches it.

MULAN

HeeYaaa!

Mulan gallops away, into the crowd.

HUGE DRUMS SOUND.

FROM THE FIREWORKS TOWER

Thunderous fireworks are set off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ON THE PLATFORM

THE EMPEROR appears in his magnificent robes.

ON MULAN

making her way through the crowd, frantically searching for the Huns. She jumps off Khan. *

MUSHU *

Hey, where are you going? *

MULAN *

To find someone who'll listen. *

As Mulan rushes through the crowd... *

SHANG *

makes his way up the stairs towards the Emperor, Shan-Yu's sword in his hand. A PAPER DRAGON follows him closely. *

ON THE DAIS

THE DRUMS STOP and a LOUD GONG RESOUNDS.

THE EMPEROR

stands at the front of the platform and addresses the vast, silent crowd.

EMPEROR *

My children, Heaven smiles down upon the Middle Kingdom! China will sleep safely tonight. Thanks to our brave warriors, the Huns have been vanquished! *

THE CROWD CHEERS O.S. *

Mulan approaches a MAN and his family. *

MULAN *

Sir, the Emperor's in danger! *

The man pushes Mulan's hand away and turns his back on her. *

MULAN *

But the Huns are here! *

She pleads with another man in the crowd. *

MULAN *

Please, you have to help! *

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The second man ignores her. Mulan turns to Mushu. *

MULAN *

They won't listen! *

MUSHU *

That's 'cause you're a girl now. *

ON THE DAIS

Shang steps forward holding Shan-Yu's sword. He kneels and holds the sword high in the air.

SHANG

Your Majesty, I present to you the sword of Shan-Yu.

He offers the sword to the Emperor.

THE EMPEROR

I know what this means to you, Captain Li.

(then)

Your father would have been very proud.

As Shang begins to hand him the sword...

THE FALCON

suddenly SWOOPS DOWN, FLYING OFF with the sword. He RELEASES it above the palace.

A STATUE ON THE ROOFTOP

reaches its hand up and CATCHES the sword -- it's Shan-Yu!

Shan-Yu stands and raises the sword above his head.

ON THE STREET

Mulan, Mushu and the crowd stare in horror.

SHANG AND THE EMPEROR

look up toward the roof.

Behind Shang, the HUNS SLASH through the Chinese paper dragon. They quickly overtake Shang, leaving him on the dais. *

The Elite Huns rush the Emperor and carry him inside the palace. *

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shang pulls himself up amongst the tattered paper dragon and sees the Emperor's hat.

SHANG

No!

ON THE LOWER DAIS

Ling, Chien Po and Yao run to help Shang.

YAO

C'mon!

AT THE PALACE DOOR

Shang arrives just as the enormous wooden door SLAMS SHUT and LOCKS.

ZIP PAN up to see Shan-Yu laughing derisively.

CUT TO:

THE PALACE DOOR

Shang, Ling, Chien Po, Yao and the other soldiers tip over a giant foo dog and use it as a battering ram.

ON THE STEPS OF THE DAIS

Mulan and Mushu watch the troop's vain attempt to knock down the door.

MUSHU

(re: stone dog)

I think I know that dog...

MULAN

They'll never get in that way.

She starts to think, staring at a man. Then...

MULAN

Hey guys, I've got an idea!

Chien Po, Ling and Yao look at one another, then run after Mulan.

Shang stubbornly watches them.

CUT TO:

EXT. IMPERIAL PALACE - DAY (SEQUENCE 20)

CLOSE ON a face with stubble, being painted with lip paint.

CLOSE ON bracelets being slipped onto hairy forearms.

MEDIUM SHOT of Ling's torso as he places apples in his tunic for breasts. He adjusts them.

CLOSE ON a wig being placed on Chien Po's bald head.

Mulan, beautiful in a simple dress, opens a drape to reveal: Ling, Yao and Chien Po in drag.

Together they walk toward the edge of the palace and remove their sashes.

Each one throws their sash around the bottom of a pillar, then look to

MULAN. She feels a tap on her shoulder. She turns to see

SHANG. He removes his cape and wraps it around a pillar, ready to follow her lead.

As the five soldiers use their sashes to climb the pillars the way Mulan climbed the pole during training...

INT. IMPERIAL PALACE TOWER

The twin Elite Huns drag the Emperor to the end of the tower in view of the crowd. SHAN-YU suddenly appears, hanging upside down from the alcove. He SMILES at the Emperor, then quickly lands in front of him.

SHAN-YU
(to his men)
Guard the door.

They move off as Shan-Yu sizes up The Emperor, who stoically stares forward.

SHAN-YU
How disappointing. These people fear
you?!

EMPEROR
They respect me.

SHAN-YU
Fools.
(then)
Now bow down and I'll make this quick.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shan-Yu draws his sword and points it at the Emperor. *

ON A PARALLEL PARAPET *

Mulan, Chien Po, Ling and Yao run to their positions. *

MULAN *

We're almost there. Any questions? *

YAO *

(running) *

Does this dress make me look fat? *

CHIEN PO *

Yao, we have more important things to
worry about. *

YAO *

Easy for you to say. Your outfit is very
flattering, perfect for day or night. *

INSIDE THE PARAPET *

The Elite Huns close the door. *

AROUND THE CORNER *

MULAN peeks at the Huns. *

LING *

(whispering) *

Are these disguises really necessary? *

MULAN *

(whispering) *

Trust me. We're as good as invisible. *

Mulan holds her fan in front of her face and heads towards
the Huns; the others follow. *

OUTSIDE THE TOWER DOOR *

The Elite Huns hear GIGGLES. *

The Hun Archer draws his sword but the Biggest Hun stops him
as the four women approach. *

BIGGEST HUN *

Concubines. *

TWIN HUN *

Ugly concubines. *

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The men in drag demurely stop in front of the Huns, batting their eyes. The Biggest Hun flirts back as one of the Twin Huns elbows him in disgust. Mulan, Yao, Ling and Chien Po turn their backs to the Huns and quickly reach into their tunics, pulling out watermelons and apples.

WATCHING FROM ABOVE

The falcon sees Shang hiding behind a pillar. He begins to CALL when he's muffled from behind by

MUSHU. He SMILES at the bird.

MUSHU

Ooh-eee! I caught me a turkey!

IN THE PALACE HALLWAY

The Gang of Three turn around with fruit in hand. Catching the Huns offguard, CHIEN PO breaks the watermelons over each of the Elite Huns' heads, knocking them out.

LING jams an apple in the Swordsman Hun's mouth. Then KICKS him in the mid-section and CRACKS his back with his head.

YAO dodges a punch from The Biggest Hun and HITS him in the stomach. Picking him up, Yao FLIPS him over his shoulder. CRUNCH.

The Archer Hun aims an arrow at MULAN. She falls to the ground and KICKS him. She springs up and SMASHES the Hun in the face with the ball of her hand.

MULAN

Shang, go!

Shang runs towards the tower door.

IMPERIAL PALACE TOWER

SHAN-YU faces the Emperor.

SHAN-YU

Your walls have fallen and so shall you.
Bow to me.

The Emperor remains absolutely still.

EMPEROR

No matter how the wind howls, a mountain cannot bow to it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHAN-YU
Then you will kneel...

Shan-Yu raises his sword.

SHAN-YU
...in pieces.

As Shan-Yu begins his fatal blow-- Shang blocks his sword with a CLANG. He rolls and donkey kicks Shan-Yu, sending the Hun against the pillar.

Shang THRUSTS his sword at him, but Shan-Yu catches the blade and PULLS Shang off of the tower.

Shang GRABS the pillar, swings around and KICKS Shan-Yu, then pins him.

Mulan, Yao, Ling and Chien Po run into the room. Mulan throws her sash over a banner hanging from a pillar.

MULAN
Chien Po, get the Emperor!

Chien Po picks up the Emperor.

CHIEN PO
Excuse me, your Majesty.

Chien Po takes the Emperor to the edge of the tower. He uses the sash and banner as a zip line, SLIDING with the Emperor down to safety.

SHAN-YU
(realizing)
No!!

Ling and Yao quickly follow down the line.

Shan-Yu kicks Shang off of him.

FROM THE ZIP LINE

Yao zooms down, calling back to Mulan.

YAO
C'mon!

BACK IN THE TOWER

Shan-Yu delivers a devastating blow to Shang, sending him FLYING out into the hall. He turns towards Mulan.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

She looks down to see Shan-Yu's sword-- a few feet away. *

As Shan-Yu heads to the zip line, Mulan dives for the sword
and cuts the zip line. *

Shan-Yu forcefully shoves Mulan aside, grabs his sword and
looks over the edge, searching for the Emperor. *

OUTSIDE *

the zip line falls to the ground. The Emperor, lost in the
sea of thousands. *

BACK IN THE TOWER *

Shan-Yu's anger turns to rage. *

SHAN-YU
GrrrowllllaaaaAAUUGHHH!!! *

Mulan steadies herself against the pillar. *

SHAN-YU
(shouting)
Let your people hide you! They'll fall
by my blade 'til I find you! *

From behind, he's hit with Mulan's slipper. *

MULAN
Haven't enough lives been lost? *

Mulan puts her hair up to look as she did when she first
encountered Shan-Yu in the mountains. His face falls in
recognition. *

SHAN-YU
...The soldier from the mountains. *

Mulan turns and runs down the palace hallway. *

SHAN-YU
(in frustration)
Arrrrgh! *

He grabs his sword and chases Mulan. *

INSIDE THE PALACE HALLWAY *

Mulan runs into Shang. *

MULAN
Shang! *

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shang sees and hears Shan-Yu cutting a destructive path down the hallway.

MULAN
We've got to get out of here.

SHANG
I have to stop Shan-Yu.

Shang starts to head back, Mulan grabs him.

MULAN
Shang! He'll kill you-- (then)

She flattens him with a PUNCH.

MULAN
Sorry. But I'll stop him my way.

As Mulan continues down the hallway, she runs into Mushu, riding the plucked falcon.

Mulan grabs Mushu by the neck.

MULAN
Mushu...

MUSHU
(Choke)

MULAN
I need your help.

Shan-Yu pursues Mulan, destroying everything in his path as he slashes wildly at Mulan. He cuts through a pillar that crashes through a wall, providing an escape route for Mulan. She crawls out onto the pillar and sees...

THE FIREWORKS TOWER

MULAN
(to Mushu)
Do you feel lucky?

Cri-Kee vigorously nods his head "yes."

As Shan-Yu gets closer, Mulan whispers to Mushu.

MUSHU
Are you nuts?!? That's suicide!

MULAN
Just do it!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mulan throws Mushu into the air. He LANDS on a large KITE
and FLIES towards...

INSIDE THE FIREWORKS TOWER

Mushu gets the attention of the fireworks attendant.

MUSHU
Citizens, I need fire power.

FIREWORKS ATTENDANT I
Aaaagh!

FIREWORKS ATTENDANT II
Who are you?!

Mushu uses the kite as GIANT WINGS.

MUSHU
(like Batman)
Your worst nightmare.

Frightened, the fireworks attendants jump out of the tower.

IN THE STREET

The crowd looks up.

PERSON IN STREET#1
On the roof...

PERSON IN STREET#2
Look!

ON THE ROOF

MULAN crawls out onto the roof. She eyes the fireworks tower
ahead of her.

Shan-Yu SMASHES through the roof, JUMPING in front of her.

She's trapped. She searches for a weapon but only finds a
fan. She pulls it out, opens it. Fearfully, she watches
Shan-Yu approach.

SHAN-YU
(smiling)
It looks like you're out of ideas.

SHAN-YU stabs his sword through the fan.

SLOW-MOTION as it rips through the painted pieces of silk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN SNAPS the fan shut on the blade, TORQUES it from his hand and CATCHES the sword. *

MULAN *

Not quite. *

(calling) *

Ready Mushu? *

AT THE OTHER END OF THE ROOF - Mushu rips off the kite wings, exposing a rocket strapped to his back. *

MUSHU

Ready, Baby!

Mushu lights a stick and hands it to Cri-Kee.

MUSHU

Light me!

Shan-Yu LUNGES at Mulan. She avoids the blow and uses the sword as a vault to deliver a kick to Shan-Yu's chin. She falls to the roof and sweeps her feet, knocking Shan-Yu's legs out from under him.

CRI-KEE lights the rocket fuse. It SPEEDS off toward

SHAN-YU and MULAN. Mulan plants the sword in Shan-Yu's tunic, sticking him to the roof.

Mulan uses the sword to launch herself into the air, KICKING Shan-Yu on the way...

She SOMERSAULTS over the rocket, snatching Mushu off mid-air. They land safely as

THE ROCKET

SMASHES into Shan-Yu--

SHAN-YU

(AGGGHH!)

and carries him off the roof towards

THE FIREWORKS TOWER

Mulan runs with all her might.

MULAN

Get off the roof, get off the roof, get off the roof!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLOSE ON SHAN-YU, horrified, as he SLAMS into

THE FIREWORKS TOWER, setting off the world's HUGEST
EXPLOSION!!!

Fireworks shoot off amidst a towering giant fireball.

SHANG

staggers up as the palace BLOWS UP behind him.

Mulan FLIES through the air and lands on Shang, taking him
down the stairs.

MUSHU and CRI-KEE drop from the sky. Mushu looks at the black
smoke streaming from the right wing of the Imperial Palace,
completely decimated.

MUSHU

(whistling; to Cri-Kee)

Now that's what I call a Mongolian
barbecue.

ON THE DAIS

Mulan lies over Shang as millions of fireworks light the sky
around them.

Shang smiles as Yao, Ling and Chien-Po come up the stairs to
join them.

CHI FU (SEQUENCE 21)

emerges from the smoke, his hat smouldering.

CHI FU

(ranting)

Where is she? Now she's done it! What a
mess!

He tries to reach Mulan, only the men stand protectively
around her.

CHI FU

Stand aside! That creature's not worth
protecting.

SHANG

She's a hero!

CHI FU

She's a woman! She'll never be worth
anything!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shang grabs him.

SHANG
Listen, you pompous --

EMPEROR O.S.
(quietly; measured)
That... is enough!

The men and Mulan turn to see

THE EMPEROR

solemnly approaching.

SHANG
Your Majesty, I can explain--

The Emperor holds up his hand and waves them aside. They part, revealing Mulan. She nervously bows her head.

EMPEROR
I've heard a great deal about you, Fa Mulan.
(sternly)
You stole your father's armor, ran away from home... impersonated a soldier... deceived your commanding officer... dishonored the chinese army... destroyed my palace... AND...!

Mulan lowers her eyes, shaking in fear.

EMPEROR
...you have saved us all.

Mulan looks up at the Emperor. He smiles, then does the unthinkable... he BOWS to her.

Chi Fu, in shock, can only do the same.

Shang, Yao, Chien-Po and Ling bow as well.

In fact, Mulan watches in shock as the ENTIRE PLAZA begins to bow and CHEER.

IN THE PLAZA

Kahn lowers his head; Mushu and the cricket sit on his saddle.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU

(crying)

I've done such a good job.

The cricket WHACKS him.

MUSHU

Ow!

(then; to cricket)

What?!

ON THE DAIS

THE EMPEROR motions...

EMPEROR

Chi Fu!

Chi Fu steps forward.

CHI FU

Your Excellency.

EMPEROR

See to it that this woman is made a member of my council.

Chi Fu can hardly contain his shock.

CHI FU

(STIFLING AN OUTBURST) A member-- uh... what?! Ah, there are no council positions open.

EMPEROR

Very well...

(turning to Mulan)

You can have his job.

CHI FU

Wha--?!? My--?!?

Chi Fu faints and falls down the stairs, his ink spilling everywhere.

MULAN

With all due respect, Your Excellency, I think I've been away from home long enough.

EMPEROR

(reaching around his neck)

Then...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EMPEROR (cont'd)
 (giving her his pendant)
 ... take this. So your family will know
 what you have done for me.

Mulan gratefully accepts his gift.

EMPEROR
 And this...
 (handing her Shan-Yu's sword)
 So the world will know what you have done
 for China.

Mulan holds it reverantly, then throws her arms around the
 Emperor. The Emperor reacts, pleasantly surprised.

YAO
 (whispering; to Ling)
 Is she allowed to do that?

Mulan turns to the Gang of Three and hugs each of them. Ling
 sneaks to the end of the line, receiving another hug.

YAO
 (to Ling; upset)
 Hey, you got two!

As they start to fight, Chien Po grabs Yao.

CHIEN PO
 Yao, relax and chant with me.

YAO
 (GROWLING)

Mulan turns to Shang -- they awkwardly regard each other.
 Mulan looks at him in anticipation.

SHANG
 ... Um... you're a--
 (shaking her hand)
 -- you fight good.

MULAN
 (trying to hide her
 disappointment)
 Oh. Thank you.

Shang doesn't know what else to say. Mulan turns and mounts
 Khan.

MULAN
 Khan, let's go home.

As they ride off to the CHEERS of the crowd...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ON THE DAIS

Shang watches Mulan, regretfully. The Emperor appears beside him.

EMPEROR

(clearing his throat)

The flower that blooms in adversity is
the most rare and beautiful of all.

SHANG

Your Majesty?

EMPEROR

(explaining)

You don't meet a girl like that every
dynasty.

And off Shang's thoughtfulness...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MULAN'S HOUSE - DAY (SEQUENCE 22)

Mulan stands at the gate to see her father, sitting under a cherry blossom tree. A slight breeze blows a blossom into Fa Zhou's lap. He looks at it tenderly as Mulan approaches, carrying Shan-Yu's sword. Fa Zhou looks up and sees her.

FA ZHOU

Mulan...

Before he can rise, Mulan kneels before him.

MULAN

Ba-ba...

She presents the sword to him and bows.

MULAN

I brought you the sword of Shan-Yu.

(taking off the crest)

And the crest of the Emperor.

(then)

They're gifts... to honor the Fa family.

Fa Zhou solemnly takes it... and puts it aside. He pulls Mulan to him, gathering her in a heartfelt embrace.

FA ZHOU

The greatest gift and honor, is having
you for a daughter... I've missed you so.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MULAN

I've missed you, too, Ba-ba.

As they hug...

EXT. FA FAMILY COURTYARD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Fa Li and Grandmother Fa happily watch the reunion.

GRANDMA

Great. She brings home a sword. It
would've been nice if she brought home a
m--

SHANG O.S.

Pardon me. I'm Captain Li Shang.

Shang approaches them.

SHANG

Does Fa Mulan live here?

Fa Li and Grandmother Fa stare at him silently for a moment,
then point in unison towards the garden.

As he steps past them...

EXT. FA FAMILY GARDEN - CONTINUOUS

Shang enters the garden and walks up to Fa Zhou.

SHANG

(bowing)

Honorable Fa Zhou, I--

Shang stops as he sees

MULAN approaching.

SHANG (cont'd)

(to Mulan)

I know I'm breaking tradition by coming
here like this... but... I was hoping...

Mulan smiles at him.

MULAN

Yes.

SHANG

Yes?

As Mulan and Shang smile...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GRANDMA O.S.

Don't just stand there-- invite him to dinner!

CUT TO:

EXT. FA FAMILY TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

AT THE WINDOW

Mushu and the First Ancestor watch Mulan, Shang and Fa Zhou walk towards the moon gate.

MUSHU

(cocky; coaxing)

Well... c'mon... who did a good job? Who did a good job?

FIRST ANCESTOR

(begrudgingly)

Oh all right!

(under his breath)

You can be a guardian again.

MUSHU

...Whaaaat?

FIRST ANCESTOR

(giving up)

You can be a... guardian again.

MUSHU

Waaahhh!!!

(then)

Hit it, Cri-Kee.

Cri-Kee rings the gong and wakes up the other guardians. Mushu hops back onto his spot.

MUSHU (cont'd)

Guard the fort, 'cause I am BACK!

The GUARDIANS CHEER and begin to celebrate.

GUARDIANS

(CHEERING)

Mushu looks through the window and catches Mulan's eye and smiles.

As the temple begins to rock, Mushu swings by on a rope, right into... The Great Stone Dragon. Badly put together.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MUSHU

Stony! Good to see you! You're looking
great, buddy! Mosaic.

As the Great Stone Dragon GROWLS, FADE OUT over...

MUSHU (cont'd)

Easy, boy. It wasn't me who did this--
it was the CRICKET! You can't trust
those bugs...!

And off Mushu's LAUGH and the cricket's CHIRP...

THE END

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

CONTINUED:

MUSHU

Stony! Good to see you! You're looking
great, buddy! Mosaic.

As the Great Stone Dragon GROWLS, FADE OUT over...

MUSHU (cont'd)

Easy, boy. It wasn't me who did this--
it was the CRICKET! You can't trust
those bugs...!

And off Mushu's LAUGH and the cricket's CHIRP...

THE END

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*