Original Painting By J. Robert (Bobby) Burnell

The Unknown

Horizon

Screenplay By Robert C. Powers

In the year 1608, the Native American Chesapeake Tribe disappeared

Executive Summary

- TITLE: THE UNKNOWN HORIZON
- LENGTH: Feature film
- GENRE: Historical Action/Adventure
- BUDGET: Less than \$5 M
- SHOOT: Ready for shooting
- CHARACTERS (26. 2 main, 4 Supporting)
 - Chatagua (15)
 - Alanoas (14)
 - Manatapac (17)
 - Benatagua (35)
 - Chesapian (44)
 - Malapok (17)
 - Maltakak (39)
 - Tritonacok (40)
 - Sir John (40)
 - Nathan (26)

LOCATIONS (6)

- 1607 Native American Village
- Forest and Swamp
- Canoe "Seeker"
- English ship "Discovery"
- 'Bay and ocean beaches
- Open seas

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Logline

In the early 1600s, a Native American boy must canoe to the eastern unknown horizon to become a Brave, finds himself in a power struggle between tribal factions as the Chesapeake people face war with their neighbors and the arrival of mysterious explorers from across the sea. (Coverage: CONSIDER. An engaging blend of historical drama and action-adventure; a <u>terrific job</u> of building an immersive narrative world.)

Coverage

A story that can make a compelling tale and film. Strong plot. Cinematic. The world crafted is realistic and authentic. There are themes about fear, courage, and destiny. Native American sacraments like "Run of Death" and "Act of Courage" are highly intriguing. Screenplay Readers.



Chatagua, a young Native American of the Chesapeake Nation is about to be of age to become a Brave. His father, Benatagua, an honorable Leader in the Tribe is worried that Chatagua is preoccupied with studying the sea and its creatures. Chatagua wonders what lies beyond the horizon to the east and vows to canoe there for his "Act of Courage" to become a Brave.

Alanoas, a young maiden, is attracted to Chatagua, but another brave has "asked for her". She wrestles with her decision, and as she learns more about them, she makes a choice.



Benatagua is the Werowance (War Leader), father of Chatagua. He is the only one to hold the honor of "Honakaa Tu" for his act of courage in canoeing north, discovering the Land of the Delaware.

Chalapow, chubby and strong, he's the "Tribal Clown" and enjoys it. He's a firm friend of Chatagua.



Chatagua's best friends are Manatapak and Malapok, both several years older than he and about to become Braves. They frolic on the beach of the Atlantic **Ocean near Chesapeake Bay and discover** the figurehead of a lost ship. It has the shape of a woman and they name her Nipikama [divine one]. Chatagua wonders what kind of People live to the east Where-Sun-is-Born. That could have a canoe big enough to hold Nipikami.

Malapok , son of the Periku [Medicine Man], Maltakak, a strong and cunning young man, tells his friends he has asked for Alanoas to be his woman as soon as he becomes a Brave.



The Beach at Point-Where-**Great-**Waters-Meet

The three friends, Chatagua, Manatapac and Malapok frolic on the beach at **Point-Where-Great-Waters-Meet**

They discover the figurehead of a lost ship. It has the shape of a woman and they name her Nipikama [divine one]. Chatagua wonders what kind of People live to the east Where-Sun-is-Born who could have a canoe big enough to hold Nipikama.



Sachem (Chief) Chesapian is the kind and brave leader of the tribe. He has no heir and favors Chatagua whose youthful wisdom he admires. Benatagua is his lifelong friend and supporter.

Masonnacok is a Noble Brave, father of Alanoas. He thinks Chatagua is a "Fish Boy" and will never become a Brave. He wants Alanoas to be the woman of Malapok.



Musiasas

Musiasas is the best friend of Alanoas, shy, cute, a sweet and a caring person. She has eyes for Manatapac.

Tritonacok, father of Musiasas, the most experienced and fierce Brave of the Chesapeake. He is considered by many as the logical successor to Chesapian.



Periku Maltakak, a rival of Chesapian and Benatagua, is the father of Malapok and plots to become Sachem. He causes Malapok to challenge Chatagua's qualification as a Brave. When the English arrive, he sets them against Chesapian and leads a rebellion to become Sachem.

Stakto, a cruel ands fierce warrior, is a loyal friend of Malapok and a follower of Maltakak.



Chatagua rescues a dolphin, wounded by a shark. Names him "Calypo-Ma" [my dolphin friend]. Chatagua and Malapok clash over what to do with Calypo-Ma. Chatagua protects him. Maltakak warns that Calypo-Ma is an omen of "blood to come".

Benatagua and Chalatas, Chatagua's mother, arrive on the scene where Chatagua defends Calypo-Ma Chalatas whispers to Benatagua. Benatagua calms the crowd, says that the dolphin was rescued by Chatagua, so it is his to do as he pleases. Chatagua and his friends nurse the dolphin to recover.



Grand Sachem Powhatan controls tribes in eastern Virginia, considers the Chesapeake to be one of these. Some Chesapeakes do not agree. Powhatan seeks to bring the Chesapeake under his control.

Powhatan's brother, Opechanocok, leads his tribe, the Wepeneooc, against the Chesapeake. The Chesapeake prevail and Chatagua distinguishes himself in battle, though not yet a Brave. His father, Benatagua is mysteriously killed. Chesapian wants to make Chatagua a Brave, but Chatagua declines; he's promised Benatagua he will canoe to the unknown horizon in an "act of courage" to become a Brave. Chesapian approves, believes such an act will prove the independence of the Chesapeake.



With the help of his friends, Chatagua builds a new type of canoe, double hull with sails, names it "Seeker". Sets forth on his "Act of Courage" to find what's beyond the eastern horizon - to discover the "People of Nipikama". Seeker is damaged by a storm and Chatagua is attacked by sharks - saved by Calypo-Ma and a pod of dolphins. He salvages one hull from Seeker, turns back.

A tall gray fin follows him at night. It's the legendary shark Gitsche Kakapa! The giant shark makes several passes at him, then attacks in the morning. Chatagua hits him with arrows, but that doesn't phase him.



Discovery Nathan

As Chatagua battles Gitsche Kakapa, three English ships approach; Discovery, Godspeed and Susan Constant. Gitsche Kakapa crushes Seeker, throws Chatagua up in the air. Jaws snap, barely miss.

Discovery comes alongside the sinking canoe. Sailors with "Sticks-Make-Fire" wound the shark. Nathan, a Midshipman aboard Discovery, dives overboard, rescues Chatagua. Chatagua is in a strange and alien new world.



Sir John

Sir John Ratcliffe, Master of Discovery directs Nathan to learn as much as he can about people in the new Land.

Cutlass, a Boatswain aboard Discovery makes trouble for Chatagua. Nathan defends Chatagua.

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Chesepiooc

English move ashore Chatagua returns to Chesepiooc a hero, becomes a Brave, awarded Honokaa Tu for his Act of Courage.

The English move ashore, replenish food and water. They get along with the Chesapeake until Cutlass makes a move on Musiasas. Maltakak sets the **English against the Chesapeake, kills** Sachem Chesapian. In a dying command, Chesapian makes Chatagua Sachem . Maltakak declares himself Sachem. The tribe is split. Chatagua and his followers escape to their new home in Teme Forest, Temecomoco.



Death

. Chatagua challenges Maltakak to a "Run of Death"; two Braves enter the forest, only one comes out. Malapok accepts for his father.

The Wepeneooc attack again, setting up an exciting and emotional finale. How did the Chesapeake Nation "disappear"?

Penned by optioned and award winning screenwriter Robert C. Powers THE UNKNOWN HORIZON Is inspired by the known facts about the Chesapeake Indians of Virginia and tells a story of courage, leadership, love and hard choices.

ROBERT C. POWERS

Coverage Notes

- Compelling tale. Strong plot. Cinematic.
- World crafted is realistic, authentic.
- Themes about fear, courage, destiny.
- Native American sacraments like "Run of Death" and "Act of Courage" are highly intriguing rituals.

CONSIDER Screenplay Readers

May we send the script?

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