

Pilot: Avatar Series 3

Assignment 3: Fundamentals and Basics

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EXT. OCEAN - NIGHT

A ship heaves front to back as it fights through rough waves. The ship has a sci-fi edge to it - a sleek pale exterior with strips of glowing green lights. Lightning flares in the background, revealing a stormy sky. A wave crashes against the outside of the ship, breaking high into the air.

CUT TO:

The lightning briefly illuminates the inside of the ship's cabin, and then there is something else - a strange blue light that emerges slowly then fades. A MAN on a top bunk stirs, then climbs down to check the window.

CUT TO:

Outside (but close to) the window looking in, we see the MAN's face illuminated by the odd blue light. He has a buzz cut with yellow eyes and a scar across his mouth. His expression turns to concern, and he hurries to the door.

CUT TO:

Shot of the hallway, close to the cabin's door and looking down the long way. The door opens slowly and the MAN peers in both directions. SOLDIERS move from door to door, examining the people in each room. The MAN raises the hood of his coat and starts walking slowly in the opposite direction. One of them spots him.

SOLDIER

That's him! That's the firebender!

Wild music begins. The MAN takes off down the hall, launching a fireball back at the SOLDIER. They hurl spinning steel disks back, which expand into steel nets. They get blasted away by the MAN's volleys of fire, but they sprint after him. Other passengers open their doors to see what the commotion is, but quickly shut them as the SOLDIERS run by. At the end of the hall, he blasts the door open with more and charges up the stairs to the ship's deck. He fires a bolt of lightning as the SOLDIERS come up after him, sending two of them flying into the water. They quickly get helped up into other boats by companions.

CUT TO:

From afar, we see the ship surrounded by smaller patrol boats; they point beams of light at the fight now taking place. The explosions and bursts of fire indicate the fight moving along the ship's side railing and up to its roof. A LONG TAKE captures this progression from an above helicopter-style shot. Again the odd blue light passes beneath the smaller boats - it is in the shape of a giant whale-like creature.

CUT TO:

On the boats, various SOLDIERS look around in surprise as the creature creates waves beneath them.

CUT TO:

On the roof of the ship, the MAN reaches the edge. From behind, a PAN SHOT moves from left to right, capturing the vast number of boats surrounding him. He turns as the SOLDIERS reach the top and surround him.

SOLDIER

Give up. It's you against all of us!

MAN

I'm not alone. I fight alongside everyone who's  
died because of you monsters.

SOLDIER CAPTAIN

Ready weapons!

The SOLDIERS extend steel whips, which crackle with electricity. In a CLOSE UP shot, the MAN ignites his fists, ready to go down fighting. Just as the SOLDIERS raise their whips to strike, the ship lurches abruptly. The creature has leapt from the ocean and sunk its claws deep into the hull. Its mouth glows with a powerful neon blue light, and its deep purple body is lined with a network of pulsing blue lines.

SOLDIER

Ocean Spirit!

The SOLDIERS are distracted - some are regaining their footing while others have completely turned their attention to the spirit. The MAN does a spin kick, sending a wide arc of flame and knocking down the soldiers in front of him. In an above TRACKING SHOT, he sprints through the disoriented crowd and slides down the steep end of the ship. At the last second he jumps and boosts himself with an explosive jet of flame, landing on a nearby patrol boat.

CUT TO:

SOLDIERS strike the spirit repeatedly with electrified whips and steel projectiles. CREW MEMBERS run outside,

attempting to help by throwing fire, ice, and blasts of air. The spirit roars, overwhelmed, and sinks back into the water.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP shots show the MAN's feet from below right before he jets to the next boat, and the one after. He reaches one of the boats at the end of the fleet, swiftly kicking its driver into the water then moving to take the wheel. Before he can escape, a whip wraps his arm and jerks him away. A SOLDIER stands at the edge of another boat, grinning. He electrifies the whip, and a PAN SHOT shows the sparks moving towards the MAN's arm. At the last second, the MAN spins and redirects the energy back at the attacker, blasting him in the air. The MAN goes back to the wheel and begins speeding away.

CUT TO:

An ARMORED FIGURE climbs to the top of the ship, surveying the damage done. The music has ended, and all sound comes from the crashing waves and burning ship. Its gaze falls on the MAN speeding away in the patrol boat. It readies its arm in a firing position. A CLOSE UP shot shows the figure's mask as it fires.

CUT TO:

The MAN's boat explodes as a glowing projectile hits the back. He is thrown into the ocean, and struggles as he sinks about thirty feet. The screen goes dark, but the water's sound remains. In a distant shot with the MAN's figure at the center, a blue light grows brighter. The camera cuts to his face, which now has a look of terror. Camera cuts back to behind him - he closes his eyes as he is enveloped in the spirit's jaws.