

NAPOLEON

By

David Scarpa

1 INT. TUILERIES - AUGUST 10, 1792

TITLE: REVOLUTION

CAMERA RUNNING BEHIND MARIE-ANTOINETTE LIKE A HORROR FILM
with her two children, ushered by guards.

NATIONAL GUARD (REBELS, REVOLUTIONARY MOB) storm the palace.

They are met with GUNFIRE from the Swiss Guards. Hundreds of people are killed but the MOB keeps coming...

ANGLE, MARIE ANTOINETTE

Stay with her and the kids locked in a room. SOUNDS building...getting closer...unruly mob smashes the door down and comes for her, they take her, they pull her away from the children....

2 EXT. PLACE DE CONCORDE - DAY

MARIE-ANTOINETTE goes straight into a wagon. Peripheral threatening violence. Stay with them in the streets into Place de Concorde....

NAPOLEON (VO)

Those at the top are poor creatures.
It must be admitted when you see
things at first hand, that the
people are not worth the trouble
taken in winning their favor....

In the crowd of people, NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

NAPOLEON (VO)

You have to see things close to
realize that enthusiasm is but
enthusiasm and the French are an old
nation without ties.....

3 EXT. PLACE DE CONCORDE - DAY

Marie-Antoinette lead up to the guillotine.

ROBESPIERRE (VO)

She was guilty of three charges
against you. Depletion of the
national treasury, conspiracy
against the internal and external
security of State and high treason
for acting in the interest of the
Enemy.

They cut off her head. Sanson holds her head up, PEOPLE CHEER.

TITLE: THE REPUBLIC

ROBESPIERRE (VO)

...Indulgence of the Royalists, cry
certain men, mercy for the villains!
No! Mercy for the innocent, mercy
for the weak, mercy for the
unfortunate, mercy for humanity....

4

INT. JACOBIN CLUB - DAY

Robespierre is giving a speech. Napoleon and his friends Saliceti and Junot are in the crowd, listening.

ROBESPIERRE (VO)

Society owes protection only to
peaceable citizens. Terror is
nothing other than justice. Prompt,
severe, inflexible: it is therefore
an *emanation of virtue*....

Above, in the gallery sits PAUL BARRAS (male 30s, effeminate) Lucien and Barras see each other, motions him to an upstairs gallery.

5

INT. JACOBIN CLUB - UPSTAIRS - LATER

A corner heated by a stove. Robespierre speech heard OC.

Barras meets Napoleon and Lucien. Barras is gossiping with them:

PAUL BARRAS

The New Republic has promised to
assist all people who rise up
against their rulers which has put
us to war with all Europe and the
English. I believe we have shown
that we are incompetent to wage a
war against anyone. Don't
you.....?

REVEAL: NAPOLEON, is standing next to his brother LUCIEN and they are listening to Barras. Napoleon doesn't answer.

LUCIEN

Yes.

PAUL BARRAS

It is clear to The New Committee and
Anyone Else that we are incompetent -
I'm not saying anything impressive,
I'm just possessing an honest
appraisal of the Current Situation -
You were posted in Auxonne during
the Revolution?

NAPOLEON

Yes.

PAUL BARRAS

Suppressing local food riots?

NAPOLEON

Yes.

PAUL BARRAS

You organized a volunteer National
Guard in Corsica?

NAPOLEON

Yes.

PAUL BARRAS

The English now occupy your home of
Corsica?

NAPOLEON

Yes.

PAUL BARRAS

Mmhm. Where is your family?

NAPOLEON

Marseilles.

PAUL BARRAS

Dependent on your pay?

NAPOLEON

yes.

LUCIEN

Citizen Bonaparte as artillery
officer has organized heated shots
for the coastal batteries to fire at
English ships.

PAUL BARRAS

Mmmmm. Heated shots.

The British Navy have taken the port
of Toulon. Half the French fleet is
trapped there.

Lucky for us, Admiral Pitt sent the
bulk of his English army to die in
the West Indies of yellow fever so
there are only two thousand English
troops in Toulon.

But we are short of artillery and we
are led by a General who was a court
painter. A painter. Fruit.

NAPOLEON

It's not necessary to recapture
Toulon itself. The town is not a
town. The town is a port.

If the harbour is untenable to the
English fleet, the town must
surrender.

PAUL BARRAS
and how do you take the Harbour?

NAPOLEON
Take the Fort that dominates the
Harbour and you have the city.

PAUL BARRAS
I, for one, think we should despair
and abandon the whole Provence to
the English Invader...
(***ALTERNATIVE LINE
FORTHCOMING***)

5A EXT. PORT OF TOULON - MORNING

Napoleon and Junot ride in.

6 INT. FRENCH WAR BASE NEAR TOULON - MORNING

PULL BACK to see French General JEAN-FRANCOIS CARTEAUX,
painting a still life of fruit. We're in his quarters within
an old fort.

Napoleon stands, unnoticed and watches him paint.
General Carteaux motions without turning.

GEN. CARTEAUX
You're in my light....pass the burnt
umber...

CU. NAPOLEON
Seeing the situation. (passes the burnt umber)

7 EXT. PORT OF TOULON - MORNING

Napoleon walking amongst/over his shabby troops. French
INFANTRYMEN lie on the ground.

8 EXT. PORT OF TOULON - DAY

A WIDE SHOT that reveals the geography of the
situation...it's a large port blockaded by British Naval
Vessels with a FORT L'EGUILETTE occupying the promontory.

There are British Flags everywhere.

9 INT. TOULON WAR CAMP - ARTILLERY ROOM - DAY

Napoleon pulls back a tarp to survey the RUSTED OUT CANNONS
in the back of an oxcart....

10 EXT. TOULON - DAY

Napoleon, dressed in the clothes of a carpenter, rides an old
work-horse as British troops strut past him.

He stops and casts a surreptitious glance over his shoulder to be sure he isn't being watched. He pulls out a spyglass.

HIS POV: the main fort overlooking the city, FORT L'EGUILETTE, with British and Bourbon flags flying overhead.

11

EXT. FORT L'EGUILETTE - DAY

Napoleon rides along the wall beneath the great fortress. High above, along the fortress wall, British SOLDIERS are running out and panning the great LONG CANNONS.

Napoleon watches closely, unnoticed. As Napoleon watches closely, one of the soldiers steps on the wall --

-- and sends a scree of loose stone tumbling down below, making Napoleon's workhorse whinny and dance.

BRITISH SOLDIER
Sorry about that, mate!

12

EXT. MUDDY BANK/ BEACH - MONTAGE -- DAY

A RIVER BANK, pockmarked with blast craters from cannon and mortar fire. Napoleon plunges a shovel into the mud --

-- and finds it buried within: an old CANNONBALL, warped out of shape by the force of impact. He tosses it into a wheelbarrow full of scrap metal. His men are doing the same, digging up rusty mortars and other metal debris.

A DONKEY tethered to a rope pulls a rusted old anchor from the river bank where it is buried.

13

EXT. WAR CAMP - DAY

The men build LADDERS wide enough for two men to climb abreast.

14

INT. BLACKSMITH'S FORGE - MONTAGE - DAY

Piles of stolen scrap iron are poured out of brigands' bags into the great glowing forge, where they melt into molten taffy --

-- which is poured into a series of molds in the shape of CANNONS and cannonballs.

MORTARS are assembled -- small cannons, three feet long, that can be carried and swiveled to lob grenades.

We PUSH IN on Bonaparte standing at the center of it all, drenched in sweat as he pours the molten iron into the molds.

A HISS OF STEAM as water is poured over the cannon molds to cool them. Bonaparte reaches in with a set of heavy tongs and picks up one of the glowing 2-pound balls.

15

EXT. FORGE -- TOULON - CAMP -- DAY

A line of freshly forged MORTARS stand before us on wooden tripods.

Napoleon takes a new mortar casting of at least 80 pounds and rests it in its cradle. Takes a pinch of powder and saltpeter... points to the distant wall... then inserts an explosive ball.

Napoleon drives a RAMMER SHAFT into the bore of a cannon, demonstrating for a group of raw recruits. Barras, Carteaux and Junot are in conference in the BG nearby.

The mortar FIRES and clears the wall.

16

EXT. FORT L'EGUILETTE -- NIGHT (DECEMBER 16, 1793)

Napoleon and his men move under cover of darkness.

THIRTY MORTAR CREWS, each consisting of three men apiece, maneuver the mortars into position on the battlefield.

In the distance, British GUARDS carouse and sing songs on the Fortress rooftop not 200 yards away. A drunken guard appears and urinates off the parapet.

A muster of 200 FRENCH TROOPS are ready: thirty three-man MORTAR CREWS, each with its own mortar on a tripod, along with 100 MARKSMEN with bayonets and rifles waiting by the large door to be blown up. The ladder troops wait at the ready.

A SAPPER has set a keg of powder by the back door to the fortress. He rolls a coil of fuse away into darkness.

Napoleon signals -- and a FLAGMAN using two white flags uses semaphore to signal the Sapper. The fuse is lit -- the fuse runs down --

-- and the Fortress door is BLOWN OPEN in a huge EXPLOSION --

-- as all the mortars are launched simultaneously at the fortress, killing many of the guards on the roof.

17

INT. CASTLE BARRACKS -- SAME

British MARINES grab their rifles from beside their bunks and run outside in their stocking feet and long underwear --

18

EXT. FORTRESS ROOFTOP -- NIGHT

-- and charge outside onto to the rooftop, blindly returning fire into the darkness.

The French Infantry are already at the wall with their ladders. They scale the ladders two abreast, gaining access to the fortress roof.

Barras, Carteaux and Junot watch from the rear as - Napoleon trots forward alongside them with his foot soldiers. Everywhere there is shouting, smoke.

NAPOLEON

Cease Fire.

A soldier uses SEMAPHORE to signal his cannon crews to cease fire as the grenadiers break onto the roof and set about the British.

BULLETS whizz around Barras and Carteaux.

Napoleon's horse dances nervously amidst the gunfire. Barras and Napoleon have a moment amidst the chaos together:

NAPOLEON

(at last I am at war)

Napoleon spurs his horse towards the wall.

At that moment a random 2-pound CANNONBALL from the parapet hits Napoleon's horse full in the chest. The animal practically liquefies, disintegrating in pieces beneath him, before it spins & falls, pinning Napoleon's leg to the ground.

Barras and Junot leap off their horses, taking Napoleon by the arms and pulling him out from under the liquefied horse. Barras and Napoleon look at one another, stunned. Barras and Napoleon are covered in blood. He gets up...

Napoleon has drawn his saber and charges the fort on foot. Barras watches as Napoleon climbs the ladder, then disappears into the bloody chaos

Napoleon appears on the battlement, his saber drawn. All is smoke and chaos.

A RED-FACED IRISH SERGEANT charges him with his bayonet, roaring with anger, or more likely, terror. Napoleon assumes his best fencer's stance and parries his blade --

-- but the Irishman swings around and comes back with his rifle butt. Napoleon ducks the bayonet, slashing at the Irishman's side, opening up a huge wound.

Napoleon returns to his stance, saber drawn, and offers the hemorrhaging Irishman his scarf.

IRISHMAN

Little Ponce! Fecking shite on yer
rag!

The Irishman makes a charge and gores Napoleon in the leg.
Napoleon instantly collapses.

The Irishman raises his bayonet to spear Napoleon --

-- as a footsoldier sweeps past, killing the Irishman with
his saber. The Irishman falls dead beside him, their faces
inches apart.

Napoleon struggles to his feet and limps to the wall of the
Fort overlooking the Toulon harbor --

-- where the heavy guns are being taken over. The British
guards are being thrown from the walls. The mortars are now
off loading onto the small French fleet moored below the
Castle. Napoleon stands beside the big guns.

NAPOLEON

Fire cannons!

The CANNONS FIRE at Hood's Fleet offshore --

18A

EXT. PORT OF TOULON - HARBOUR

See the fleet offshore, clearly in chaos

19

EXT. FORT L'EGUILLETTE -- NIGHT

Napoleon stalks up and down the line of cannons, he rolls a
cannonball to one of the crews. A big fellow picks it up to
load.

Barras and Generals Carteaux and Junot are watching from the
castle platform as Napoleon directs the fire, drenched in
blood, backlit with the fire he created.

The British ships are pulling away from the harbor moorings.
Some are burning and setting fire to other ships.

Napoleon walks back to the line of mortars. In the BG, one of
Hood's ship EXPLODES as its magazine is struck by a
cannonball. Barras sees Napoleon with new eyes.

BARRAS

That man has a gift.

20

EXT. TOULON - DAY

Napoleon is awarded title of Brigadier-General in a small,
make-shift ceremony of some kind that's very low budget and
thrown together. Junot and Carteaux are here chosen as
Aides. Barras presents him with a ribbon and a fraternal hug.

PAUL BARRAS

(Into Napoleon's ear)

Whether you're a madman or a
genius...

(MORE)

PAUL BARRAS (CONT'D)

(To the Crowd)
On behalf of The National Convention
and the Committees, I award you the
rank of Brigadier-General.

NAPOLEON

I promised you brilliant successes,
and I have kept my word.

OFF NAPOLEON....

JACQUES LOUIS-DAVID

Who has visited you?

LITTLE HORTENSE

My Aunt.

JACQUES LOUIS-DAVID

What letters have you received?

21

INT. CHATEAU DE BEAUVARNAIS - PARIS

A YOUNG HORTENSE BEAUVARNAIS (10 yrs) is being interrogated by Jacobin thugs: CITIZEN LACOMBE & JACQUES. Five of them crowd a small kitchen. JOSEPHINE BEAUVARNAIS is kept quiet, scared off to the side watching her daughter under questioning.

JOSEPHINE

She's a child - stop it, I will tell
you what you want - stop talking to
her and talk to me --

JACQUES LOUIS-DAVID

Don't look at your Mother, look at
me. (to Guards) Take her in the
other room....

JOSEPHINE

I'm here, my love, I'm in the next
room, I can hear you --

JOSEPHINE

It's alright, my love....

CITIZEN LACOMBE

Do you know your Father's under
arrest?

HORTENSE

He's a prisoner.

CITIZEN LACOMBE

Do you know why?

HORTENSE

Because he's a noble.

CITIZEN LACOMBE
What do you want to do to his
jailers?

HORTENSE
I want him to come back.

CITIZEN LACOMBE
Are you a Noble?

HORTENSE
Yes?

ON JOSEPHINE, crying in the other room.

CITIZEN LACOMBE (OC)
Do you love Liberty?

HORTENSE
Yes.

CITIZEN LACOMBE
What do your parents say about
Royalty?

HORTENSE
....

CITIZEN LACOMBE
Come now, don't be shy, what do they
say when they speak about Louis and
Marie-Antoinette.

HORTENSE
My father is for the Revolution. So
Am I.

CITIZEN LACOMBE
Don't lie to me or I will hurt you:
What will your Mother do to your
Father's jailer....?

NEED JOSEPHINE LINE HERE

22

EXT. CHATEAU DE BEAUMARNAIS - PARIS - SAME

Josephine is arrested and pulled away, calling back to the
children who are left with Lucille....

JOSEPHINE
STAY MY CHILDREN. STAY SAFE, STAY IN
THE HOME. I WILL RETURN.

She struggles into the cart and is taken off.

23

EXT/INT. CARMES PRISON - DAY

Establish shot that brings Josephine and other aristocrats and clergy to Carmes Prison. They are herded inside.

Josephine stands before a Female Warder who takes her rings and yanks her earrings off.

FEMALE WARDER
Show me your hands. Open your mouth.

Reveal Josephine's Teeth, pale, grey and decayed.

JOSEPHINE
I am a citizen of the Republic.
I have a right to a trial.

She is moved along, comes into a courtyard and finds an old friend: THERESA CABARRUS. They embrace.

24

INT. CARMES PRISON - LATER

Theresa and Josephine in a hallway, sat on the floor, people crowded around. An open door nearby has a couple having sex. Josephine looks to Theresa trying to understand.

THERESA CABARRUS
They won't execute a pregnant woman.

CU. JOSEPHINE

THERESA CABARRUS (CONT'D)
And men never need a reason to fuck,
do they?

25

INT. CARMES PRISON -- COURTYARD -- DAY

The condemned aristocrats are all socializing in the courtyard. Their clothes are dirty, their wigs askew, but they continue to act as if it's a garden party.

Josephine, seated with Theresa who has a short hair cut and gestures to that:

THERESA CABARRUS
They say the blade of the guillotine
can get caught in your hair.....

JOSEPHINE
It's true. I watched them behead
the King. The blade got stuck in
his neck.

THERESA CABARRUS

His neck was fat. You have the neck
of a swan, you won't feel a thing.

JOSEPHINE

The head falls in the basket, and
the executioner holds it up for the
crowd. The eyes blink, and the lips
move. Everybody listens to hear
what they're saying. Is that the
last thing you see? The crowd
looking back at you, laughing?

THERESA CABARRUS

...

JOSEPHINE

I need a knife. Can you get one?

THERESA CABARRUS

(firmly)

I'm not going to die. I'll do what
it takes. If that means getting
pregnant, so be it.

Theresa turns and glances across the courtyard, where the young men are gathered.

THERESA CABARRUS

You can die like a lady. Or you can
live, like me.

Theresa rises and crosses the courtyard to join the men.

Amongst them is LAZARE HOCHE, a handsome young military officer. Josephine's gaze meets Hoche's... and in him she glimpses a way to stay alive.

26 INT. CARMES PRISON - JOSEPHINE'S CELL - NIGHT

She picks up a knife and begins to cut off all her hair.

27 INT. CARMES PRISON -- CORRIDORS - NIGHT

Josephine walks through the halls, past the cells of the condemned.

28 INT. CARMES PRISON - LAZARE HOCHE'S CELL - NIGHT

She appears. Lazare Hoche sits up and sees her. She removes her dress.....

29 OMITTED

30 EXT. PLACE DE CONCORDE - DAY

Condemned people wait in the tumbrels to be executed. A group of Nuns is amongst them, praying. The Eldest Nun is walked up and the Crowd falls quiet at the sight of this.....

As she climbs up, she begins to sing Veni Creator Spiritus..
She is executed.

The other Nuns are singing.

Finally, there is one young Nun left, she fearlessly kneels and lays her head on the block, singing. She gets her head chopped off and everyone is quiet.....

VOICE
ENOUGH.....

Lots of murmurs and sadness. "ENOUGH" calls here and there.

30A INT. BARRAS OFFICE - NIGHT

Napoleon sits in a hush-hush conversation with Barras over a glass of brandy.

BARRAS
I would say the current leadership of France has passed from enthusiasm to reckless ambition.....and that the public perception of the guillotine is lawless passion led by Robespierre. He is unfit to rule...and if it is not his head in a basket, then sooner or later it will be any one of us who have served under his title.....

Napoleon stays quiet and still.

30B INT. JACOBIN CLUB - DAY (JULY 27, 1794)

Robespierre's moment has come. He is sat and silenced. His main associates in the reign of terror are nearby: Wheelchair Couthon, Pretty Boy Saint-Just and Brother Augustin Robespierre, Le Bas.

Plotters attack his character and his thirst for power.

BARRAS sits and watches the chaos unfolding. EVERYONE IS SHOUTING ON TOP OF EACH OTHER, ROBESPIERRE is not allowed to speak:

PLOTTER
It is has become increasingly clear, Citizen Robespierre that your motivations are to use this blade to your ultimate power.

ROBESPIERRE
Let me speak, let me speak, sir, no man in this room has objected to my methods - if you say I'm guilty, you are all guilty.

PLOTTER

You are Roman tyrant...worse than
Ceaser.

CROWD

VARIOUS AD LIBS. TYRANT. CAESAR.

ROBSPIERRE

YOU are the traitors. YOU ARE, ALL
OF YOU THE TRAITORS, LET ME SPEAK.

BARRIS

YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY DEFENDER OF
FREEDOM. YOU HAVE DEEMED YOURSELF
JUDGE, JURY AND EXECUTIONER, HAVE
YOU NOT? HAVE YOU NOT? ANSWER MY
QUESTION.

HE STANDS AND LOOKS TO HIS DEPUTIES:

ROBSPIERRE

I am appealing to you, men of
purity, men of virtue - defend my
name -

BARRAS

ARREST HIM.

Robespierre starts to move away and then makes a RUN FOR IT
AND BEDLAM COMES QUICKLY:

Barras and Crowd are hot on Robespierre's heels, following
him up stairs and into a balcony.

Wheelchair Couthon goes down a flight of stairs.

Barras and the Jacobins trample Couthon as they run upstairs.

30C

INT. JACOBIN CLUB -- GALLERY -- SAME

Barras barges a door to find Robespierre standing there with
a pistol. Robespierre aims the pistol at Barras' heart.

Robespierre FIRES one of the guns which doesn't go off...he
takes the other and aims at his own head --

-- the bullet enters at an off-angle, shooting him in the
jaw. There's cloud of smoke and blood. Robespierre collapses
to the ground, writhing.

BARRAS (CONT'D)

You missed.

Barras turns to the Jacobins.

BARRAS (CONT'D)

Take him.

Half his jaw has been blown off, he's still alive.

30D

EXT. PLACE DE CONCORDE -- DAY (JULY 28, 1794)

And so it is that Maximilien Robespierre is delivered up to his own guillotine. His shattered jaw is bandaged. Jacques-Louis David is there, sketching Robespierre in his sketchbook.

Sanson slides Robespierre's head into the Lunette and tears off the bandage on his jaw. Robespierre SCREAMS.

The Lunette is closed, the lever pulled. The blade falls.

31

EXT. CARMES PRISON -- DAY

The gates of the prison are opened. Josephine and Theresa walk outside into the silent streets of Paris, followed by a procession of bewildered aristocrats.

Everywhere grand homes are in ruins, stripped for firewood. Outside them, homeless Parisians cook food over campfires of burning paintings and antiques.

32

EXT. PARIS STREETS - MORNING

It's the very sad morning after in the Paris streets.

Empty and lonely in transition. Small figure cross an empty square.

33

INT. CHATEAU DE BEAUMARNAIS - PARIS

Josephine comes back home to an empty home.....stripped of valuables and full of refuse.

She moves through every room.....calling out for her children..... The dog scampers down to her, recognizing his mistress. Lucille, her maid servant appears, carrying an axe. She nearly takes a swing at Josephine when they recognize each other.

Young Hortense and Young Eugene emerge from the attic where they've been hiding.

HORTENSE/EUGENE

Mama!

An emotional reunion.

MUSIC UP OVER:

34

EXT. PARIS STREETS - DUSK - SUMMER 1794

The streets are alive with music floating from open windows and couples dancing the waltz -- the latest craze.

Street musicians play; vendors sell their wares; people get drunk at street cafes.

Into this scene drifts Napoleon, in his Brigadier General's uniform with his comrade Junot.

THREE WOMEN drift down the street, wearing diaphanous Romanesque tunics that reveal every curve of their bodies.

The entire street parts for the women as they approach.

They wear red ribbons around their throats and their hair cut as if for the guillotine.

NAPOLEON (VO)

The ladies are everywhere and the men are mad about them. Men think of nothing else and live only for and through them. A woman needs six months in Paris to know what is her due and her Empire.....

35 OMITTED

36 INT. BAL DES VICTIMES/THE VICTIM'S BALL - NIGHT

TITLE: PARIS, SUMMER, 1794

Napoleon and Junot step into a party of candle-lit decadence and champagne. People gamble, smoke, drink and waltz. Women in transparent gowns. Lavish and pleasure. Junot wanders off. Napoleon finds his way to a long table and watches from a safe distance:

Music is being played by a naked quartet.

THERESA CABARRUS cavorts before PAUL BARRAS at the head of a table. She is wearing a tiger's pelt belted at her waist.

PAUL BARRAS

May I ask you a question?

THERESA CABARRUS

Yes, Citizen Barras.

PAUL BARRAS

Does Your Dress Bite?

THERESA CABARRUS

Yes, it does bite.

PAUL BARRAS

Would it devour me?

THERESA CABARRUS

Yes I believe it would if you tried to touch it.....

Would you like to tempt it?

PAUL BARRAS
Does your beast have a name?

BEAT: Theresa settles on his lap

THERESA CABARRUS
No, my beast does not have a name.
But you may name her "Government
Property" if you like.

Napoleon watches the scene.....he drifts away...

ANOTHER ROOM:

A Gavotte is being played, couples dance and others play cards for high stakes. Napoleon finds himself standing looking at a nearby card table.....

.....here sits a woman wearing a translucent dress that reveals the curves of her body, powdered makeup, and a red ribbon around her throat.

It is JOSEPHINE. She's playing cards for high stakes and losing.

Napoleon stares at her, Josephine plays and loses, catches Napoleon's eye from time to time, staring creepy at her...The dealer turns over a card.

DEALER
A seven, Madame.

JOSEPHINE
Deal again.

DEALER
Seven again.

She loses. Josephine's money is removed by the Dealer, people standing around watching murmur and hide amusement of the loss. Napoleon watching, Josephine gives him a last flick of her eyes and then back to speaking with her young female companion as she leaves the group and walks straight to him:

JOSEPHINE
Why are you staring at me?

NAPOLEON
Why are you wearing that costume?

JOSEPHINE
This is the Victim's Ball. We drink
and make love because we're about to
die.

Napoleon gazes at Josephine.

JOSEPHINE
What is your costume?

NAPOLEON

Madame, this is a uniform.

JOSEPHINE

Your uniform?

NAPOLEON

I am a Brigadier General.

I led the French victory at Toulon.

HOLD, THEN:

37

INT. BAL DES VICTIMES/THE VICTIMS' BALL -- LATER

Guests seated to watch a performance. Onstage, the actors perform a burlesque song-and-dance for a rapt audience.

A woman dressed as Death wearing skull makeup, a black cowl and nothing else is flirting with a man dressed as the Devil.

Napoleon and Junot watching the show. Napoleon sees, across the room, Barras exchanging kisses with a woman on his lap that, on second glance, is a man in a woman's clothing.

Josephine is seated next to Barras and gazes at Napoleon. He leans over and whispers something to her, then looks back to the stage. Onstage the burlesque stage has turned to a sex show.

Josephine gives Napoleon one last quick look, then leaves with Barras and the trans-woman - a threesome.

37A

INT. CHATEAU DE BEAUHARNAIS - NIGHT

A couple has loud sex, there are mirrors strategically arranged, the woman astride the man; GROANS, then laughter. The woman rolls onto her back, spent -- it's Josephine and Paul Barras is her lover. He offers her a sip from his glass of champagne.

JOSEPHINE

I met the strangest man tonight.
Your Bonaparte.

BARRAS

He may be odd, but he has a way with cannonballs. He thinks like an artist, really. I've taken him under my wing.

JOSEPHINE

You're sure he's a genius?

BARRAS

I'm betting on it. Speaking of which, you ran up a debt at cards tonight. I'll pay it this time, but

--

JOSEPHINE

I need more than that. You know my situation.

BARRAS

You live fashionably.

JOSEPHINE

I have to remain fashionable. To have me as a lover -- it's made your reputation in the salons, Paul. I should really ask for more.

Barras mulls this over. Josephine's killing his mood.

BARRAS

This will keep you afloat for now --

He reaches for his billfold and offers her a sheaf of Assignat notes -- then snatches it away.

BARRAS (CONT'D)

-- but you should get to know Bonaparte better.

She takes the money, counts it, and tucks it away; she's all business.

JOSEPHINE

Maybe I will.

38

INT. NAPOLEON'S BARRACKS - DAY

Napoleon at work. Maps, papers, etc. Half dozen Military Aides. JUNOT enters.

JUNOT

General Bonaparte, there is a very young man who wishes to see you, his name is Eugene Beauharnais.

Napoleon looks up as the 13 year old EUGENE enters the room

EUGENE

General Bonaparte.

NAPOLEON

Yes.

EUGENE

I am Citizen Eugene Beauharnais.

NAPOLEON

What do you want?

EUGENE

My father's saber. It was taken from him before he was arrested and executed.

NAPOLEON

Yes.

EUGENE

It would mean a great deal to me,
and to my mother, if it were
returned to us. It's all we have
of him.

NAPOLEON

The sword is a weapon. I cannot
allow citizens of Paris to have
weapons in their possession.

EUGENE

The sword is a keepsake for me to
remember my dear late father.

NAPOLEON

Perhaps, but it is a weapon
nevertheless.

Why are you here, young man?

EUGENE

My mother said that you were the
only man of authority to retrieve
the sword.

39

INT. COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SAFETY -- STORAGE ROOM -- DAY

Napoleon throws open the door. The room is filled with
hundreds of tarnished Republican Army Sabers -- in piles, in
great bins, on shelves. They are all identical.

CLERK

All of these are from officers who
were sentenced to die.

NAPOLEON

Does no one think to attach a name
to any of them?

Indeed, some clerk did as he gestures to hundreds of sabers.

NAPOLEON

Bring me a feather and Indian ink.

40

INT. CHATEAU DE BEAUMARNAIS - DAY

Napoleon is waiting in the foyer holding the saber.

Eugene comes to see him. Napoleon presents the saber to
Eugene.

The boy's eyes well up with tears.

Until Eugene draws the blade to see another name. He looks at Napoleon who imperceptibly shakes his head, as if to say, 'don't.'

Napoleon looks up to see Hortense, watching from the second floor. He bows. She nods her head. He says:

NAPOLEON
Come down here.

She comes down....

NAPOLEON
Is there reason to introduce myself?

JOSEPHINE (O.S.)
No, General.....

He looks back up to the top of the stairs and sees: Josephine

NAPOLEON
Good.

Josephine comes down, Napoleon bows gallantly.

NAPOLEON
My compliments to the chef of this
fine family.....

41 EXT. PARIS SQUARE - EVENING

The park is filled with flaneurs, homeless peasants and prostitutes, upper class are venturing out. Nonetheless, the trees are in full bloom as Napoleon and Josephine take a seat at a cafe table.

NAPOLEON
I don't feel the need to fill this
space with words.....

JOSEPHINE
.....no.....

She stares at him. He leans in to kiss her.

42 OMITTED

43 INT. CHATEAU DE BEAUMARNAIS - BEDROOM - EVENING

Josephine sits in the twilight at her bedroom makeup table. Her foundation makeup is made of lead paint, as all makeup was at the time.

A candelabra is brought to the table by LUCILLE, seeing the painted face as harsh.

She smiles -- her teeth are grey, decayed from a childhood spent sucking on sugar cane. She touches them painfully.

Josephine takes turpentine solution to remove the makeup, reveals her face unpainted, very beautiful.

JOSEPHINE
Should I look like I'm in love?

LUCILLE
I cannot say.

JOSEPHINE
You would know.

LUCILLE
Do you find him without appeal?

JOSEPHINE
No.

LUCILLE
Then perhaps that is enough.

JOSEPHINE
I am indifferent and lukewarm. But he will take me....and in a fight he will win...and no matter what my charms have been in the past to men, I'm afraid I won't be able to hold this one's attraction.

LUCILLE
Don't underestimate your grace.

JOSEPHINE
I can see the future....and in it, he will need more than I can provide.....

She turns back to the mirror and we start her VOICE OVER HERE:

JOSEPHINE (VO)
If after our union he should cease to love me, will he not reproach me with what he will have sacrificed for my sake?

Napoleon receives a card written in Josephine's flowing script: an invitation to her home. He holds it to his nose and breathes her perfume.

45

EXT. CHATEAU DE BEAUMARNAIS - DAY

The door opens. Napoleon bows deeply. Josephine awaits him, her face painted, dressed in her lace. They meet.

46

INT. CHATEAU DE BEAUMARNAIS - BEDROOM - DAY

Napoleon and Josephine staring at each other, tea in front of them. Lucille tinkers with some crockery and then leaves

JOSEPHINE

Do you see an aristocrat when you look at me?

NAPOLEON

No.

JOSEPHINE

My husband had more than one lover and when his head was cut off his mistresses watched.

When I was in Prison I was told the only way to survive was to get pregnant. So....General.....

Do I need to warn you of my indiscretions?

NAPOLEON

No, madame.

JOSEPHINE

Does where I have been concern you?

NAPOLEON

No, madame.

HOLD. SILENT MOVIE SCENE. LOOKS.

JOSEPHINE

If you look down, I will show you a surprise... and once you see it you will always want it.

He looks down and she opens her legs.....

47

EXT. PARIS STREET - DAY

Napoleon and Junot in the streets, walking past a growing gathering of Royalist's making SPEECHES, HOLDING SIGNS, GROWING LOUDER. "Long Live The King!"

ROYAL SUPPORTER

THEY HAVE PROVEN CORRUPT. UNABLE TO SEE THE POWER THAT THEY HOLD.
CITIZENS OF PARIS, DON'T BE FOOLED.
THERE ARE MORE OF US. WE CAN OCCUPY THIS CONVENTION.

(MORE)

ROYAL SUPPORTER (CONT'D)
THE ARE INEPT, CORRUPT AND IGNORANT.
THEIR TROOPS WILL NOT TAKE US FROM
THESE STREETS. LONG LIVE THE KING!

Napoleon and Junot head down the street, past the mob --

48

INT. BARRAS OFFICE - DAY

Paul Barras is very concerned, Napoleon comes in...

PAUL BARRAS
What took so long? Come in, sit down
- are you alone?

NAPOLEON
Junot is just outside. We are
alone.

PAUL BARRAS
Listen to me, the situation seems to
be growing.

NAPOLEON
Yes.

PAUL BARRAS
There is a belief amongst the
Committee that there is an attack on
the Council coming by this mob....
General Menou has been dismissed of
his command. and I have been asked
to Defend it....

NAPOLEON
....yes....so how may I help you?
Paul, you must tell me more
information to help you.

PAUL BARRAS
I don't know the slightest place to
start. I have less than 4,000
troops and very little in the way of
weapons.

NAPOLEON
There are 40 cannons at Sablons.
I can have them here in three hours.

PAUL BARRAS
Yes, but mathematically...this mob
is 20,000 strong.

NAPOLEON
Yes.

PAUL BARRAS

What would you intend to do if this assignment of defense was transferred to you? As my second in command, of course...

NAPOLEON

I accept on the condition that I command this as I see fit without interruption. I will not lead as second-in-command.

49

EXT. PARIS STREET - DAY

A standoff outside the Convention. A mob of 20,000 vs. Napoleon's 40 cannons and General Davout awaiting orders. At the slightest movement.....

Napoleon gives the order to fire, in what seems to come completely out of the blue. He has instantly killed many hundreds of Royalists and everyone else runs away.

50

INT. BARRAS OFFICE - LATER THAT NIGHT

Drinks all around, everyone's happy, Napoleon speaks:

NAPOLEON

...to a mob who are ignorant of firearms, it is the worst possible policy to start out by firing blanks. Hearing a great noise - they are frightened - but looking around and seeing no one killed or wounded - they begin to despise you. They become twice as insolent and rush without fear. It then becomes necessary to kill ten times the number of men.

It would have been a waste of life to fire blanks.

Barras silently toasts Napoleon, a penny for his thoughts...

51

INT. CIVIL MARRIAGE SERVICE - PARIS - DAY (MARCH 9, 1796)

The marriage of Napoleon and Josephine. Civil service. Witnesses are: Paul Barras, Hortense and Eugene. The registrar is CHARLES LECLERC reading civic-vows. Napoleon's brother: LUCIEN is here with JUNOT, THERESA and LUCILLE.

JOSEPHINE (VO)

Will he not regret a more brilliant marriage which he might have contracted?

(MORE)

JOSEPHINE (VO) (CONT'D)

What shall then I reply? I shall weep.
And this will serve no end.....

NAPOLEON (VO)

May my good genius surround you,
enfold you, while I face my fate
unguarded. May your soul be free
from worries, as your body from
illness....

As they are announced man and wife, congratulations and kisses all around, Napoleon sweeping up Eugene and Hortense as his own.

NAPOLEON (VO)

Every moment separates me further
from you, my beloved, and every
moment I have less energy to exist
so far from you. To live for
Josephine, that is the history of my
life.

52

EXT. MILAN DUOMO - DAY (MAY 15, 1796)

Napoleon and Junot together, leading their ARMY OF ITALY arrive at Milan's cathedral. Grandly acknowledging the crowds. (The arrival of the Nazi's). Italians furiously wave flags of the French Republic from their windows, anxiously welcoming their conquerors.

TITLE: CONQUEST OF ITALY - 1796

NAPOLEON (VO)

I am struggling to get near you, I
am dying to be by your side, fool
that I am, I fail to realize how far
off I am, that lands separate us.

53

INT. MILAN DUOMO - DAY

Napoleon with defeated Italian (Austrian?) army officials. Dozens of paintings by Correggio, da Vinci, Raphael, Titian, Giorgione, Veronese and others....(THIS WAS PART OF THE PEACE OFFERING)

Napoleon points to a painting "The Lady With An Ermine," by Leonardo da Vinci. Two soldiers hold the large work.

NAPOLEON

This Correggio for France, this
Raphael, Giorgione, the Veronese...

French soldiers are crating up the masterpieces to be shipped.

MILANESE ARCHBISHOP
 General, these are Italian
 paintings. They belong to Italy.
 We are proud people, General.

NAPOLEON

Yes, you are a proud people, but you
 have not shown skill to defend
 yourself. How can you be trusted to
 defend this artwork?

54 OMITTED55 OMITTED56 OMITTED57 INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

A dinner to celebrate Napoleon's victory in Italy. Napoleon
 is at the table, listening to Hippolyte tell a joke/story. He
 is a skilled mimic.

Josephine listens avidly...Hippolyte is very entertaining.

58 INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Napoleon humping Josephine like a rabbit....he finishes
 quickly and triumphantly says:

NAPOLEON

Let that work make us a son!

ANGLE, LATER

They lay together:

JOSEPHINE

is this what will happen from now
 on?

NAPOLEON

what?

JOSEPHINE

I will marry you and you will leave,
 And each time you leave, I have no
 assurance of your return.

NAPOLEON

My sweet Josephine, the only thing
 you can depend on in this world is
 my return.

59 OMITTED

60

EXT. EGYPTIAN DESERT - DAY (JULY 1798)

Napoleon stands alone atop his white charger beneath a towering Sphinx. He gazes up at it with wonder,

REVERSE ANGLE: The great desert beyond.

REVEAL 60,000 FRENCH TROOPS marching in columns behind him.

GENERALS DUMAS, DESAIX, KLEBER and Josephine's son: EUGENE (now 20 years old)

NAPOLEON

Where is my boy??

Eugene rides up next to Napoleon. They share the wonder together.

NAPOLEON

I wish your Mother could see what we are seeing. I cherish this time with you.

61

EXT. THE PYRAMIDS - DAY

Thousands of MAMELUKES -- an assemblage of Mid-eastern and Ukrainian mercenaries on horseback -- have assembled at the foot of the pyramids.

Napoleon and his troops are arrayed at 300 meters opposite the Mamelukes. They are greatly outnumbered. Napoleon and JUNOT, his second-in-command.

The Mameluke CHIEFTAIN has broken from his own front line. He raises his scimitar over his head and swings it in great circles as he gallops backwards and forwards - a ferocious, intimidating display. Finally, he points his sword at Napoleon, much grandstanding.

NAPOLEON

Fire one and two.

Two LARGE CANNONS FIRE from behind the Napoleon. As the cannonballs sail over the heads of the Mamelukes --

-- and clips the tops of the Pyramids, removing the peaks of the ancient monument.

The Mameluke's HORSE bucks, nearly dismounting him. They gaze up at their vandalized pyramids and a HUSH falls over them.

61A

INT. NAPOLEON'S TENT -- DAY

CLOSE ON Napoleon's pocketwatch. He snaps the watch closed. He is sitting in a camp chair, waiting.

From a box, a PORTER brings Napoleon a glass of shaved ice. Napoleon waits for it to melt -- quickly in this heat.

He drinks his ice water. He is in no hurry. He rises from his chair --

61B EXT. NAPOLEON'S TENT -- DAY

-- and emerges from his tent to find the Mameluke chieftain and a half-dozen of his men waiting for him, standing in the heat. One has fainted - and is left where he fell.

The Chieftain unsheathes his scabbard and walking to Napoleon, presents it in token of surrender. As one, the Mamelukes bow down before him.

Napoleon waves them off. He gazes at the Pyramids in the distance.

NAPOLEON (V.O.)

In this land there is nothing but beauty, but in every beautiful thing I see only reflections of you.

62 INT. SALON - PARIS - NIGHT

Josephine at card tables, gambling. Hippolyte is here, telling jokes and being very attractive socially.

They flirt with eyes very openly.

63 INT. PARIS STORE - DAY

Josephine's shopping habit. Josephine shops for bonnets and clothes. We see her purchasing a "Destiny" necklace. Hippolyte is here. Her friends Paul Barras and Theresa see them. Bad influence. They are ok with this affair.

NAPOLEON (VO)

My dear Josephine, away from you there is no joy. You have robbed me of more than my soul; you are the one thought of my life.

We won a great conquest today. I am very tired.

I know not if you want money, for you never speak to me of business. If you do, will you ask my brother for it - he has 200 Louis of mine.

64 INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - JOSEPHINE'S BEDROOM -- DAY

Hippolyte Charles is in Josephine's mirrored bedroom. He is showing her how good he is at tying the perfect cravat.

HIPPOLYTE (TYING THE CRAVAT)

You see what most men do not understand... what they haven't the slightest comprehension of how to do.....is to make sure that the pleats.....overlap the knot...it must.....overwhelm the knot, don't you agree?

He kisses her. She is slow coming around, but kisses back.
They have sex in the mirrored room.

NAPOLEON (VO)

"You never write me, you don't care for your husband, you know the pleasure your letters give him, and you write him barely half a dozen lines. How, then, do you spend the livelong day, madam? What business of such importance robs you of the time to write your very kind lover?"

IMAGE: Hippolyte leaving Josephine's bedroom, casually, quietly, no real attempt to hide it. He walks past LUCILLE, and out the door. She hides her eyes.

65

EXT. FOOT OF A PYRAMID - DAY

A collection of scientists, archaeologists, linguists, painters, and clerics are here at Napoleon's command. Some are drinking champagne. It has the air of a cocktail party. Napoleon appears, freshly groomed and brushed.

A PHARAOH's CASKET has been unearthed from beneath the pyramids and is standing upright under a shade--

At his gesture, the Porters gently pry the lid off the coffin. The Pharaoh's mummy lies within. Napoleon makes a circular gesture with his finger -- "unwrap it." The Porters obey --

-- and slowly, the 2500-year-old face is unveiled. A HUSH comes over the crowd. Napoleon steps in CLOSER --

-- and touches the Pharaoh's face in his hands. It slowly crumbles away even as he stands before it. He gazes into the ancient face as you would a long-lost parent.

His hand drops from the Pharaoh's face.

66

INT. PARIS SALON - NIGHT (AUGUST 1799)

Josephine playing cards, looking far-off and lost. Hippolyte nearby telling jokes with Barras and Theresa here.

NAPOLEON (VO)

"Josephine, what inclination in you stifles the affectionate love you promised me? I am uneasy getting no news from you. Write me four pages immediately and some of those charming remarks which fill my heart with the pleasure of your imagination. Be vigilant, Josephine, one fine night the doors will be broken in and I shall be before you....."

67

EXT. NAPOLEON'S TENT - EGYPT - EVENING

Napoleon stands at a map-strewn table in his command tent sitting with Junot.

JUNOT

are there limits to what I can tell you?

NAPOLEON

there shouldn't be.

JUNOT

Should I tell you something at the risk of giving you personal pain?

NAPOLEON

yes.

JUNOT

Your wife has taken a lover, named Hippolyte Charles.

LONG PAUSE.

NAPOLEON

Do you expect me to believe this?

JUNOT

Yes.

NAPOLEON

That my wife would treat me this way?

JUNOT

yes.

NAPOLEON

Junot, you are not only mistaken you are very wrong to have mentioned this.

I will forget that you have said this to me.

(MORE)

NAPOLEON (CONT'D)

You are dismissed.

HOLD NAPOLEON.

68

INT. EGYPT - TENT - EVE

Junot is washing the heat off before bed, Napoleon enters.

NAPOLEON
how do you know this?

JUNOT
Her dresser is my lover. I still receive letters from her.

CUT BACK WIDE - SILENT - NAPOLEON HITTING HIMSELF IN THE FACE, CUT BACK IN CLOSE:

NAPOLEON
prepare two frigates and two smaller vessels in the greatest secrecy.....I am heading back home.

JUNOT
This can be called desertion.

NAPOLEON
General Kléber will be informed of his succession to command after I have left. Skillfully navigated, I will be back to France in six weeks.

69

OMITTED

69A

EXT. PORT OF MARSIELLES - DAY

A ship docked, Napoleon comes down the gangplank into one of the waiting coaches. Dumas, Junot, Eugene get into a separate carriage.

70

INT. NAPOLEON'S CARRIAGE -- DAY

Napoleon rides alone, reviews his mail and newspapers to find cartoons.

CU. NEWSPAPER CARTOON - Josephine has sex with Hippolyte Charles under Napoleon's war table.

71

INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - PARIS - DAY

He arrives back home, fuming and ready for a fight. The house is quiet. LUCILLE greets him.

NAPOLEON
where is my wife? (she?)

LUCILLE
she has left to greet you in Lyon,
General.

NAPOLEON
Lyon??

LUCILLE
yes, sir

NAPOLEON
she doesn't know of my arrival? The
whole world knows of my arrival, but
not my wife?

72 INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Napoleon eating dinner alone. LUCILLE, her maid enters.

NAPOLEON
My wife has humiliated me and I need
comfort, Lucille.

LUCILLE
yes, I'm sure that you do, General.

NAPOLEON
What do you suggest would give me
comfort?

LUCILLE
I can draw you a hot bath, General.

NAPOLEON
...

LUCILLE
I can prepare you dinner and console
you.

73 OMITTED

74 EXT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - DAY

It's days later and pouring with rain. All of Josephine's belongings have been put out in the street. It's raining. She arrives back by carriage....

She moves to the front door. It's locked. She knocks over and over again...

75 INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - THAT MOMENT

Napoleon hearing her knock. Trying to ignore it.

76

INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - LATER

Josephine is in tears and soaked through, we are someplace mid-discussion..

Eugene and Hortense are in the next room, over-hearing it through a closed door.

NAPOLEON

You can't help yourself. It is impossible for most men to control their passions. You're a beast and I feel sorry for you.

JOSEPHINE

Please don't leave me.

NAPOLEON

...(It Won't Be Me Who Is Going Anywhere.)

JOSEPHINE

Promise me you won't leave me.

NAPOLEON

A promise is nothing.

JOSEPHINE

You don't have to forgive me, just promise me you won't leave.

NAPOLEON

You're crying only proves my point. There is no use building this marriage on a false assumption that mankind is good.

I am not built like other Men and I am not subject to petty insecurities.

JOSEPHINE

Did you have affairs while you were away?

NAPOLEON

Yes I did.

JOSEPHINE

did you love them?

NAPOLEON

no I did not.

JOSEPHINE

were they pretty?

NAPOLEON
some of them. and they served their purpose.

JOSEPHINE
prettier than me?

NAPOLEON
they cried less. which made them more attractive.

Napoleon walks to the door to see Eugene & Hortense:

NAPOLEON
As for you...you shall not bear the burden of your mother's faults. You shall always be my son: I will keep you with me.

EUGENE
No, no, General. I must share ill fortune with my mother. And from this moment I say farewell to you.

Napoleon opens his arms to Eugene and holds him.

Hortense goes to his feet and embrace his knees. And then, all is forgiven.

77

INT. LUXEMBOURG PALACE - DAY

This scene establishes the players in the Coup and Power of France.

Five Directors: Barras, Sieyes, Moulins, Gohier and Roger-Ducos meet in the Palace amidst the other main players: Talleyrand and Police Minister Fouche.

GOHIER
What is it that made you desert your troops in Egypt?

NAPOLEON
I am assuming there is humour in that question, Citizen Gohier.
Egypt was left with General Kleber.

GOHIER
I assume you've read your reviews in the Newspapers? Your very popular.

NAPOLEON
News was very hard to come by in Egypt, Citizen Gohier...

GOHIER
Yes, but you have been back for nearly three days, have you not had a moment to read of your popularity?

NAPOLEON

I have returned to France to find her bankrupt, printing money that is spent within hours, the Austro-Russian overrun of Italy, the Anglo-Russian occupation of Holland and what seems to be the imminent Invasion of France herself at any moment...added to which the discovery that my wife is a slut.

CU. SIEYES looking at Napoleon...

78

INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - DINING ROOM - MORNING

Joseph SIEYES and Napoleon over breakfast. This meeting has been arranged by Talleyrand and Napoleon's brother Lucien who sit quietly.

SIEYES

The only thing every French Citizen can agree on is that you are our Ceasar.

NAPOLEON

What do you want?

SIEYES

The people will accept my rule if I have your support...It is only a military dictatorship that will save this country from a restoration of the Monarchy...seizure is possible with your help at the right time....and this is the time.

NAPOLEON

...the support that you need is the Minister of Police, without Citizen Fouche you have very little chance of success....so you expect me to be your "sword"?

SIEYES

I expect that a coup d'etat, well-timed and executed can place power to Three Consuls - Myself, Ducos and you....I'm Inviting You To The Winning Side.

79

INT. SALON - DAY

A casual meeting of NAPOLEON, LUCIEN, SIEYES, ROGER-DUCOS and TALLEYRAND....

JOSEPH FOUCHE, Minister Of Police, enters, greets everyone.

They sit down.

SIEYÉS

My proposal is to persuade the 5 Directors to resign under threat of an imminent seizure of power. We create this threat. Myself and Ducos resign first, followed by Barras, Gohier, and Moulin.....this will create an opening to transfer power.....

NAPOLEON

I like Barras but he is corrupt and isolated. I should think that under the proper threat, he will quickly make the right decision...I cannot say the same about Gohier and Moulin.

FOUCHE

There are ways to dissuade them from resistance.

SIEYÉS

Yes, but this may not become a military or violent matter....

FOUCHE

It will be a police matter. And don't expect that you won't get your hair ruffled, Citizen Sieyes.....

SIEYÉS

Yes.....so.....Lucien....as Governor of the Council of 500....you will persuade both Councils...in an emergency session.....that there is a Jacobin coup at hand.....and that the only safe place is out of the city, away from the Paris mob, at St. Cloud.....where a vote of emergency power to from the Council of the Elders to a new Council of Three will save them from threat....

80

INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE -- NIGHT

NAPOLEON and his brother LUCIEN and JOSEPHINE. Napoleon has outlined his own plan of attack at St. Cloud....

She raises very practical questions about the plan:

JOSEPHINE

The flaw in Sieyès plan is the interval between the two votes. The opposition will have time to grow wise to what you're doing....

NAPOLEON

You are right. You are right my little General.

The interval can't be helped. But the shorter the interval between two votes the greater the chance for success.....

JOSEPHINE

What is the outcome of this if you don't succeed?

NAPOLEON

That's not a consideration.

JOSEPHINE

It should be. (Why not?)

NAPOLEON

To consider it is to imagine that it may happen - I don't see the point in imagining anything but success.

81

INT. CHATEAU DE BONAPARTE - NIGHT

Napoleon puts TWO PISTOLS by his bedside table and gets into bed with Josephine...she sees them....

NAPOLEON

From this moment on....all friends that you have had...Barras, Tallien, any one from the society of the Directory may not be trusted.

.....by this time tomorrow you will be sleeping with the First Consul of France. And I will stick it to you.....

She nods, 'yes' and he gobbles her up.

82

INT. BARRAS APARTMENT - MORNING

TALLEYRAND comes to BARRAS door with TWO GUARDS. Barras looks like he had a late night with some boys and girls and he's hungover

TALLEYRAND

Good morning, Paul....I'm Going To Make This Easy For You. I have documents announcing your resignation from the Council.....

BARRAS

I return with joy to the ranks of simple citizen.

TALLEYRAND

You will retire before you have your
breakfast....

Two More Guards Step in the door. TIME CUT TO: Barras is signing away his Council seat.

83

INT. GOHIER'S RESIDENCE - MORNING

Gohier is still in his pajamas and he's screaming at General Moreau.

GOHIER

I'M NOT SIGNING ANYTHING. YOU CAN
PISS BEFORE I SIGN AWAY ANYTHING.
WHO'S DONE THIS? WHAT OUTLAW HAS
DONE THIS???

THE GUARDS COME TOWARDS HIM AND HE STARTS THROWING BOOKS AND PAPERS, ANYTHING TO AVOID ARREST.

84

INT. MOULIN'S RESIDENCE - MORNING

Moulin is dragged from his house protesting. His wife is screaming and crying hysterically.

MOULIN

NO! NO! NO! HOW DARE YOU! I AM
EATING MY BREAKFAST. I AM ENJOYING A
SUCCULENT BREAKFAST. THIS IS
OUTRAGEOUS. I WILL FINISH MY
BREAKFAST BEFORE YOU TOUCH ME. A
SUCCULENT BREAKFAST.

85

EXT. CHATEAU DE SAINT-CLOUD - DAY

700 Troops are here stationed around the grounds.

A procession of COUNCIL OF ANCIENTS and the COUNCIL OF THE 500...arriving..... They wear bizarre Togas with purple belts. It's an odd and comical sight. Napoleon watching them as they arrive and enter.

Napoleon is flanked by Roger Ducos, Talleyrand and Sieyes, who see Bonaparte's army beginning to assemble around the existing Troops. Napoleon nods toward Junot, who stands with the army.

Sieyes begins to panic, uncertain of Napoleon's plan...

SIEYES

(What is the meaning of this?)

Napoleon ignores him.

SIEYÉS (CONT'D)
Bonaparte?

NAPOLEON
Stop your sniveling, you should be thrown in a lake, you expect to be First Consul...you're not fit to wash a dish.....

Napoleon storms toward the entrance.

SIEYÉS
Where are you going? What are you doing?

86

INT. CHATEAU DE SAINT-CLOUD - VOTING HALL - DAY

The Council has assembled in their weird Robes and Togas and purple outfits...

Milling about, there is the general sense of confusion and unease.....Lucien brings the meeting to order.....

A pompous looking Jacobian: CITIZEN GILBERT is surrounded by his fellow Jacobians' and they are speaking about how suspicious this all is.....

CITIZEN GILBERT (TO LUCIEN)
Director....Director.....I believe the time has come to demand an explanation.....

LUCIEN
This Emergency Session is to draw a list of Nominations for a New Directory to deal with the threat of the Royalists --

Murmurs and crowd growing restless. Citizen Gilbert drips with sarcasm:

CITIZEN GILBERT
We are being asked to pass a resolution forming a provisional government to three counsuls - General Bonaparte and Citizens Sieyes and Roger-Ducos -- where are the Five members of the Directory? Have they magically disappeared? And we are here, surrounded by troops - isolated far from Paris --

Crowd is rumbling.

LUCIEN
Order. Order.

CITIZEN GILBERT
This is becoming increasingly
clear.....That Your Brother,
Napoleon Bonaparte.....with his show
of Military Might is acting as an
Outlaw.....and that this is a
ridiculous and poorly executed take
over --

LUCIEN
.... A vote will settle this matter.

CITIZEN GILBERT
.... He is a Power Hungry
Upstart....who By some miracle of
timing has now
eliminated.....Barras,
Moulin....Gohier....

Napoleon finally steps forward through the growing melee:

NAPOLEON
IF THERE IS ANY QUESTION OF WHAT IS
HAPPENING HERE I WILL ANSWER:
YOU, YOURSELVES HAVE VIOLATED THE
CONSTITUTION AND TARNISHED THIS
REPUBLIC BEYOND RECOGNITION. YOU ARE
SITTING ON A VOLCANO.

CITIZEN GILBERT
So says the Outlaw.....

Pointing toward Napoleon.

COUNCIL MEMBERS
OUTLAW! OUTLAW! DEATH TO THE
TYRANT. DOWN WITH THE DICTATOR.

NAPOLEON
"I walk with the god of victory and
the god of war!"
(then)
("Let those who love me follow me!")

They ATTACK HIM. Some draw daggers and pistols. He is surrounded by a hostile crowd.

NAPOLEON'S GUARDS have to push and shove their way to him -- they try to surround him -- BUT THE CROWD CLAWS AND SCRATCHES HIS FACE. He's BLOODY.

LUCIEN
"The president of the Council of Five Hundred declares to you that the great majority of the council is, at this moment, terrorized by certain deputies armed with daggers.
(MORE)

LUCIEN (CONT'D)

These madmen have outlawed
themselves by their attempts upon
the liberty of the Council."

Lucien pulls his sword and holds it to his brother's throat:

LUCIEN (CONT'D)

I will Kill My Brother if he
violates the freedom of the French
people.

The Guards of the Council are overcome as A COLUMN OF GRENADIERS enters into the hall of the Five Hundred.

Deputies panic, jump out of windows and get away into the gardens. BEDLAM.

87 OMITTED

88 OMITTED

89 OMITTED

90 OMITTED

91 OMITTED

91A EXT. TUILERIES - DAY

Establishing shot, as Napoleon and Josephine arrive at the Tuileries Palace.

92 INT. TUILERIES - NAPOLEON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Napoleon and Josephine get in bed together.

TITLE: FIRST CONSUL, 1800

The first night that they spent there he said to her:

NAPOLEON

Come, little Creole, get into the
bed of your masters....

93 INT. TUILERIES - NAPOLEON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Another day and Napoleon is going over wardrobe for the First Consul and his staff...VARIOUS STUFF:

NAPOLEON

Each should wear a red coat, made in
Winter in velvet, in Summer some
other material...embroidered in
gold.

He is standing with two officials CAMBACERES and LE BRUN,
elderly, powdered, lace ruffles, and sword, etc...

NAPOLEON

It is not every one who has the
right to be plainly dressed.

94

INT. TUILLERIES - NIGHT

Cocktail Party with Josephine's children and Napoleon and his family. Very jovial, celebratory.

We are introduced here to Napoleon's mother: LETIZIA. She is introduced to Josephine for the first time and is very cold to Josephine. They share the most basic greetings.

Josephine bows to her. Napoleon moves Letizia around the room to meet more people, leaving Josephine alone.....

95

INT. TUILLERIES - NAPOLEON'S OFFICE - DAY

Napoleon in his office having a golden directoire desk, signing documents and dictating letters, etc.....

JOSEPHINE (VO)

"I still sometimes tremble at the
strange and dizzy ascent to
supremacy....this Wild Pastime of
Ambition may over-leap itself if not
careful..."

96

INT. TUILLERIES - SALON ROOM - DAY

Josephine remained at home in the morning, receiving an immense number of visitors, chiefly women. Most are Nobles/Aristocrats who've come for "erasures" or restitutions. She receives them with perfect grace.

She promised everything. (NOTE: Will provide dialogue for these scenes)

97

INT. TUILLERIES - DINNER TABLE - NIGHT

Dignitaries seated at a long dinner table. Josephine at the head of the table. Napoleon walks around the table, never really sits down or stays in one place too long. He's quite flirty with the women, especially in front of their husbands.

See TALLEYRAND at work around the edges, constantly hovering....

98

INT. TUILLERIES - BATHROOM - MORNING

Napoleon is shaving and dictating a letter to his secretary, BOURRIENNE. He is addressing George III....

NAPOLEON

Your royal highness....

BOURIENNE
Your majesty....

NAPOLEON

".....France and England are wasting their prosperity. I am not ashamed to take the initiative. I have, I think, sufficiently proved to the whole world that I do not fear the chances of war. Peace is my heartfelt wish between England and France....."

99

INT. TUILLERIES - DAY

ARMAND-AUGSTIN-LOUIS de CAULAINCOURT is quite the noble gentleman. He is fluent in many languages and was Napoleon's AIDE-DE-CAMP.

He enters, there are all kinds of greetings and pleasantries.

CAULINCOURT

I have notified all foreign powers of your accession to the Consul. I have addressed letters to all Diplomatic agents abroad and I understand you have made friendly overtures of peace to England.

NAPOLEON

What I would like from you is a better understanding of the Russian Tsar Alexander. Would you consider the Tsar an ally to France or England?

NAPOLEON

Citizen Caulincourt, as you know I have notified all foreign powers of my accession to the Consul. I have addressed letters to all Diplomatic agents abroad. I have made friendly overtures of peace to England and I would like your help in obtaining a better picture of the Russian Tsar Alexander.....would You consider the Tsar an ally of England or France?

CAULINCOURT

I would think that his trade with England is more beneficial to him than his trade with France.

NAPOLEON

Do you have a sense of British influence in the Russian Courts?

CAULINCOURT

I do not, but I imagine it's quite robust.

NAPOLEON

What kind of a man is Alexander?

CAULINCOURT

He is young, he is vain, he is popular and his wishes to remain so. His greatest fear is to be killed in his bed, unlike his Father. This makes him dangerously fickle to whoever last has his attention.

NAPOLEON

It sounds to me like he needs an ally that he can call a friend.....

100 OMITTED

101 OMITTED

102 INT. GAMBLING CLUB - NIGHT

Talleyrand bumps accidentally/on purpose into the AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR.

TALLEYRAND

Ah! What a surprise! How good to see you out --

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

Good evening....I'm just trying to loose some money....

TALLEYRAND

Come join me after this hand?

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

That's a lovely idea.

103 INT. GAMBLING CLUB - A CORNER - NIGHT

TALLEYRAND

Did you hear that your Majesty received a letter of peace from the first council today?

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

I was just informed of that.....

Talleyrand is getting the Ambassador a little drunk....

TALLEYRAND

First Consul Bonaparte would like to make it clear to the Austrian Emperor that he will negotiate for Peace only on the basis of the Campo Formio Treaty.....

AUSTRIAN

Msr. Talleyrand, while my ears hear you with great appreciation - if I may be honest, Austria's coalition with England is in such a strong position against France that these peace overtures are clearly only for your handling of French Public Opinion.

TALLEYRAND

You know me so well...yes, it's true...it is public opinion Napoleon is after...and my warning to you is that he is as hungry for it as any man in the history of the world: So my suggestion, with respect, is take this offering of Peace from him or suffer the consequences of a Man Bent On Peace At Any Cost. He has sent a peace offering to King George and heard nothing in reply.

I suggest that you do not make the same mistake.....

104

INT. TUILLERIES - SALON - DAY

Napoleon is on the floor, playing with his young NEPHEW (1 year old) surrounded by close family.

Josephine is getting dressed. Good-humour. A BOURNIENNE enters and announces:

BOURIENNE

The English Ambassador, Lord Whitworth has arrived.

CU. NAPOLEON, playing with the baby. His entire face changes. He stands up, he walks out of the room.....Josephine notices.....and Follows.....

105

INT. TUILLERIES - CORRIDOR - DAY

Napoleon walking towards the reception, down the long hall.....walking with purpose.....

106

INT. RECEPTION ROOM - TUILERIES - DAY

A reception of great pomp. Dignitaries mingle, socializing at an official function.

Napoleon makes his way through the room and finds his way to: AMBASSADOR LORD WHITWORTH (pompous, English, George Sanders type).

NAPOLEON
DO NOT LOOK AT MY FACE AS IF YOU
DON'T KNOW WHAT I AM ABOUT TO SAY.

LORD WHITWORTH

....

The party stops. Josephine enters. Silence and then:

NAPOLEON
ARE YOU AWARE OF MY LETTER OF PEACE
TO YOUR KING?

LORD WHITWORTH
I am not.

NAPOLEON
SHALL I REPEAT IT?

LORD WHITWORTH
If You Wish.

NAPOLEON
I will not waste my breadth.
Take this as a warning to your King:
I will keep you guessing and scared.
You will watch your borders and your
back and your manners are bound,
sooner or later, to be French. I
will offer no more letters of peace
and I will take the lack of a swift
reply as an act of dis-respect. As
for you, Lord Whitworth, I would
offer you a glass of champagne but I
am out of piss and vinegar.

Napoleon storms out of the room.

LORD WHITWORTH
It is a shame such a great man
should have no manners.

107

INT. TUILERIES - MAP ROOM -- DAY (SPRING 1800)

OVERHEAD SHOT: A VAST MAP OF Europe is being painted by Jacques-Louis David himself, consisting of stitched-together canvases. The paint is still wet.

There are CHESS TYPE PIECES THAT SHOW THE CAMPAIGNS MOVEMENTS
(details in research)

Napoleon comes down off a high ladder gazing down upon it....

DAVID
Take care, the paint is wet.

His Marshals -- Davout, Berthier, Ney, Dumas -- are in attendance.

His Generals - Jacques Chambarlhac, Kellerman, Lannes are here.

Talleyrand watches Napoleon approach the map, getting on his hands and knees. He moves his fingers across the wet paint, smearing it.

He approaches a vast mountain range -- the ALPS.

NAPOLEON
St. Pierre. St. Bernard and then over the great crest of the Alps with reduced artillery. Let us forward then and restore what France lost while I was away....

The impossibility of this approach registers with his Marshals and Generals.

DAVOUT
...the Austrians have consolidated their forces there, First Consul...to secure control of the peninsula's northern half...

They all watch Napoleon, lost in the map.

BERTHIER
...South of Alessandria. In Marengo.

Napoleon's fingers circle the wet paint on 'Marengo.'

DAVOUT
Their military are very well-provisioned for battle...

NAPOLEON
This is not a military battle.
This is a political battle.

108 OMITTED

109 OMITTED

110 OMITTED

111

INT. TUILERIES - JOSEPHINE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

He's dressed for the Opera, he comes to see Josephine, she's half-dressed. Ladies-in-waiting around.

FADE UP TITLE: **CHRISTMAS EVE, 1800**

NAPOLEON

mmmmmmmmmmmmmmnnnnnnnnnumnumnumnum..

JOSEPHINE

my hair has just been set.

NAPOLEON

mmmmm

JOSEPHINE

no, no, filthy man. we will be late
and my hair has been set ---

She pulls him into a side room and closes the door for privacy.

JOSEPHINE

alright then come back here from
behind me --

NAPOLEON

I have the most beautiful wife

JOSEPHINE

yes you do, my love, and you can
hold this...

She lifts up her skirt, and bends over on leans her elbows on a firm elbow and turns to him and says:

JOSEPHINE

hold it with your hands to warm it...

He reaches between her legs. CU. JOSEPHINE turns and looks back at him.

JOSEPHINE

Hold it because it's yours.

NAPOLEON, hearing this, is ready to go. He attacks her from behind.

111A

POST SEX - INT. CARRIAGE - NIGHT

Napoleon and Josephine riding in the carriage.

JOSEPHINE

You're a rabbit.....a
hummingbird.....buzzy bee.

NAPOLEON

....mmmmmm.....I can smell you down
there.....

THE CARRIAGE WINDOWS BLOW OUT, THE CARRIAGE FLIPS ON IT'S SIDE, JOSEPHINE AND NAPOLEON TURNED SIDEWAYS...

111B EXT. PARIS STREET - NIGHT

The aftermath of an explosion, assassination attempt.

The Driver of the carriage has been killed, horses, people scatter and run...the explosion was a near miss.

Napoleon helping Josephine from the carriage. Guards are either dead or riding behind come over to help.

111C INT. TUILLERIES - NAPOLEON'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Napoleon in emergency session with Talleyrand, Fouché, Caulaincourt and Lucian.

NAPOLEON

This conspiracy of Royals against me is clear - all exiled Bourbon's whose single aim is to overthrow my rule and re-instate their filthy perfume-Monarchy.

The Prince de Conde is smuggling out plotters and his grandson, Louis, the Duke d'Enghein is on the frontier solely for that purpose. I want this man seized and I want him brought swiftly to justice.

TALLEYRAND

Where is this man?

FOUCHE

He is in Baden.

CAULAINCOURT

First Consul, I know this man. He is not a conspirator against you. He is a brave and excellent officer much loved by the soldiery.

NAPOLEON

He is a Bourbon weasel who will be punished for his part in this plot against me.

CAULINCOURT

If you proceed to Baden, you will be operating outside of France and so far outside of the law that it will be impossible for anyone to ignore.

NAPOLEON

I have always profited from your judgement and now it's time to profit from watching you close your mouth.

(to Fouche)
Seize the Duke.

Fouche leaves the room to make this happen.

JOSEPHINE

you're letting your hatred make your decision --

NAPOLEON

I'm not capable of acting from revenge. I am sweeping an obstacle from my path. You would complain if I struck a weaker blow and you would look at me with even more contempt than you are now - I suggest you change your look.

JOSEPHINE

No I would not complain about a weaker blow and no I will not contort my face for your pleasure.

NAPOLEON

In a years time - you will regard this execution as a great act of policy and you will kiss my mouth with those words.

She stands up and leaves.

111D EXT. MIDDLE OF A FIELD SOMEPLACE - DUSK

The DUKE is brought by Fouche's secret police...and a bag is pulled from his head and he faces a firing squad....he is proud...

THE DUKE

You are Frenchman - at least you will do me the service not to miss your aim!!!

DUMAS

You're charged with bearing arms against France. Proceed to Ready. Aim. Fire.

They shoot him dead.

111E OMITTED

112 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

Talleyrand and Napoleon are walking around a private courtyard, their guards are present. Silence, then:

TALLEYRAND
Are you pleased?

NAPOLEON
Yes, why?

TALLEYRAND
Because when you are not pleased you are not always pleasant.

NAPOLEON
Are you about to tell me something that will make me angry?

TALLEYRAND
I am going to suggest something that has been a long time arriving. I suggest that you abandon your role as First Consul of France in exchange for the title of "Victorious Consul." By another name, King.

After a long, long time thinking, he says:

NAPOLEON
That is your word, "King." That title is worn thin. It would make me an heir and I will be an heir to no one. The title that I bear is a grander one, somewhat vague and leaves something to the imagination....

113 INT. TUILLERIES - SMALL DINING ROOM - MORNING

Breakfast. Josephine and Napoleon speaking.

CU. NAPOLEON

NAPOLEON
Why aren't you pregnant?

JOSEPHINE
Is that a question or an accusation of me?

NAPOLEON
It is a very clear question.

JOSEPHINE
I have seen Dr. Covisar and he has no answer for me. Only the suggestion that I do what Mdme de Chocolate Souffle has done....

NAPOLEON
Which is?

JOSEPHINE

Along with hopeful thinking and red
wine, he suggested I take the waters
at Aix-la-Chappelle.

NAPOLEON

Then why haven't you?

JOSEPHINE

As wife of the First Consul,
I haven't found the time. I spend
many hours cleaning up after you.

NAPOLEON

find the time. I don't need to
explain to you the importance of
this, or do I?

JOSEPHINE

I know that you will anyway.

NAPOLEON

....

JOSEPHINE

you will want a son/heir.

NAPOLEON

It's quite simple, yes.

JOSEPHINE

We have a son...

NAPOLEON

It's not enough to crown Eugene.
He is my son in every respect with
one exception that cannot be
overlooked.

JOSEPHINE

You have alarmed me by your
ambition; return to moderation. If
you crown yourself - Kings will
despise you as an upstart, the
people will hate you as a usurper,
your equals as a tyrant --

114 OMITTED

115 OMITTED

116 OMITTED

117 OMITTED

118

INT. NOTRE-DAME CATHEDRAL -- DAY (DECEMBER 2, 1804)

An audience of five thousand fills the pews. A CHOIR of FOUR HUNDRED SINGERS is singing "Handel's Messiah."

The pews are packed with Napoleon's military officers -- many of whom are passing wineskins and jugs of beer. They are already drunk; in a minute they'll start a soccer chant.

The scene is being drawn by Jacques-Louis David -- the same painter who Josephine had pointed out to Napoleon at the *Bal des Victimes*.

Napoleon wears an eighty-pound coronation mantle of red velvet lined in ermine; beside him Josephine wears a similar mantle covered with embroidered golden bees. Napoleon's sisters resentfully carry her train.

Napoleon's brother is here, all our principal cast so far. Hortense, Eugene, Mother Letizia Napoleon, etc.

Napoleon and Josephine kneel before the Pope.

POPE PIUS VII
May God affirm you on his throne and
Christ give you to rule with him in
his eternal kingdom.

THE HERALD OF ARMS appears holding a red velvet pillow with a crown placed upon it. The Pope moves to crown Napoleon who takes it from his hand, as rehearsed and says:

NAPOLEON
I found the crown of France in the
gutter and I placed it atop my head.

A second pillow is brought forth: this one has a smaller crown upon it. He places the crown gently upon her head.

POPE PIUS VII
The most glorious, the most august
Napoleon, Emperor of the French, is
crowned and enthroned. Long Live
The Emperor.

CROWD
Vive l'Empereur!

TALLEYRAND/BARRAS
Emperor!

Emperor and Empress Napoleon and Josephine proceed down the aisle.

A handsome hussar we recognize stands during the procession: HIPPOLYTE CHARLES. His eyes meet Josephine's. Napoleon catches this.

119

INT. MILITARY BARRACKS -- DAY

Hippolyte Charles stands at attention in an empty barracks entrance.

Through the doors outside, a small group of RIFLE CORPS INFANTRY -- enough to make up a firing squad, perhaps -- go through maneuvers. Rifles are fired. Hippolyte flinches as a junior officer summons him to follow.

Hippolyte enters. Junot is here, Napoleon motions for Hippolyte.

NAPOLEON
Captain Charles, come in.

Hippolyte comes in and salutes.

NAPOLEON
You know my SUCH AND SUCH Junot.

HIPPOLYTE
Yes, your Majesty.

NAPOLEON
Captain Charles, in which division do you serve?

HIPPOLYTE
The Nineteenth, Majesty.

NAPOLEON
Leclerc's division.

HIPPOLYTE
Yes, Majesty.

NAPOLEON
In Haiti.

HIPPOLYTE
Yes, Majesty.

NAPOLEON
Yellow fever is a dishonorable and painful way to die.

HIPPOLYTE
Yes, Majesty.

NAPOLEON
Do you believe the Haitians placed a curse on him?

HIPPOLYTE
I don't know.

NAPOLEON
Do you believe in vodou?

HIPPOLYTE

No, Your Majesty, I do not.

NAPOLEON

Neither do I.

Long pause, then:

NAPOLEON

I must confess something to you in
the greatest secrecy, Captain
Charles...may I do that?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes, your Majesty.

NAPOLEON

It is indiscreet and I hope you will
not blush....

HIPPOLYTE

...

NAPOLEON

Do you have children?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes, Majesty. I have three sons.

NAPOLEON

My wife is unable to conceive a
child for me. I have tried for many
years and it is becoming clear to me
that I am unequipped to finish what
I have started. If you please, may
I ask you something personal?

HIPPOLYTE

Of course, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

When you have sex (make love) with
your wife, is she beneath you?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes.

NAPOLEON

Always?

HIPPOLYTE

Not always, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

Sometimes she is on top of you?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

And sometimes you are behind her?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

And sometimes you are gentle with
her?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

And sometimes you are rough with
her?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes Majesty.

NAPOLEON

Tell me: which does she prefer?

HIPPOLYTE

She prefers for me to be happy, your
Majesty.

NAPOLEON

So whatever mood you are in, she
will obey...

HIPPOLYTE

Yes, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

This is a good woman. Tell me, when
you made your wife pregnant did you
spend much time?

HIPPOLYTE

I don't remember, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

If you were to guess.

HIPPOLYTE

We sometimes take 30 minutes....

NAPOLEON

....and other times?

HIPPOLYTE

Sometimes we take only a few
moments.

NAPOLEON

A few minutes?

HIPPOLYTE

Yes. Majesty.

NAPOLEON
Which does she prefer?

HIPPOLYTE
She has told me that she enjoys our
love making to take some time.

NAPOLEON
This is important, for I have
thought that sex is merely a
transaction between two people that
need only last a few moments.
Perhaps my wife is unsatisfied and
therefore incapable of giving me a
child. Do you think this is
possible?

HIPPOLYTE
Perhaps.....

NAPOLEON
Are you excellent at satisfying her?

HIPPOLYTE
.....my wife is satisfied,
Majesty.

NAPOLEON
And do you think this is what your
secret is to having a son?

HIPPOLYTE
I cannot say for certain, Majesty. I
love my wife.

NAPOLEON
So do I. And I want to see her
happy, so tell me -- is it important
for a man to pleasure his wife in
anticipation of entering her?

HIPPOLYTE
...I don't know what you mean, your
Majesty.

NAPOLEON
Don't be shy, Captain. Tell me...if
I wanted a son, do you think I
should spend time with my mouth down
between my wife's legs?

HIPPOLYTE
I would assume, your highness...that
the more pleasure your wife gets,
the more likely she is to conceive,
but I am not a doctor. I have no
evidence to support this.

NAPOLEON

No, of course not, I know. I should like to thank you for your honesty in talking about such uncomfortable matters, but I sought your advice as a man of notable cocksmanship and stature. You have a pretty face and a hair-dresser's elegance.

HIPPOLYTE

Thank you, Majesty.

NAPOLEON

You're dismissed.

120

EXT. GULF OF TRAFALGAR - NIGHT

Horrific image of French Ship Destroyed. Clear victory.

Showing the brutal loss of life and honor by French Navy.

121

INT. TUILLERIES - NAPOLEON'S OFFICE - DAY

Napoleon hearing the news about the defeat at Trafalgar.

GENERAL DAVOUT

In the English fleet, 450 were killed and 1200 wounded. In the French fleet, 3000 were killed and 2000 wounded.

NAPOLEON

I don't consider this verdict final.

122

INT. TUILLERIES - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

At the dinner table, Napoleon says to Josephine: MOM is here, sisters too and Lucien. Family dinner. Everyone is very quiet as Napoleon is in a temper that is boiling at the dinner table. Finally, he aims at Josephine:

NAPOLEON

I must warn you....but Without a Time Limit (for that is my prerogative)...that if you don't bear me a child There Will Be A Divorce.

JOSEPHINE

There isn't sufficient love-making in this home to bear a child.

NAPOLEON

Yes there is. There have been years of it - and with more than just me - and still -- you are empty.

JOSEPHINE

And you are fat.

NAPOLEON

I enjoy my meals.

Destiny has brought me here.....
Destiny has brought me this lamb
chop.

She becomes emotional.

NAPOLEON

Ahhh yes. tears. That will do it.
That will make me an heir. TEARS.

Two things that look good on a
woman: tears and rouge.

123

INT. TUILLERIES - JOSEPHINE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Napoleon is dressed for the day, Josephine is awake, in bed...he apologizes.

NAPOLEON

I'm sorry. I didn't believe what I
said to you.

She nods.

NAPOLEON

I love your talents and taste. And
when I am not with you I think of
your grace and dignity. You will be
in command of our Kingdom while I am
away.....and I will come back to
you.

He kisses her.

124

INT. TUILLERIES - NAPOLEON'S OFFICE - DAY

Josephine speaks with Talleyrand.

JOSEPHINE

As you know, the Emperor has asked
me in his absence to give audience
to the Senate and the different
authorities. Without too fine a
point, I am here to translate the
meaning of his wishes.....that
While He Is Away At Battle, we will
keep the planning of his demise to a
minimum....and that begins with you,
Msr. Talleyrand.

TALLEYRAND

Yes, Empress.

125

EXT. SNOWFIELD, AUSTERLITZ - DAY (DECEMBER 2, 1805)

A vast snowfield. A lonely peasant crosses on foot leading an old donkey, carrying a bundle of firewood on his back. The peasant's moth-eaten coat is two sizes too large.

Look closer: the rider is Napoleon. He takes out a spyglass and looks out across the snowfield at a war camp approximately 3/4 miles away.

In the near distance, a company of three RUSSIAN SCOUTS is on patrol. One is urinating in the snow, while the other is cleaning his rifle. He sights the rifle --

And sees: Napoleon in his peasant garb at distance. The Russian gestures. Napoleon smiles, waves in greeting. The Russian sights Napoleon again, thinks to himself, hesitates....

The other Russians are leaving. He closes the hammer of his rifle and walks off.

Napoleon pulls out his scope and looks....

HIS POV THROUGH THE SCOPE: a flurry of activity, then the arrival of a royal procession. The troops, who were shaving, singing songs, boot-blacking, look up.....

126

EXT. RUSSIAN/AUSTRIAN CAMP - SAME

Hundreds of Russian Troops stand at attention as a team of plumed horses approaches --

-- and they catch a glimpse of the cherished Tsar Alexander as his flotilla canters elegantly to the Imperial Tent.....

ANGLE, UNDERCOVER PEASANT NAPOLEON watching the two Emperor's meet and greet and hug each other in all Royal-ness on the battlefield.

HIS POV - THROUGH THE SCOPE

Alexander and Francis look like best friends....

Undercover Peasant Napoleon turns away and rides off.

127

INT. RUSSIAN/AUSTRIAN CAMP - DAY

Tsar Alexander and Francis are sitting together.

FRANCIS II

I can't fool you, Alexander. Until your arrival here, this Battle against him has been brutal and terrifying. The loss of Vienna is more than I can bear. To have you here means we can begin refreshed.

ALEXANDER

I am....always Here for you,
Francis. And I am over-whelmed
with the excitement of the
Battlefield! It is thrilling to
smell the danger!

When do we begin?!

128 EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Napoleon arrives and is greeted by his officers. A small village is being evacuated: troops are leading the villagers away from their homes.

As he makes his way through the village, Bonaparte removes his moth-eaten coat and puts on his splendid overcoat.

MONTAGE: The cannons are wheeled in. The troops are digging shallow trenches. Others are making slots in the stone walls, breaking away masonry to create firing positions, turning the village into a fortress.

Night is falling: Napoleon sees it's time. Snow is falling.

NAPOLEON

Tell the men to light those
campfires and keep them burning.
I'll be in my tent.

On Napoleon's orders, CAMPFIRES are lit along the snowfield.

129 INT. NAPOLEON'S TENT - NIGHT

Napoleon sleeps on a camp bed by lamplight in the small tent.

130 EXT. SNOWFIELD - NIGHT

At one mile, two COSSACK SCOUTS stop in the dark to light a cheroot. They smell the smoke from the camp. They ride toward it -- and discover the encampment of Bonaparte's French Troops.

At a distance they see an encampment (ten thousand men) of Napoleon's troops warming themselves by their fires by the village. They turn their horses around and canter away.

131 EXT. FRENCH WAR CAMP, AUSTERLITZ - NIGHT

A signalman sees the Cossacks and semaphores a message.

The other signalman rushes to Napoleon's tent.

132 INT. TENT - NIGHT

The signalman runs in to wake Napoleon.

SIGNALMAN

We are discovered, your majesty.
They'll be here in the morning.

NAPOLEON

Wake me then.

133 EXT. MONTAGE - EARLY DAWN

French signalman and scouts watch and wait in the bitter cold.

134 EXT. FRENCH WAR CAMP, AUSTERLITZ - MORNING

A SIGNALMAN looking down sees the combined RUSSIAN AND AUSTRIAN ARMIES -- almost 60,000 troops -- coming round the edge of the snowfield.

The Signalman sends a message by semaphore to the camp below to warn everyone that the Russo-Austrian troops are advancing.

MONTAGE:

Trenched Rifle FUSILIERS emerge from under their snow-covered tarps while remaining hidden from view. The tarps are pulled back from cannons, revealing their muzzles.

MONTAGE FROM HERE - SAME TIME

THE RUSSO-AUSTRIAN TROOPS, organized in military formation, appear through a shroud of morning fog.

FRENCH CAVALRY are preparing themselves in a misty forest.

A DISTANCE FROM THE FRENCH BASE - SAME

The Russo-Austrian troops muster, with lines of fusiliers as a front line. The French Camp is still shrouded in mist and smoking fires.

MONTAGE: French RIFLEMEN behind the stone walls ready to fire.

Austrians and Russians sound the bugle to advance.

ANGLE, TSAR ALEXANDER and AUSTRIAN EMPEROR FRANCIS watching their troops head into battle.

The fusiliers moves as a regiment in lines of 200 men as the French open fire - surprisingly ready -

NOW NAPOLEON'S POV - PRECISION FROM ABOVE.

NAPOLEON

Fusiliers!

This is relayed by troops as....

THE FRENCH FUSILIERS emerge from their position beneath the tarps and discard in double-time, racing down the hill to engage the Russo-Austrians below, attacking them from the left flank.

FRANCIS II
Cavalry.

THE RUSSIAN/AUSTRIAN CAVALRY gallop into the attack through the chaos from their concealed position in the trees.

NAPOLEON
Cavalry.

Now the French Cavalry appear from their respective positions, converge on the enemy from the left rear guard...

This movement forces the Russo-Austrian troops to fall back and retreat in the direction left for them: THE WHITE EXPANSE BEYOND.

THE RUSSO-AUSTRIANS scramble and fall back onto the expanse, turning and firing on their pursuers as they go. But on a few faces we see the dawning realization that the French aren't following them. They turn and return fire.

NAPOLEON stands on his hilltop position, watching the scene. His arm is raised in the air to signal his cannons -- then he drops it, giving the signal to fire:

NAPOLEON
Cannons.

135 EXT. FRENCH CANNON BATTERY -- SAME

The hidden French battery launches a FUSILLADE of CANNONBALLS toward the white surface which reveals itself as a frozen lake.

ANGLE, FRANCIS AND ALEXANDER watching this happen.

136 EXT. SATSCHAN LAKE -- DAY

The glowing cannonballs streak through the sky towards us.

The ice is shattered -- great cracks race across its surface, spiderwebbing beneath the feet of the retreating soldiers -- a chasm opens up as the ice disintegrates. Sheets of ice break away as men and horses slide into the water.

-- and the combined armies of Russia and Austria are plunged en masse into the freezing depths.

137 EXT. RUSSIAN POSITION -- DAY

Francis II looks on from a vantage point.

138 EXT. SATSCHAN LAKE -- DAY

Russian troops, horses, cannons -- most of the army -- slides away into the depths of the lake.

139 EXT. HILLTOP -- AUSTERLITZ -- DAY

Napoleon watches the scene from high above.

140 EXT. SATSCHAN LAKE -- EVE

After a few moments, the scene goes quiet: the allied armies have been swallowed up by the freezing lake. A small mascot dog is left barking at the edge of the black water. Other troops have surrendered and are kneeling in the snow on solid ice.

141 EXT. HILLTOP -- AUSTERLITZ -- EVE

Napoleon slowly folds up his telescope.

142 EXT. NAPOLEON'S BATTLEFIELD TENT - NEXT DAY

EMPEROR FRANCIS arrives and comes to Napoleon's Tent. Greetings are pleasant, then they go inside tent....

NAPOLEON

Francis! So nice to finally meet you. You must forgive me, this has been my only palace for the last two months.

FRANCIS II

You make such good use of it! Seems very agreeable...

NAPOLEON

Well, of course, we do what we can on the battlefield.

FRANCIS II

Yes we, don't we?

NAPOLEON

Please come closer to the fire....

FRANCIS II

Ah, yes, thank you.

NAPOLEON

Brandy...

FRANCIS II

Thank you...

They are both poured brandy, toast to the Battle...

NAPOLEON

To a well fought battle...

FRANCIS II
To a well fought battle, yes...

NAPOLEON
Where, may I ask is Alexander?

Are we waiting for his arrival
before we get started?

FRANCIS II
No, I don't believe he will be
joining us, he's down the
road....perhaps a bit shaken by the
events....and He's....he Sends His
Best Wishes for a fine battle....

NAPOLEON
I will need to speak with him.

FRANCIS II
Yes, yes.

NAPOLEON
Perhaps I can send General
Davout....?

FRANCIS II
.....if you wish.

Napoleon sends General Davout....then back to Francis II:

NAPOLEON
Now....You know as we sit here....I
realize that I must compliment you
for making me commit an enormous
error.

FRANCIS II
An error?

NAPOLEON
Yes.

FRANCIS II
What error have you made?

NAPOLEON
To be speaking with you here and
accepting this interview for
peace....I have not followed up my
victory....I could have taken the
whole Russian and Austrian army
prisoners....

FRANCIS II
....yes.....

NAPOLEON

....but after all, there will be
less tears....and now I have left
you more subjects, Emperor Francis.

143 OMITTED

144 INT. TUILLERIES - NIGHT

Napoleon is back, he sits by candlelight with his mother Letizia.

LETIZIA

It is time to put this mystery to rest, Emperor. I want to know if it is you or Josephine. To this end, we will conduct a practical experiment. At the end of the Hallway, waiting for you, undressed and ready to receive, is 18 year old Éléonore Denuelle de La Plaigne. She is a brunette with brown eyes. The object of this hardly unpleasant task is see if you can father a child. And then we will have an answer to this nagging question of who is keeping who from an heir to the throne of France.

145 INT. TUILLERIES - HALLWAY - NIGHT

LETIZIA walks Napoleon down the hall by candlelight and leaves him. Napoleon opens the door.

146 INT. TUILLERIES - BEDROOM - THAT MOMENT

18 year old Elenore is waiting naked for Napoleon under the covers. He enters the room.

147 INT. NEW YEARS EVE PARTY - MONTHS LATER

JOSEPHINE at the party, talking with friends. She sees something across the room....

LETIZIA comes across the party to find Napoleon and whisper something private into his ear (the news that Elenore is pregnant.) Napoleon looks overjoyed. ("My son is strong. And has full use of his artillery. You will have a child.")

JOSEPHINE, across the room, sees LETIZIA'S conversation with her very happy son and she knows what's what.

148 INT. TUILLERIES - MONTAGE

Napoleon & Josephine are masked and dancing the waltz surrounded by a party. All this over:

JOSEPHINE (VO)

He is contrary to all his usual customs. He is at all functions well past his usual bedtime. I asked him to wear a disguise and appear among the dancers at the Masked Ball and he did so without hesitation.

SEE NAPOLEON in disguise amongst the dancers.

JOSEPHINE (VO)

I have heard, that when he is removed from my presence, he loses the ease and quiet and displays impatience.

149

INT. TUILLERIES - FIREPLACE ROOM - NIGHT

Napoleon and Josephine just sitting by the fire, talking for hours about nothing, enjoying each other.

JOSEPHINE (VO)

I am a flower that opens its petals and smiles to the sunshine, unconscious that the storm is near which will lay me low and scatter leaves to the heavens.

150

INT. TUILLERIES - BATH - DAY

Napoleon is in the steaming hot bath. Josephine sits with him. The Secretary is here writing dictation.

NAPOLEON

On the matter of twins....for purposes of inheritance...which should be considered the first born? The first in or the first out?

JOSEPHINE

The first out.

NAPOLEON

But the last out was the first in.

JOSEPHINE

The first in would have been the first to be conceived.....

He looks at her. She comes to him and kisses him. HOLD.

JOSEPHINE (VO)

In all the power, in all the attention to me or the lavish honours he bestows on Eugene...I can see my own dark destiny.....

151

INT. TUILLERIES - OFFICE - MORNING

He is awake early and working. She is still dressed for bed, watching him work. She says:

JOSEPHINE
When will you insist on a Divorce...?

NAPOLEON
isn't that rich? From the only woman I have ever loved and given what I've conquered...

JOSEPHINE
I'm too desperate and I'm too old to wait for you to tell me what I know is coming....

NAPOLEON
then if you insist.....

JOSEPHINE
I'll make it easy for you.....

I know that you have a bastard child.

I live in this world, and I am not as blind as I pretend to be.

Napoleon storms out of his office.

152

INT. TUILLERIES - OFFICE - DUSK

Napoleon sits with his DR. COVISART.

NAPOLEON
If I succeed in making the birth of a boy who shall be my own son, I want you, as a witness to pretend the confinement of the Empress.....

DR. COVISART
Your Highness, You are asking me to lie about the status of the Mother of your heir...

NAPOLEON
That is another way of putting it, yes.

DR. COVISART
Emperor, it is my duty and my honor to do what you require of me.
I promise secrecy but.....if asked.....I cannot contain what I know to be the truth.

(MORE)

DR. COVISART (CONT'D)

As painful as it is, the truth is
that the Empress is no longer
capable of bearing you a child.

153

INT. TUILERIES - DAY

Napoleon is watching his STAND-IN get his portrait painted. He looks like Napoleon, is wearing his Emperor's outfit and is sitting quite still. Napoleon is moody and sullen and Talleyrand and Fouche are trying to speak with him:

NAPOLEON

I am not an instigator. I'm not born of a Tigress. You suggest divorce after years of debate - you can see that it has me divided - I am NOT ambitious. I have never EVER picked a quarrel with anyone.

TALLEYRAND

You are the greatest leader in the history of the World and the World's Only Chance At Peace. There is NO DOUBT that will be achieved. This measure.....is about what happens ONCE we are there...The Security of the Empire depends on an heir.

NAPOLEON

I didn't threaten the Prussians when they forced me to go and dethrone them at Jena!!!!

154

INT. TUILERIES - SMALL DINING ROOM - NIGHT**TITLE: DIVORCE**

Napoleon & Josephine are eating dinner. She's already been crying and knows what's coming. They eat in silence.

NAPOLEON

Josephine, my good Josephine, you know how I have loved you. It is you, to you alone, that I owe the few moments of happiness I have known in this world. My destiny is more powerful than my will: My affections must yield to the interests of France.

She cannot control herself.

JOSEPHINE

I expected this; I understand and feel for you.....

Napoleon goes to leave and calls to the Servant:

NAPOLEON

Carry her Majesty to her apartment.
She will need her daughter and her
Doctor.

We HEAR JOSEPHINE SCREAMING AND CRYING LIKE AN ANIMAL.

155 OMITTED

156 INT. TUILLERIES - JOSEPHINE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

A near comatose Josephine in lays in bed. Hortense by her side, Eugene is reading the terms of divorce.

EUGENE

3,000,000 Francs a year.
Malmaison and its revenues.
The Élysée Palace in Paris.
The rank of empress.
The title of "Majesty" and the right
to use the imperial coat of arms and
to have your carriage drawn by eight
horses.
Your present debts of 2,000,000
francs to be paid as an advance
against future revenues.

157 INT. TUILLERIES - HALLWAY - DAY

Josephine walking down a corridor in a beautiful gown followed by her entourage and Hortense.

158 INT. TUILLERIES - THRONE ROOM - DAY

A divorce ceremony. Napoleon stood with his arms crossed and motionless and speechless.

A writing apparatus of gold lay upon a small table in the midst of the apartment and before it an arm chair is placed....

Josephine enters the room with Hortense. All our main players are here to watch, Barras, Talleyrand, etc, etc.

Cambaceres reads the decree:

CAMBACERES

Article I. The marriage contracted between the Emperor Napoleon and the Empress Josephine is dissolved.

Article II. The Empress Josephine shall preserve the title and rank of Empress Queen Crowned.

The Articles are continued to be read as Josephine melts, signs the official paper.....Cambaceres FADES OUT ON THE SOUNDTRACK.....CU. JOSEPHINE.

It's a few moments later and she is required to read the declaration of divorce:

JOSEPHINE

"With the permission of my dear husband, I must declare that, with no hope of having children, I have the pleasure of giving him the greatest proof of attachment and devotedness that was ever given....."

She cannot continue to read it. Cambaceres reads it for her.

CAMBACERES

"In consenting to the dissolution of a marriage which is now an obstacle to the happiness of France....."

159

INT. MALMAISON -- DAY

Josephine arriving and moving in to her new home.

VARIOUS IMAGES OF JOSEPHINE making her home, fighting depression.

CAMBACERES (VO)

".....by depriving it of the blessing of being governed by the descendants of this great man, who was raised up by providence to efface the evils of a terrible revolution and to restore to the altar, the Throne and Social Order."

She watches TWO SWANS on the lake whose home is a small oriental temple.

NAPOLEON comes to visit, watches her at a distance.

NAPOLEON letter to her at this time. This could be him a scene between them, face to face:

NAPOLEON (VO)

You have shown great courage so far and you should maintain it. You must not permit yourself to fall into melancholy.

160

INT. MALMAISON - DUSK

He sits with her, by the fire, holding off emotion, he says:

NAPOLEON

You must take care of your health
because it is precious to me. Will
you write me tomorrow?

JOSEPHINE

(nods yes)

NAPOLEON

Every day?

JOSEPHINE

(nods yes)

He leaves.

161

INT. TREATY OF TILSIT - TENT - LOCATION TBD - DAY

Finally....the Meeting Of Two Great Leaders.

Alexander and Napoleon meeting, it's been going great.....

DIALOGUE ACKNOWLEDGING BATTLE TO BE ADDED.

ALEXANDER

I never expected that our friendship
would bring me such joy....

NAPOLEON

...and laughter!

The misunderstandings that man has,
with age, can be seen as Comedies,
don't you think?
We are linked. It is Us against
Britain.

They are what keeps us apart and
yet, the joke of it - it is WE who
are connected - and THEY who are
separate. And the cruel irony? It
is THEY who command the Seas. So,
how is that - that these pale and
crook'd teeth'd Salamanders should
keep us apart?

ALEXANDER

May I call you Brother?

NAPOLEON

Wouldn't that Be Right? There is a
way to call me Brother.

Last night at dinner...I was charmed
by your Sister....is she spoken for?

ALEXANDER

.....she is to be married to the Duke
of Oldenburg.

NAPOLEON

.....what about her younger sister,
Anna. Is there a formal offer for
Anna?

ALEXANDER

She is fifteen years old.

NAPOLEON

yes, I see. that is a detail.

BEAT, THEN: (Alexander begged off with Religious differences between them.)

NAPOLEON

Our friendship is built on our mutual distrust of England! When we hold to the Continental Blockade we choke them from the trade and fight for our most sacred rights. That is what is important between us! I've just thought of something....should I tell you?

ALEXANDER

What is it?

NAPOLEON

Imagine an army of fifty thousand men - Russians, Frenchmen and...perhaps even Austrians - marching by way of Constantinople into Asia would have only to reach the Euphrates in order to make England tremble and bring her down on her knees before the Continent.

ALEXANDER

Your mind works so fast, Emperor!
Sometimes it's hard to gain breathing space!

162

INT. GAMBLING CLUB - NIGHT

The Austrian Ambassador engrossing in a hand....Caulaincourt stands at the table.

CAULAINCOURT

.....His Majesty, The Emperor Bonaparte, would like to make a formal offer to Austria and His Majesty Francis for the hand of Archduchess Marie-Louise, his eldest daughter. This...union...would unite Austria and France in an unbreakable matrimonial bond.....

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

.....are you joking?

CAULAINCOURT

I may find it humorous but his
Majesty does not.

163

INT. TUILERIES - RECEPTION ROOM - DAY

The doors are open for the ceremonial arrival of Napoleon's new wife: 19 year old Austrian MARIE-LOUISE. Napoleon crosses to greet her and sweep her into a bedroom upstairs...

NAPOLEON

How do I look to you? Do I resemble
my portrait?

MARIE-LOUISE

Oh yes. And even more handsome. And
strong.

NAPOLEON

And you are even more beautiful.
Would you like to see the bedroom?

164

INT. TUILERIES - HALLWAY - DAY

A long, long hallway. It's months later. A NURSE and COURTIER walk down the hallway holding a small bundle. They arrive at a door and a guard allows them inside....(Note: Is this accurate?)

165

INT. TUILERIES - RECEPTION ROOM - DAY

The NURSE and COURTIER enter and cross the room. Napoleon sees them and moves to them and takes the baby from them.

Holds the baby up.

166

EXT. PARIS LOCATION - DAY

A hundred and one gun salute to the birth of Napoleon's son.

TITLE: March 20, 1811

167

INT. COACH - DAY

Napoleon and the new BABY and a NANNY are traveling to the country.

168

EXT. MALMAISON -- DAY

Josephine steps outside. Hortense and her Maids stay back.

The carriage arrives.

Napoleon and the Nanny and the Baby step out.

Napoleon brings the baby to Josephine and shares with her.

Josephine takes the baby, embraced by Napoleon....

Josephine walks away, cradling the baby. They go for a long walk. Napoleon and everyone else watching and giving distance.

Josephine speaks to the child:

JOSEPHINE

Sweet child, one day you will know what I have sacrificed for you.

169

INT. TSAR ALEXANDER'S PALACE - NIGHT

A sinister and very clear meeting of Alexander with Russian Court and Nobility (aka Gangsters) who are speaking the truth to Alexander:

RUSSIAN COURT MEMBER

What's good for your friend Napoleon is not good for Russia....and If It Is Not Good For Russia....it can not be good for His Majesty.

Alexander begins to see the full scale of the situation.

RUSSIAN COURT MEMBER

It is the Timber Trade with Britain that makes Russia great.....

Your Father made the regrettable mistake of placing Russia behind himself. I don't want to see his Majesty become unpopular with the Russian people.

170

INT. TUILERIES - MAP ROOM - DAY

Napoleon is watching his one-year-old son, Napoleon The King Of Rome play on the map of Europe painted on the floor.

NAPOLEON

A battle will dispose of the fine resolutions of your friend Alexander and his fortifications of sand. He is false and feeble.

CAULAINCOURT

Your majesty, his fortifications are not sand - they are Snow and Winter.

NAPOLEON

He is false, feeble and sickly.

CAULAINCOURT

Do not underestimate his staff.

NAPOLEON

Thank you for your advice. And now, I would like you go and tell the Russian Ambassador that we must ask for his passport and to leave Paris. If he needs an explanation, please let him know that we will be terminating the fatal influence Russia has exercised over Europe these last fifty years....don't worry, Old friend...I am only waging a political war against Alexander...we can soon agree when he negotiates.

CAULAINCOURT

You cannot ignore my warnings about what the Russian winter is capable of --

NAPOLEON

-- you're frozen already, my Old Friend. Remember this: Alexander is a young man, he longs for a taste of glory, and like all children, he wants to go a different way from his Father....he will negotiate once I take Moscow.

171

EXT. RUSSIAN LANDSCAPE - DAY

Napoleon assembling the biggest Army he's ever commanded.

TO BE WRITTEN: NAPOLEON'S ARMY ON THE WAY TO MOSCOW.

NAPOLEON (VO)

.....My dearest Josephine.....we are 600,000 men marching into Russia. We are 250,000 horses..... ..Italians, Neapolitans, Poles, Bavarians, Saxons.....my Father-In-Law Francis has provided 40,000 men for operations.....and I think of you all the while.

I Have Come To Finish Once And For All With The Colossus of the Barbarian North.

Despite careful organization, there have been break downs in supply. We are suffering sickness, desertion and famine. By the time we reached Vilna, twenty thousand horses died. This wastage is the equivalent of two large battles. I sacrificed my most precious weapon: Mobility. We are large in numbers but we suffer because of it....The Russians continue to retreat. I have made my Generals too rich.

(MORE)

NAPOLEON (VO) (CONT'D)

They think only of pleasures, of hunting, of rolling through Paris in their magnificent carriages. They have grown sick of war. The very danger pushes us on to Moscow. The die is cast. Victory will justify and save us. My striking force has been reduced to 160,000. Moscow is now only 200 miles away. To halt the campaign at this stage would mean a humiliating retreat.

Tomorrow, we will resume our advance. We found Russians entrenched on the banks of the river Moskva near Borodino. This was the most terrible of all my battles. My guard showed themselves worthy of victory and the Russians worthy of being invincible.....

172

EXT. MOSCOW - CITY SUBURBS - DAY

The army is already a mess, having suffered terrible losses in battle on the way here....They are sick, hungry, tired and expecting a fight in Moscow. They are half the size of when they started in men and horses.

This view of Moscow is beautiful for a moment but something is missing. CU. NAPOLEON he looks at the chimneys.

There is no smoke coming from any of the chimney stacks.....

173

EXT. THE KREMLIN - MOSCOW - DAY (OCTOBER 1812)

They stop in front of the Kremlin gates which are wide open. Surprisingly, the sun is shining. It's a warm and pleasant day.

Napoleon rides his white charger through the empty streets of Moscow, flanked by CAULAINCOURT, EUGENE and Marshals BERTHIER, NEY and DAVOUT, and his Imperial Guard.

An eerie silence pervades. The windows of the surrounding buildings are empty.

TITLE: MOSCOW, OCTOBER 1812

NAPOLEON

Three hundred thousand souls live in this city. And they've just left.....?

We PULL BACK to take in a vista of the Kremlin and the onion domes of St Basil's. The city is abandoned.

174

INT. THE KREMLIN - THRONE ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

A door has been left open into the darkened Kremlin. Napoleon and his Marshals enter and walk through the darkness.

The Tsar's gilded rooms are empty, abandoned. Napoleon's footsteps echo in the vast empty chamber.

NAPOLEON

Your Highness Alexander....come-out,
come-out wherever you are....peek-a-
boo.....

No answer. He walks to the window, gazing out on the empty city.

NAPOLEON

It's not very sporting, is it?

For his honor and Russia's, not
mine.

There's dignity to be had in defeat.

175

INT. KREMLIN ROOM - THRONE ROOM- LATER

Napoleon and Staff looking over MAPS.

NAPOLEON

He's hiding in St. Petersburg....we
will take fight to St. Petersburg...

DAVOUT

Your Majesty, we are lucky to have
made it to Moscow. There is barely
enough to get us back to Poland, let
alone another assault.

One of Napoleon's Guards emerges with a case of wine from the Tsar's cellar.

GUARD

Chateau Lafey. He's drinking our
wine.

One of the Guards uncorks a bottle and begins to fill glasses.

NAPOLEON

We can wait longer. He will
come.....

176

INT. THE KREMLIN -- TSAR ALEXANDER'S CHAMBER -- NIGHT

Napoleon awakes in Tsar Alexander's bed. He sits up in bed, pulls back the heavy curtains...

....and there, on the skyline behind St. Basil's, he sees a strange orange GLOW. Then another.

Napoleon looks closer...piecing it together....EUGENE enters.

EUGENE
(Father), they've set the fires.

NAPOLEON
Who?

EUGENE
It has been started by the Russians.

NAPOLEON
No it hasn't - they're not to burn their own city, be sensible - who has started these fires -- ?

177 EXT. MOSCOW STREETS - FRENCH CAMP - CONTINUED

Napoleon and Eugene emerge into the streets. The whole grand army stand staring at the huge fire.....

Suddenly....those few flurries of snow fall....Russian Winter has arrived. Napoleon thinks:

BERTHIER
We can remain only long enough to reorganize. We march back to Paris.

NAPOLEON
There is no reason. Alexander will negotiate.

BERTHIER
He is not, your Majesty. And you must face the harsh view of this situation.

We have let too much time slip away...we will be marching into the Russian winter, with horses who are not raised for this weather.

NAPOLEON
Winter? This is the Winter they promised us? He will come. He will negotiate for he is much more embarrassed than I am.

Napoleon moves back inside....

BERTHIER (CALLING OUT)
If we go back to Poland, we can wait out the winter months.....

(MORE)

BERTHIER (CALLING OUT) (CONT'D)

These horses are not bred for this weather! A French horse will die within weeks!

NAPOLEON

(So we will eat them)

178

EXT. KAGULA ROAD - OUTSIDE MOSCOW - DUSK

CAMERA behind the grand army as it marches across a BRUTAL SNOW STORM with temperatures well below freezing.

TITLE: NOVEMBER 6

Napoleon rides with Davout and Berthier. Caulaincourt and Eugene nearby.....they see something on the horizon....

179

EXT. KAGULA ROAD - ANOTHER DAY

Cossacks walk in the woods and flank the Grand Army as it marches along the road.....waiting to swoop down and kill them or waiting for them to move into the woods to look for food.....

180

EXT. CAMPFIRE ON THE ROAD - NIGHT

Men around a campfire, eating horse meat. Cossacks swoop down....some Men don't even fight back....some Fire the guns at the Cossacks.....

NAPOLEON and EUGENE and CAULAINCOURT around a fire. The fighting is just a hundred yards away but they don't even look at it or react.....

Caulaincourt looks at him.

NAPOLEON

All will be well when we arrive at
Minsk.

IMAGE: Moving past more dead bodies, horses.....Wolves Have come down to finish off the remains leaving blood streaks along the snow.....

IMAGE: Corpses are stripped of their clothes by those who are alive and cold. So now we see a line of dead naked bodies on the road.....

181

INT. ZANIVIKI TOWN - NIGHT

A small town is overrun with soldiers to get inside the wood shacks to get any kind of warmth. Soldiers go wild and dismantle the homes to use for fire wood.

A FIRE STARTS IN ONE OF THE HORSE BARNS, TRAPPING MEN INSIDE AS THE DOORS ARE LOCKED FROM THE OUTSIDE.

TITLE: NOVEMBER 27

182

EXT. RUSSIAN TUNDRA -- DAY

AERIAL SHOT: as the Grand Armée marches.

The Hussars are marching on foot now, wrapped in the hides of their slaughtered horses: they have eaten their cavalry. Only Napoleon and his Generals ride on horseback.

Napoleon takes out his pocket scope. THEIR POV: far off in the distance, they are being stalked by a group of riders -- COSSACKS in heavy *papaha* fur hats.

183

EXT. CAMP - RUSSIAN PINE FOREST - NIGHT

The WIND HOWLS off the steppes. The grenadiers huddle in their horse hides for warmth around a dying campfire. They have been reduced to cavemen.

A CORPORAL'S eyes have drifted closed. One of the grenadiers is eyeing the very weakened soldier.

184

EXT. RUSSIAN TUNDRA -- DAY

The corpse of the Grenadier lies splayed out in the snow, its thigh stripped clean of flesh, next to the embers of the campfire where he was cooked and eaten.

Napoleon, himself haggard and bearded, blanches as he gazes down at the human carcass.

Napoleon to Caulaincourt ride off.....

185

EXT. RUSSIAN VILLAGE - DAY

In a small Russian village. What's left of the French Army is very slight.

.....a SLEIGH is found in a barn.....

Caulaincourt to Napoleon.

CAULAINCOURT

Your Majesty, it is time for you to leave this misery and return to Paris and I have found a way.....

Napoleon sees the sleigh....

186

INT. BARN - RUSSIAN VILLAGE - LATER

Napoleon meets with Eugene, Berthier.

NAPOLEON

General Berthier you are left in command. I am well pleased with the fine spirit you have all shown.....Caulaincourt will be coming with me. That is what will happen.

He makes his way to Eugene and kisses him.

NAPOLEON

Good bye, my son. Take care.

Guards are mid-transfer of rugs and arms and his toilet equipment. Napoleon stops it all, gets in and they roll --

187

INT. SLEIGH - MOVING

The Emperor and Caulaincourt moving fast.

NAPOLEON

Now we will make time. Our disasters will make a great sensation in France - but my arrival will counter-balance Europe's bad efforts. We will show the French people, that the Enemy is Russia.

CAULAINCORUT

As a matter of fact, Your Majesty, it is you that they fear. It is your Majesty who is the cause of everyone's anxiety and prevents them from seeing the other dangers. A World State run by you is not what they want -

188

EXT. RUSSIAN TUNDRA - DUSK

The sleigh traveling.....

189

EXT. RUSSIAN TUNDRA - BORODINO BATTLEFIELD - A SLED - DAY

The sleigh is flying across the landscape. He looks out and glimpses something in the snow that startles him.

NAPOLEON

Stop. Stop!

The sleigh driver obeys. Napoleon stands up in the sled --

-- all around him are ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND BODIES, French and Russian soldiers and their horses, frozen in the snow.

NAPOLEON

Where are we?

SLEIGH DRIVER

Borodino, majesty.

NAPOLEON

How long ago was it that we fought
this battle?

SLEIGH DRIVER

Three months.

Napoleon climbs down from the sled. He walks into the battlefield --

-- RAVENS are plucking out the eyes of the dead; wolves are fighting over their bones. A frozen French soldier gazes up at Napoleon accusingly.

NAPOLEON

Why am I not allowed to weep?

190 OMITTED

191 OMITTED

192 INT. TREATY OF FONTAINEBLEAU

Talleyrand reading Napoleon's fate to him:

TALLEYRAND

You have been exiled. In no
uncertain terms.

The Allied Coalition of Austria,
Prussia, Russia and England and with
the agreement of The French Council
will grant you Sovereignty of the
island of Elba.

With a revenue of 2 million francs
from the French funds, pensions for
the Bonaparte family, and the
Empress Marie-Louise.

It also provides for Empress
Josephine to retain all her
properties and an allotted annual
income of one million francs. With
provisions for her two children
Eugene and Hortense....

BEAT. Napoleon about to sign the agreement in front of him.

193 EXT. MALMAISON - DAY

Josephine and her staff awaiting a Royal Procession arriving
at her home....A Carriage coming protected by 12 Riders.

...THE DOOR OPENS FROM THE COACH TO REVEAL THE VISITOR:

CZAR ALEXANDER OF RUSSIA. The very man who defeated Napoleon is now calling on Josephine....he's weak demeanor previously is now fluffed up on some ego....

JOSEPHINE
Your Highness.

ALEXANDER
Empress....

194

EXT. MALMAISON - VARIOUS

They're walking or sitting....

JOSEPHINE
I am afraid of the criticism that will come to me for opening my house to the very man who humbled my country and my husband.....

ALEXANDER
I understand your fear. If it brings you any comfort, it's because of me that he has retained his title, been given 2 million francs. He is neither in prison nor dead. Have you seen him?

JOSEPHINE
No.

ALEXANDER
I can think of a great many men that would like to come and visit with you, starting with the Prussian King....you don't have to lock yourself away because he is not here...your charms are your own and (company) available without him....

195

INT. SMALL ROOM ON ELBA - DAY

Napoleon is fat and sweaty.

TITLE UP: **ELBA**

A FEW IMAGES SHOW US NAPOLEON'S DAILY LIFE ON ELBA:

He sits at a desk, sorts through letters. He writes letters, reads newspapers.

A scruffy Tunisian Boy helps him in his daily life.

Monty Python shot. All of his movements around the Island have a sad/faded Majestic air. NOTE: He is kept here by BRITISH TROOPS.

196 INT. MALMAISON -- NIGHT

Josephine is WALTZING with Alexander.....

197 EXT. ELBA - DAY

Napoleon and his young Houseboy are fencing, getting some of the old moves back...but he's winded, overweight.

NAPOLEON

Enough. That's all for today.

BOY

Water?

NAPOLEON

Yes.

Boy runs to get Napoleon some water.

Napoleon watching from a cliff's edge with a spyglass seeing SHIPS in the small harbour.

Newspapers arrive. Napoleon gets to the paper. He is reading news that is approximately seven days old. He reads something that doesn't sit well with him. A news item about Alexander and Josephine. Or is this in the form of a letter from someone else?

NAPOLEON

Boy. What day is it?

BOY

Tuesday.

NAPOLEON

17?

BOY

Yes.

198 EXT. GARDEN ON ELBA - DAY

Napoleon and his mother Letizia eating lunch. He is moody and quiet.....she says:

LETIZIA

It brings me no great joy to sit with my son and have him moody and sullen.

(MORE)

LETIZIA (CONT'D)

If you're incapable of enjoying a lovely lunch that I have cooked than it is time for a change.

BEAT, THEN:

You were not meant to die on this island, my son.

NAPOLEON

My wife is entertaining the Russian Emperor. In my home.

199 EXT. SEA OFF ELBA - NIGHT

Napoleon and a group of ten-man rowboats head towards The Inconstant.

200 EXT. THE INCONSTANT - SHIP'S DECK - NIGHT

The Inconstant's BRITISH (FRENCH?) crew has been taken by surprise, overwhelmed by the Hussars. The white flag of the Bourbons has been taken down and is being replaced by the Tricolor of the Republic. Napoleon appears on deck:

NAPOLEON

Good evening. I am here to dissuade you from resistance. You know who I am. You don't have to fear me if you don't provoke me.

I have been delivered by Providence. Louis XVIII/Royalty has driven France to failure and ruin. With this little army, we will march into Paris.

201 OMITTED

202 INT. MALMAISON - JOSEPHINE'S BEDROOM - SAME

Dr. Covisart is examining Josephine who is weak and pale.

DR. COVISART

Your chest is congested. Your throat is inflamed. My suggestion is to stay in bed.

JOSEPHINE

Alexander is coming tonight....

DR. COVISART

I would suggest that you cancel that visit. It would be unwise to accept visitors....

Hortense stands nearby.

203

EXT. BEACH -- GOLFE-JEAN -- DAY (MARCH 1, 1815)

Napoleon and his troops arrived from Elba. We are on the beach that extends between Cannes and Antibes.

The INCONSTANT is anchored 100 yards off shore and boats are bringing Napoleon and his men ashore...

Leathery FISHERMEN watch him arrive. It's all very awkward and ungraceful...

NAPOLEON

You know me. I am your Emperor.

204

INT. MALMAISON - JOSEPHINE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Josephine is having trouble breathing. She is surrounded by Hortense, Eugene and her ladies in waiting.

205

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD -- GRASSE -- DAY

Napoleon on the move. They march, 500 of them, with Napoleon leading the way atop a decent chestnut horse brought over on the boat from Elba.

The villagers all come out and look.

Napoleon takes off his cocked hat and waves it at them like it's some kind of parade.

A LITTLE BOY breaks free of the villagers and falls in alongside Napoleon's horse. He marches mockingly along with them, and the villagers LAUGH.

Napoleon reaches down, lifts the boy up, and gives him a ride on the horse.

Some of the villagers fall into step as well, singing and marching: somebody beats a washboard like a drum.

206

INT. TUILLERIES - DINING ROOM -- DAY

A MESSENGER arrives in the presence of the new French King....Louis XVIII, the portly Bourbon, who has been restored to the throne in Napoleon's absence, who is in the middle of his breakfast.

The messenger bows his head.

LOUIS XVIII

You may speak.

MESSENGER

Bonaparte, your Majesty.

Louis chews slowly on a boiled egg.

MESSENGER

He has returned. A ship landed on the beach in Antibes this morning and they are on the march.

LOUIS XVIII

Who's marching where?

MESSENGER

Napoleon Bonaparte is marching towards Paris.

Nervous laughter. Louis XVII wipes his mouth and slowly stands up....

207

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD, LAFFREY - MORNING

Napoleon leads his army on this cold morning. We come over a rise, and the procession stops.....

REGIMENT OF GOVERNMENT TROOPS BLOCK THE ROAD A FEW HUNDRED YARDS AWAY.

It's a stand off. A young COLONEL CHARLES LA BÉDOYÈRE is sent ahead full gallop to speak with Napoleon.

LA BÉDOYÈRE

Your Majesty. General Marchand, in defense of the Royal Government of King Louis XVIII, requests that you surrender your weapons and cease your march so that you may be arrested and returned to your island.

NAPOLEON

Good afternoon to you, Colonel. Would please inform General Marchand that I will come and speak with him. I have no fight with my own 5th Army.

La Bedoyere gallops back and speaks with General Marchand

From Napoleon's POV - General Marchand ignores this information and shouts direction to his 5th Army.

The 5th Army front line kneels with its muskets so that the second line may fire over their shoulders, multiplying the amount of ammunition that can be fired per square foot.

General Marchand and his Lt. Cambronne steel themselves for the volley of hot lead that is to come.

Napoleon rides his horse towards the 5th Army.....

....getting closer....100 Ft away.....

General Marchand calls out:

GENERAL MARCHAND
Make ready!

500 muskets are simultaneously cocked. The 5th awaits the command to fire --

Napoleon is upon them....a few yards away. He dismounts.

He gazes into the eyes of the regiment before him.

GENERAL MARCHAND
FIRE!!!!!

No one fires.

NAPOLEON (TO TROOPS)
Soldiers of the 5th Regiment...do you recognize me?

VOICES
Yes...Emperor.....yes.....

NAPOLEON
Soldiers of the 5th Regiment....will you join me in reclaiming France?

I have missed you and I am melancholy for my home and our victories together. I want to come home to Paris. Will you join me?

VOICES
Vive L'Empereur!

208 EXT. TUILLERIES -- DAY

PANIC. LOUIS is fleeing the scene with his two dogs and heading towards a waiting Grand Coach.

VALETS and CHAMBERMAIDS they scurry behind him burdened with luggage.....

LOUIS XVIII
out. out. OUT!!!!!!

209 EXT. TUILLERIES - DAY

Napoleon's arrival, days later. Exhausted but triumphant. CROWDS fill the gardens of the Fontainebleau now.

The white fleur-de-lis Bourbon flag is taken down and the hand-sewn tricolor is raised.

Napoleon ascends the steps of the Palace. Marshals Ney, Davout and Talleyrand are there to greet him.

They embrace.....something important is unsaid between them.

210 INT. MALMAISON - BEDROOM - DAY

Napoleon over Josephine's empty bed. Hortense in the corner. He holds the bed.

211 INT. MALMAISON - DINING ROOM - DAY

Napoleon is sitting with Hortense.

NAPOLEON

And no one thought to notify me?

HORTENSE

No.

NAPOLEON

I want my letters that I wrote her.
Do you know where she keeps them?

HORTENSE

They were stolen by her Valet.

NAPOLEON

Where did she keep them?

HORTENSE

In the cupboard in her bedroom, next
to her bed.

NAPOLEON

What did he do with them?

HORTENSE

He sold them.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON (VO)

He is an Enemy of the Human Race....

212 INT. THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA - DAY

The Powers of Europe, great and small, have assembled here
for one purpose: to destroy Napoleon.

Duke of Wellington, Tsar Alexander, Archduke Charles of
Austria, the monarchs of Spain, Sweden, Portugal, and Louis
XVIII. And, most importantly: TALLEYRAND. NEED MORE
ACCURATE WORDING HERE, SKETCH:

DUKE OF WELLINGTON

(reads aloud)

"Napoleon Bonaparte has destroyed the only title on which his existence depended. As an enemy and disturber of the tranquility of the world, he has rendered himself liable to public vengeance." This congregation of Allies will string along the French/Belgian border an army of 70,000 troops from England and 120,000 troops from Prussia...Majesty?

ALEXANDER

The Russian Army will bring 400,000 Men.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON

This blow should have been stuck long ago. This man has held the world hostage by his ego, his blind abuse of power and his lack of manners. We will all sleep again without him. I believe that I speak for all of us when I say that the one regret we all share is that we allowed this man's existence.

213

INT. TUILLERIES - MAP ROOM - DAY

A VAST MAP OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS (now Belgium) is laid out on the floor. Napoleon walks upon it, surrounded by his Marshals, including Marshals NEY and La Bédoyère, who has joined Napoleon's staff.

NAPOLEON

Strike quickly against Wellington and Blucher - defeat them separately.
Disallow them from uniting forces...here. This is what Britain does not know how to do that I know....this is a fight on land.

They have not treated me as the Royalty that I am. Treating me by a standard they would not apply to themselves.

He indicates a point on the map with the toe of his boot.

214

EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD - BRITISH POSITION - DAY (JUNE 18, 1815)

TITLE: WATERLOO

The mist rises off a great expanse, with three small FARMHOUSES arranged around a gentle hillock.

The DUKE OF WELLINGTON walks that hill with his officers.

We PUSH PAST him, to reveal a line of British REDCOATS digging trenches along the ridge.

215 INT. NAPOLEON'S TENT -- DAY

Napoleon sits on a copper field toilet, his pants around his ankles. He is doubled over and in great pain.

He rises, pulls up his pants, and glances in the toilet. Inside is a half-pint of blood. A hemorrhage.

215A INT. NAPOLEON'S TENT -- DAY

Napoleon enters as his Marshals stand waiting. Marshal Ney is anxious to begin.

NAPOLEON

I'm not ignoring your warning about the fire power of the English infantry - I am disagreeing with it and feel that a frontal attack is a stronger strategy.....

MARSHAL NEY

He has positioned himself on higher ground, Emperor. Defense is Wellington's strength--

NAPOLEON

And it's his only one...The Duke is simply not that accomplished...except at defense.

MARSHAL NEY

...

NAPOLEON

He's an ordinary thinker who is adept at doing nothing unless it is done for him...

216 EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- FRENCH POSITION -- DAY

Napoleon walks the battlefield. **He feeds bread to his troops as he rallies them, wishing them good luck and victory.** (In the BG, a boy exits the tent and empties Napoleon's toilet when no one's looking.)

The ground is damp and soft; his boots are muddy. Napoleon evaluates the wet ground with two officers.

NAPOLEON

We are in no hurry to start this battle.

(MORE)

NAPOLEON (CONT'D)

We can wait until mid-day when the ground is drier. We cannot move our heavy artillery into place on this mud.

Napoleon extends his spyglass and peers across the battlefield at the British digging their trenches.

216A EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- BRITISH POSITION -- DAY

Wellington checks the mud that has accumulated on the bottom of his pristinely polished boots.

He evaluates the same wet ground, as his men dig trenches in perfect British unison. They are organized and ready.

WELLINGTON

Well done, men! Now's your time!
Now's your time!

He walks further, encouraging the troops.

WELLINGTON (CONT'D)

Patience shall win the day today.
Hold this ground.
(sotto voce)
Let him come to us...

217 OMITTED

218 OMITTED

219 EXT. BELGIAN ROAD -- DAY

A lone ENGLISH HORSEMAN with a pair of horses blazes across a rough road through open country as he comes in sight:

PRUSSIAN INFANTRY, led by General Gebhard von BLÜCHER on horseback. 110,000 men in unison, moving like a machine.

They spread out in a vast army of men.

The English rider, a scout, halts before Blucher's advance officers. There is an exchange.

At a distance, this is witnessed by a--

FRENCH SCOUT, similarly equipped with two horses. He studies this through a small telescope.

(Footnote: These riders were the most effective form of distant communication during battle. A pony express, in effect.)

220

EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- FRENCH POSITION -- DAY

The French troops wait for their orders. Napoleon paces in the mud. La Bédoyère receives the news of Blücher's imminence from the French Scout behind him with two winded horses.

LA BÉDOYÈRE

Prussian troops have been sighted on the road, sire. Twenty miles.

Napoleon studies the rider and lathered horses.

NAPOLEON

(shouts)
You are certain?

The rider nods, thrilled to be addressed by Napoleon.

NAPOLEON (CONT'D)

Then, they're out of the battle....

La Bédoyère looks doubtful.

Napoleon takes out his spyglass again. HIS POV THROUGH THE SCOPE: at the other end of the battlefield, Wellington is pacing too.

NAPOLEON (CONT'D)

I want reports of Blücher's progress every two hours...get on with it.

221

EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- BRITISH POSITION -- DAY

Wellington stakes out a place beneath a great tree and gazes back at the French position, unable to locate Napoleon. He is surrounded by a handful of LIEUTENANTS.

The BRITISH EXPRESS RIDER has arrived. He dismounts on the run. (He is slower than the French rider.)

BRITISH EXPRESS RIDER

(saluting)
Blücher at twenty miles, sir.

Wellington looks at his pocket watch. He then extends his spyglass toward the French side, clearly scoping Napoleon.

WELLINGTON

(sotto voce)
He appears to be...just waiting.

There is the feeling of two gunslingers, waiting to see who will draw first. Wellington's Lieutenants await patiently. It is still raining, although only a soft drizzle.

WELLINGTON (CONT'D)

He's excellent at everything...

(beat)

But the one thing he cannot resist
is an attack...

(MORE)

WELLINGTON (CONT'D)

(sotto voce)
Let us see how this General can
attack our position.

A row of BRITISH SNIPERS, rifles resting on rods with forks, are set-up a few yards from Wellington. One has bound a small scope to his rifle and is peeking through it. He calls out:

BRITISH SNIPER
(excited)
There's Bonaparte, sir. I think I
can reach him. May I fire?

WELLINGTON
(irritated)
No, no! Generals commanding armies
have better things to do than to
shoot at one another.
(then)
Hold your fire, soldier.

222 EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- FRENCH POSITION -- DAY

It has stopped raining. Napoleon grimaces with pain, but conceals it from his Marshals. Then, abruptly, as if trying to distract from the pain:

NAPOLEON
Fire cannons.

THE FRENCH CANNONS FIRE -- a volley more powerful than any we have heard before. The Boy covers his ears as he watches the cannon batteries, spellbound.

223 EXT. BELGIAN ROAD -- DAY

The cannon fire can be heard from twelve miles away; the Prussian troops are unsettled by the sound. Blucher looks concerned, but they remain stoic and march onward.

BLUCHER
We must increase the pace. On the double!

PRUSSIAN OFFICER
(calls out; relayed)
On the double!

224 EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- BRITISH POSITION -- DAY

The British troops take cover at the French cannon fire --

BRITISH LIEUTENANT
Take cover!

-- they burrow in their newly-dug trenches as the cannonballs whistle overhead --

-- and SMASH into the stand of trees behind their lines.

225

EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- FRENCH POSITION -- EVENING

GUNNERY SERGEANT

(bellows; agitated)

Lower range! Lower the range!

The CANNON BATTERIES work in precisely-timed formation, firing in unison for maximum effect.

But, they are still hitting the ramparts above the trenches -- with only minor damage to those dug into the trenches.

Napoleon signals and the cannons cease firing. SILENCE. He gazes through his spyglass: a cloud of wet particles and debris rises from the British position. Only a few Redcoats are visible.

MARSHALL NEY

(impatient)

Calvary! Now! Emperor, now!

NAPOLEON

Ney! Silence, damnit! Send in the infantry. The ground is still too soft. We need the higher position...

Ney is furious at being called out in front of officers.

226

EXT. THE FRENCH INFANTRY - BATTLEFIELD

Forward orders are given by BUGLE.

The French Battalion marches across the muddy battlefield in tightly packed lines. The British slowly emerge from their trenches. They raise their muskets, steady arms resting on the ridge of the trenches --

-- and FIRE. As French soldiers fall, the surrounding troops stoically close ranks and continue to advance.

227

EXT. BELGIAN ROAD -- DAY

The Prussian troops march on, toward Waterloo. This is very bad. Blucher can now hear the GUNFIRE.

BLUCHER

Faster, men! Double time now.

PRUSSIAN OFFICER

That would not be possible, sire!

AS:

227A EXT. BELGIAN ROAD -- DAY

The ENGLISH SCOUT blazes up to Blucher's army, that are now on the double. He receives info, wheels his pair of horses around and races back towards Waterloo.

AS:

228 EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- FRENCH POSITION -- DAY

The French Scout appears, leaps off his horse, and reports to an officer who runs to Ney. Napoleon stands nearby.

NAPOLEON

How far?

MARSHAL NEY

Five miles. Or less.

NAPOLEON

Damnit. Damnit.

229 EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- BRITISH POSITION -- DAY

A VOLLEY OF RIFLE and CANNON FIRE from the British trenches. More French soldiers fall. Wellington watches it all from beneath his tree.

WELLINGTON

Where's Blucher?

BRITISH LIEUTENANT

Less than two hours, sir.

WELLINGTON

Which will come first? Nightfall or the Prussians?

The scene on the field below is grim. Smoke, bodies, the Earth rent by cannon fire.

230 EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- FRENCH POSITION/BRITISH POSITION -- EVENING

The sky is black with smoke. Napoleon is in pain. In the BG, Marshals Ney and La Bédoyère are arguing. Ney canters up, gesturing violently at Napoleon, who is doubled-over from the pain.

NAPOLEON

Very well. Charge. Charge!

Ney rides to the French Soldiers, addressing them.

MARSHALL NEY
 Calvary! Follow the brave of the
 braves! Charge!

THE FRENCH CAVALRY CHARGE across the battlefield toward the British position, led by Marshal Ney himself. Wellington sees them coming.

They hit soft ground. Wellington gleefully watches horses wallow and slow down in the mud. He bellows order:

WELLINGTON
Fix bayonets!
 (then)
 Wait until you feel their horses'
 breath.

In unison, we see the British Army fix bayonets to their rifles in the hundreds. The British, now like a machine, a fortress in motion, form up into INFANTRY SQUARES, their bayonets pointing outward --

-- as Ney's cavalry storms the British trenches, riding in and across the French position.

WELLINGTON (CONT'D)
 (bellows from
 horseback)
 Stand fast to the last man. We must
 not be beat or what will they say in
 England. We must hold our ground!

As the French riders hit on the squares with their sabers, the British repel and spook the horses with their bayonets.

But the bayonets spook the horses and they rear up. Ney is forced to wave off his riders, sounding the signal of the BUGLE'S RETREAT.

231 OMITTED

232 EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD -- FRENCH POSITION -- EVENING

Napoleon breeches are stained with blood. He sees the defeated cavalry returning. He rises and telescopes his spyglass, and slowly PANS the horizon, when he sees --

BLÜCHER's PRUSSIAN TROOPS approaching.

LA BÉDOYÈRE (O.S.)
 They're here. The Prussians. First
 over the rise, Emperor.

Napoleon lowers his scope. La Bédoyère is grim-faced.

LA BÉDOYÈRE
 When our infantry sees them coming
 there'll be panic--

NAPOLEON

(cuts him off)

Tell them they're ours. Send the word to the field. Tell them they're reinforcements.

LA BEDOYERE

No one is going to believe that, Emperor--

NAPOLEON

Go! They are in blue...Tell them! Muddy blue is blue, damnit!

(Script Note: RS isn't sure if he believes this beat above about NB lying to his own army. Let's please review.)

The Boy is watching the disaster unfolding around him. Scattered FIRES burn; the dead and wounded are everywhere. Cannons FIRE seemingly at random. Horses are bleeding.

NAPOLEON

Bring me my horse!

His horse is led around. The Boy watches as Napoleon mounts his horse. The Imperial Guards surround Napoleon as they ride onto the field. Napoleon visibly sways in the saddle as he rides.

Napoleon sees--

THE PRUSSIANS, are now seen on the rise. They are coming at us from across the field, rifles poised.

NAPOLEON

Charge!

The Imperial Guard struggles on ground that is still muddy and soft. The Prussians fire, now engaging from the southeast. Bullets HISS and whiz around us. Napoleon looks disoriented as the Guard and the Prussians clash. The bullets strike the bodies of the men around him.

The order begins to collapse, and the Prussians stream past them. A tight scrum of loyal Guards surrounds Napoleon like a bodyguard as the Prussians smash into them.

The regular infantry turns to see the Prussians in full attack mode -- and they panic.

FRENCH INFANTRYMAN

We're lost, boys! You're on your own now!

Wellington finally has the moment he's been waiting for:

WELLINGTON

Now.

His orders are echoed and bellowed as the BRITISH INFANTRY emerges from its trenches and CHARGES, formidably marching -

The French Infantry tries to flee. One of the Imperial Guards raises his sword to attack the fleeing infantryman.

IMPERIAL GUARD

The Guard dies, it does not
surrender!

He is sabered by a BRITISH CAVALRY OFFICER.

Chaos. A melee of panicking infantry, wild-eyed horses, charging Prussians, circling cavalry.

From out of the melee, we find Marshal Ney shouting above the din, his face streaked with blood, his eyes and hair wild. He is fighting with a broken saber, as it has been snapped in half from the battle.

MARSHAL NEY

Lancers! *Where are my lancers?*
Come see how a Marshal of France
dies!

Napoleon, still delirious, watches Marshal Ney. He grabs Ney by the collar, both on horseback.

NAPOLEON

(shouts)
Marshal. You are relieved of duty.

Ney wrestles free from Napoleon and rides off into the night. One of Napoleon's Guards sees Napoleon reeling in his saddle and turns to his comrades:

IMPERIAL GUARD

The Emperor! Get him out!

The six-man scrum of Imperial Guards escorts Napoleon from the battlefield, back towards his tent. Napoleon looks nearly unconscious in his saddle.

One of the Guards takes a bullet to the head and falls from his horse. Napoleon's horse bolts with Napoleon listing to one side.

234

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD -- EVE

NAPOLEON'S HORSE races Bonaparte away from the field of battle, its eyes wild, its nostrils flaring. The glow of the distant battle lights up the night sky behind them.....

234A

EXT. WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD

As Wellington now sits atop his horse. He watches the French side in chaos.

WELLINGTON

The battle is mine; there will be an end of the war.

235

EXT. FIELD -- AWAY FROM BATTLEFIELD -- EVE

Napoleon sits on the grass, sheltering in a grouping of young, thin trees. He is slightly bleeding. His horse mills around him, untethered.

PRE-LAP SOUND OF CRISP CLACK OF SHOES ON WOOD FLOOR.....

WELLINGTON (OC)

Good afternoon, Your Majesty....

NAPOLEON (OC)

Good afternoon.....

236

INT. ENGLISH SHIP BELLEROPHON, OFF ROCHEFORT - DAY

Napoleon is kept in the belly of this British Warship.

He is fraternizing with his captors, eating a full English Breakfast. They are enamored by him, fully engaged....there's a pause and they stand to attention as DUKE OF WELLINGTON arrives to speak with Napoleon:

DIALOGUE TO BE ADDED FOR NAPOLEON & SHIPMEN

WELLINGTON

Would you like a glass of water?

NAPOLEON

The hospitality and forgiveness of the British people is what I admire in the face of the European hostility.

I imagine I will love the Cotswolds, soft rolling hills and gentle light.....

WELLINGTON

It is by only a narrow margin of opinion that you have been spared the fate of being shot.

CU. NAPOLEON this is not the news he was expecting and it's difficult for Lord Keith to deliver....

WELLINGTON

Politically, it is impossible for the English government to keep you in England. You are permitted to take three officers and 12 servants into Exile.

NAPOLEON

...

WELLINGTON

Exile will be contained to the island of St. Helena. At the residence of Longwood.

NAPOLEON

St. Helena.

WELLINGTON

St. Helena is 1000 miles away from the Mainland of Africa. Your correspondences will be read. Your presence will be checked twice daily by the orderly officer....

NAPOLEON

Who would suppose that all this would be decided so quickly?

One must also not forget that I am only a man, after all.

237

EXT. SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY

Napoleon seeing his final home from a distance. It's a volcanic rock of an island.

238

EXT. ST. HELENA - OLIVE ORCHARD - DAY

Daily life is pleasant but dull. There are a few families on the island.

Napoleon is warmer, more reflective.

He befriends a few of the family's YOUNG GIRLS. He sits around, joking with them:

NAPOLEON

What is the capital of France?

GIRL

Paris.

NAPOLEON

Of Russia?

GIRL

Petersburg. And Moscow before.

NAPOLEON

Who burnt it?

GIRL

I don't know, sir.

NAPOLEON

It was I who burnt it.

ANOTHER GIRL

I believe, sir, the Russians burnt
it to get rid of the French.

He laughs and laughs and corrects her.....

239

INT. ST HELENA HOME - BEDROOM

NAPOLEON laying in bed, looking at a picture across the room
of Josephine.

NAPOLEON (VO)

I have beaten the enemy. I am tired
to death. I send you a thousand
kisses. I am in bed, hopefully I
will dream of you.