

BLACK MOSES

**MARCUS
MOSIAH
GARVEY**

***THE MAN, THE MYTH,
THE MOVEMENT***

A black, notorious activist and a renowned Jamaican Jewish lawyer unite in a relentless battle against racial injustice.

JAMAICA- 1899

2. INT. EMPTY GRAVE - NIGHT FALLS

MR. GARVEY

When I was your age, my father took
me down in a hole like this.

YOUNG MARCUS

Why, sir?

MR. GARVEY

Do you know what fear is, Marcus?

YOUNG MARCUS

It's being scared, like now.

MR. GARVEY

Yes, it is. But fear is also a
weapon.

YOUNG MARCUS

A weapon?

MR. GARVEY

It can be a weapon that one man uses
to control another man.



If you have no fear, no one can control you.

-Mr. Garvey

Until you master your fear, Marcus



I will master my fear.



Rise! You mighty race! Rise up!

BE BLACK!

BUY BLACK!

THINK BLACK!

AND ALL ELSE WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF!



I will master my fear.
— Marcus Garvey



4. INT. BACKSTAGE THEATRE NIGHT.

We pull out from close up on Amy's eyes to see that she is sitting in the wings of a stage, where Marcus is finishing his speech. She is not watching Marcus, but listening intently.

She forces a radiant smile for Marcus as he joins her in the wings of the stage. They hug, taking a moment to revel in the jubilant reaction to the speech.

MARCUS GARVEY

They'll come after me.

AMY GARVEY

I know.

MARCUS GARVEY

It may get very difficult. Again.

AMY GARVEY

I know. We could lose what little we have left.

MARCUS GARVEY

And if we did?

They will never silence you.

-Amy Garvey

They will never silence me.

-Marcus Garvey

6.INT. KING'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The Colonial Officers arrive at a door guarded by a soldier, who seems to be expecting them. He taps briefly on the door and opens it as the two men enter.

GOVERNOR A.S. JELF

True, but this Garvey is a menace.
They don't just listen to him, they
rise to him. He has to be stopped.

RICHARD FIENNES BARRETT LENNARD

Well, we could allow George Osborne
Marke to proceed with his case
against Marcus Garvey in Jamaica.

GOVERNOR A.S. JELF (conspiratorially)
We have to stop him.

RICHARD FIENNES BARRETT LENNARD
Stop him?

GOVERNOR A.S. JELF
His printing press?

In his hands, it is a weapon.

- Governor A.S. Jelf

10. EXT. SHAARE SHALOM SYNAGOGUE - DAY

ABRAHAM JUDAH, 57, white Jewish man, stands patiently, waiting for LEWIS ASHENHEIM, 53, white Jewish man, to exit with ESTELLE ASHENHEIM, 48, white Jewish woman. They are saying goodbye to people as they walk out.

Lewis spots Abraham, who motions for him to come over so they can speak.

This is not about politics, Lewis
or even race or religion.
This is about justice.

- Abraham Judah





13. INT. HOME OF LEWIS ASHENHEIM - DAY

Lewis is sitting at the breakfast table with his wife, Estelle. She pours coffee as he reads from the paper.

ESTELLE ASHENHEIM

You also know that everyone will
try to talk you out of representing
him.

LEWIS ASHENHEIM

Justice Adrian Clark has already
been bending my ear about the
multitudes of flaws in Mr. Garvey's
character and concept, and the
madness of defending him.

ESTELLE ASHENHEIM

There are flaws aplenty among your
brother lawyers, Lewis, just as
there are among the ladies in my
charity.

LEWIS ASHENHEIM (seriously)

Justice Clark said he's anti-
Semite.

What does your conscience tell you?

- Estelle Ashenheim

I feel I have no choice but to take this case.

- Lewis Ashenheim

15. EXT. MISS MAISY'S DRESS SHOP - DAY

The bell rings on the dress shop door as Estelle enters. Amy is pretending to be a shop assistant, and has her back turned.

ESTELLE ASHENHEIM

I suspect you are as protective of your husband as I am of mine.

AMY GARVEY

I suspect I am.

ESTELLE ASHENHEIM

But when it comes to injustice and righting a wrong, Lewis holds nothing back.

AMY GARVEY

Neither does Marcus. It appears we are married to similar men.

Cut from the same cloth.

- Estelle Ashenheim

Or from a different cloth, but by the same Divine tailor.

- Amy Garvey



23. EXT- STREET FROM LIBERTY HALL TO THE WHARF - DAY
Marcus & Lewis walk out of the gates and down to the
wharf.
He looks out across the water.

MARCUS GARVEY

My ancestors crossed oceans
of hate to get here.

LEWIS ASHENHEIM

And my ancestors came
escaping generations of hate.

MARCUS GARVEY

Our ancestors didn't exactly
arrive on the same boat.

LEWIS ASHENHEIM

Yet, you and I find ourselves
in the same boat now.

Marcus chuckles, then looks at Lewis.

Marcus and Lewis shake hands, then turn to look out
at sea as the music plays.



So the Jew and the Gentile join forces, eh?

- Marcus Garvey

To right a wrong

- Lewis Ashenheim

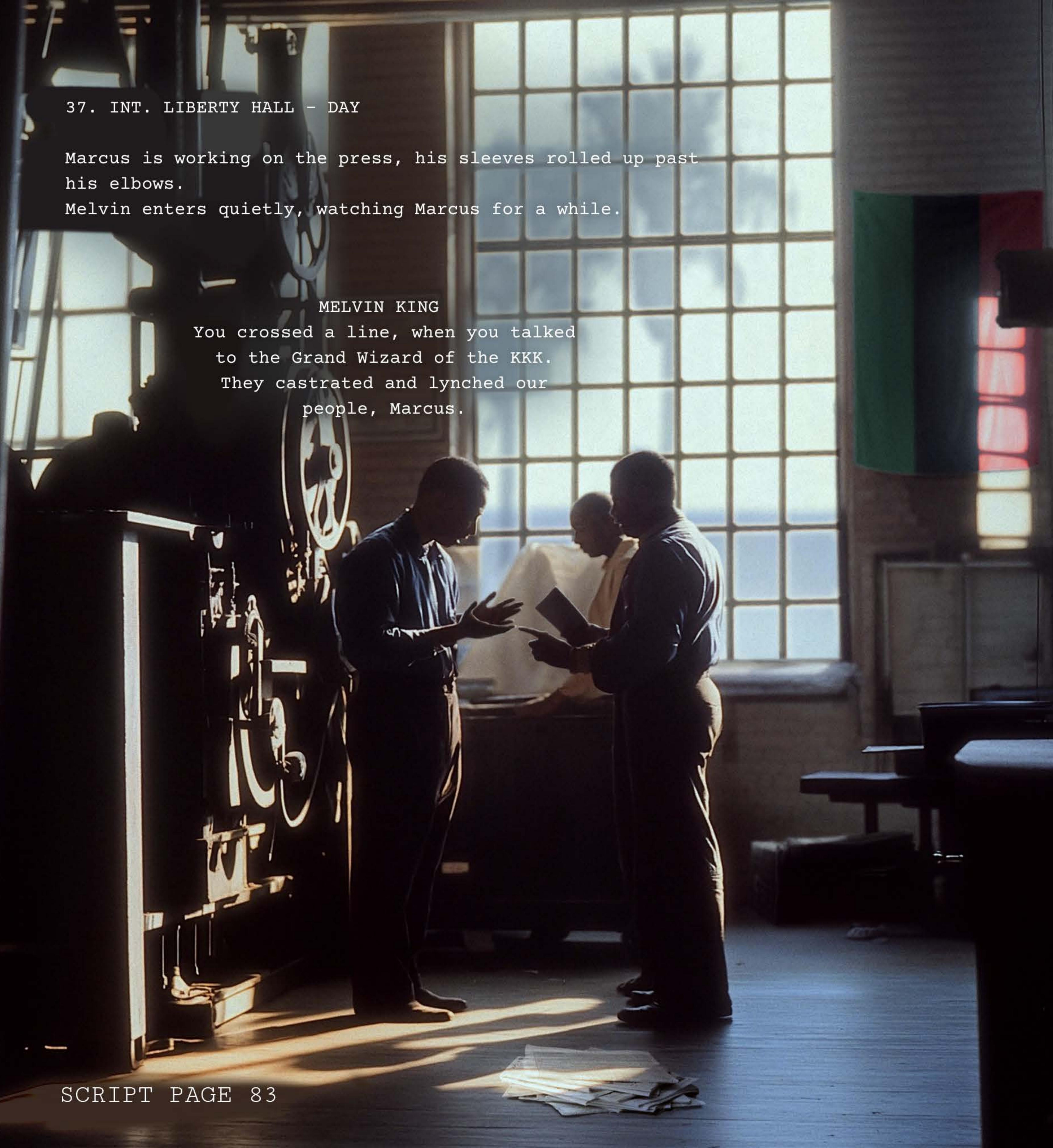
37. INT. LIBERTY HALL - DAY

Marcus is working on the press, his sleeves rolled up past his elbows.

Melvin enters quietly, watching Marcus for a while.

MELVIN KING

You crossed a line, when you talked
to the Grand Wizard of the KKK.
They castrated and lynched our
people, Marcus.



You crossed a line Marcus.

You crossed a line that can't be uncrossed, even by you!

- Melvin King

18. INT. KKK CABIN - NIGHT

Marcus and Melvin walk into a wide room with one desk in the middle and a row of chairs against the wall.

EDWARD YOUNG CLARKE, 52, Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, is sitting at the desk. There are two empty chairs across from him. Five men carrying rifles are lounging against the walls.

GRAND WIZARD

It seems to me, you're either Daniel in the lions' den, or Solomon, in the valley of the shadow. Which do you think it is?

I think I'm closer to Moses, at the Red Sea

-Marcus Garvey



You dont want us gone.

You want us dead.

- Marcus Garvey

21. INT. OFFICE OF MARCUS GARVEY, LIBERTY HALL - DAY

Marcus leads Lewis directly to his office, motioning for him to take a seat across from him.

MARCUS GARVEY

And if you were not so personally connected, would you have taken the case against the English Insurance Companies following the earthquake?



People died, and the insurance company lied!

- Lewis Ashenheim

9. INT. MELVIN'S ROOM AT LIBERTY HALL - AFTERNOON

Melvin's tone is bitter and Iris looks worried.

MELVIN KING
We should leave.

IRIS EWART.
(disbelief)

You've been with them from the beginning. You were in prison with
Mr. Garvey. How can you suggest such a thing?

Iris, you don't know what it was like
- Melvin King

32. INT. SUPREME COURT, KINGSTON, JAMAICA - DAY

Chief Justice Barrett Lennard sits on the bench as presiding judge.

Lewis Ashenheim and Marcus Garvey are seated at the defendant's table, with John Cargill at the prosecutor's table.

Marcus stands, and clears his throat, Lewis stops talking, his heart suddenly cold. He puts a hand on Marcus' arm.

MARCUS GARVEY (ignoring Lewis)

Mr. Chief Justice, I, along with my co-claimants, founded the voluntary Societies known as the Universal Negro Improvement Association Parent Body, and African Communities, working to uplift the Negro race.

Lewis interrupts, concerned that Marcus will inadvertently undermine the case.

*Marcus, please sit down.
- Lewis Ashenheim*

32. INT. SUPREME COURT, KINGSTON, JAMAICA - DAY

Amy reaches for Estelle's hand. She knows that anything can happen now and nothing will restrain Marcus.

Amy grips Estelle's hand more tightly.

A dramatic scene in a courtroom. In the foreground, several people are looking upwards and to the right with expressions of concern or awe. The lighting is low, creating strong shadows and highlights on their faces.

What is he doing?

- Estelle Ashenheim

I dont know.

- Amy Garvey

RICHARD FIENNES BARRETT LENNARD

I therefore hold you, Mr.

Ashenheim in contempt of this
court, and I order that you be
remanded into custody immediately!

The courtroom reacts in shock at the harsh response from the judge. Estelle gasps. Amy's face is granite. Lewis Ashenheim and Marcus Garvey look at each other. Marcus is angry. Lewis's expression is stony.

Consider your next move carefully.

The court is adjourned.

— Richard Fennes Barrett Lennard

33. EXT. COURT STEPS - DAY

On the steps of the courthouse, Lewis grabs Marcus's arm and forces him to face him. Lewis is shocked that Marcus is angry instead of apologetic, and feels his own anger quickly rising.

LEWIS ASHENHEIM

Marcus, your outburst in there just lost us everything.

MARCUS GARVEY

What did you lose, Lewis? Three hundred pounds? You're a successful lawyer. You'll go on with your illustrious career. I lost my home, my movement, and my life's work! I have lost the future of an entire race of people!

Marcus! Where are you going?

- Lewis Ashenheim

35. EXT. A LONG NARROW LANE - DAY

We see through the eyes of a man, running in fear, and we hear his labored breath.

It's Marcus Garvey.

Running fast downhill, he looks over his shoulder to see a mob of ten men chasing after him.

The men are shouting and waving sticks and clubs. Marcus continues running.

They're closing on him fast. They catch up ...



42. INT. SUPREME COURT, KINGSTON, JAMAICA - DAY

Lewis Ashenheim and Marcus Garvey are seated up front

CHIEF JUSTICE HENRY ISAAC CLOSE BROWN
Are you claiming that the judgement
was so seriously in error?

LEWIS ASHENHEIM

I believe Judge Barrett Lennard approved the illegal
seizure of property by the bailiff against Mr. Garvey
based on his mistaken ruling linking the UNIA New York
branch with the UNIA Jamaica branch.



42. INT. SUPREME COURT, KINGSTON, JAMAICA - DAY

CHIEF JUSTICE HENRY ISAAC CLOSE BROWN

I hereby set aside Chief Justice Barrett Lennard's judgement, and assign costs in your favour of Mr. Garvey.

The two Jamaican Societies are fully cleared of all involvement in the financial affairs of the American Corporation.

In summary, Mr. Ashenheim, the fight you have waged on Mr. Garvey's behalf has resulted in a clear victory for him, and his co-defendants.

salus populi suprema est lex, Defendamus, Mr. Ashenheim. The welfare of the people is the highest law to defend.

The fight you have waged on Mr. Garvey's behalf has resulted in a clear victory for him, and his co-defendants.

- Chief Justice Henry Brown



49. EXT. VILLAGE IN GHANA - DAY

Melvin King is reading a Marcus Garvey speech to the young men.

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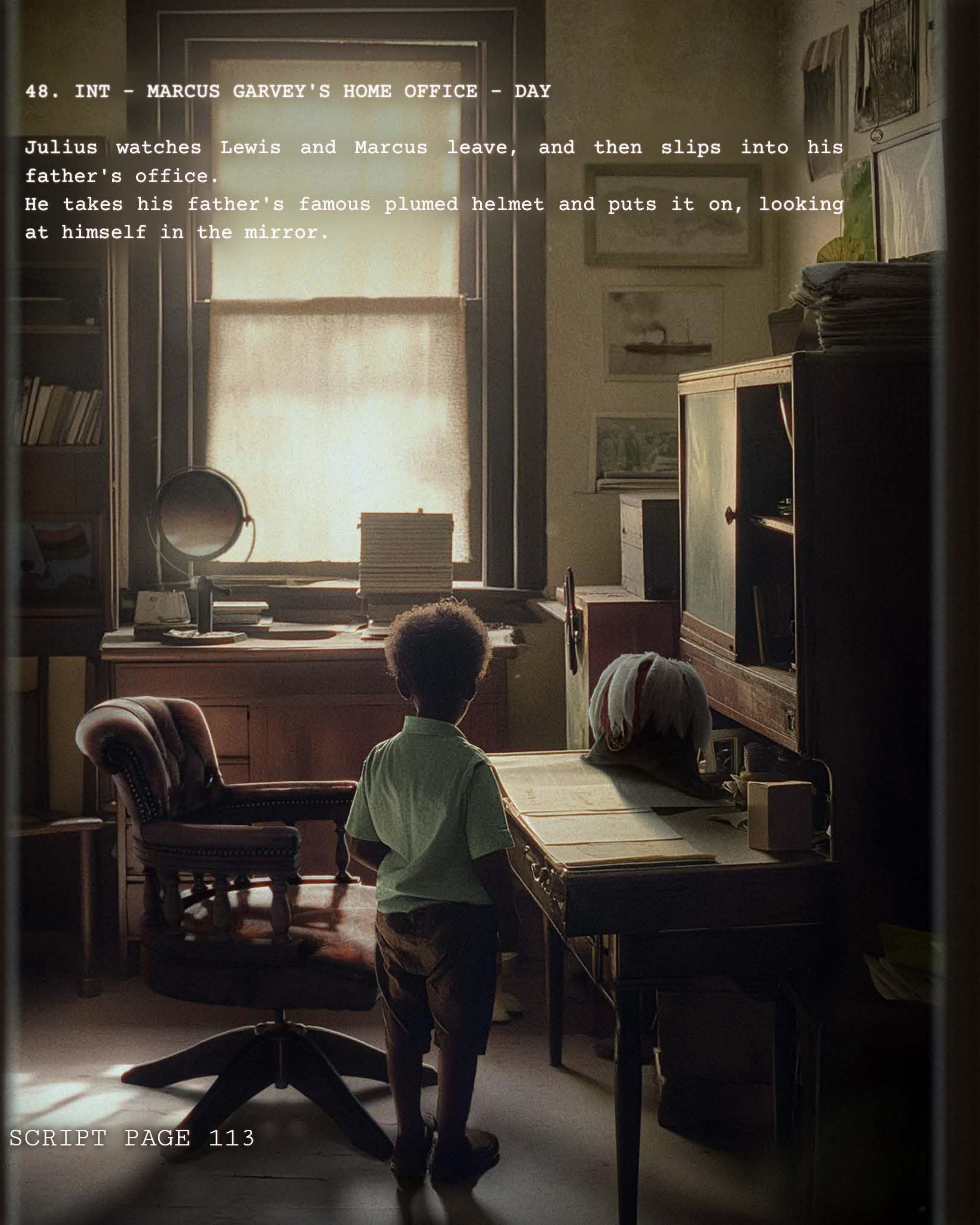


Do you think people will remember us and the battles we waged...

48. INT - MARCUS GARVEY'S HOME OFFICE - DAY

Julius watches Lewis and Marcus leave, and then slips into his father's office.

He takes his father's famous plumed helmet and puts it on, looking at himself in the mirror.



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after we're gone?

- Marcus Garvey



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