ZORRO

"The Anti-Zorro"

(Prod. #3050-0010)

Written

by

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SACRED INDIAN LAND - NIGHT

We open in a very strange looking land. CAMERA PANS the wind- and water-carved sandstone rocks of various odd shapes. Strange ANIMAL NOISES and an eerie WIND blow through shot as GARCIA and his men gallop up from various directions, stopping together.

CLOSER ON SOLDIERS

CORPORAL CLEMENTE

We've searched every corner of this land, Sergeant Garcia. There's no one living on it.

GARCIA

Bueno! El Capitán will be most pleased.

CLOSE ON GARCIA

GARCIA

(nervous)

And I will be pleased to get off of this haunted Indian land.

WIDER ANGLE

GARCIA

Let's get back to the garrison and give Capitán Montecero the good news.

Suddenly Corporal Clemente spots something o.s., points.

CORPORAL CLEMENTE

Sergeant, look!

And as all of the men turn to see what it is, cut to...

THEIR POV: A DISTANT SANDSTONE FORMATION

There is smoke rising up from behind it.

BACK TO THE SOLDIERS

GARCIA

(nervous)

Uh, n-nothing to worry about. It's probably just a small fire, caused by lightning.

CORPORAL CLEMENTE

Lightning?

The soldiers look up. WIDEN to reveal there isn't a cloud in the sky. A million stars twinkle above.

CORPORAL CLEMENTE

There isn't a cloud in the sky.

Garcia is defeated. He chews his nails.

GARCIA

Yes, well, uh, I suppose we should check it out, then. You lead the way, Clemente. A reward for spotting the smoke first.

Clemente kicks his mount and gallops off, followed by the other soldiers--with Garcia in the rear.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SANDSTONE FORMATION - NIGHT

Garcia and the others ride into shot, stop. They all look past camera at...

THEIR POV: A SMALL FIRE

Smoke wafts up past the stars. A lone, white-haired old Indian sits peacefully before the fire, back to camera. He is CRAZY EYES.

BACK TO GARCIA AND HIS MEN

Garcia puts his fingers to his lips, then:

GARCIA

(sotto)

Shhh! We'll sneak up on him.

As they begin to quietly dismount, cut to...

THE OLD INDIAN

seated before the fire, his eyes closed. As Garcia and his men move into shot quietly, about to grab him:

CRAZY EYES

(calmly)

No need to sneak about. I will not harm you.

Garcia and the others stop, surprised.

GARCIA

Uh, who are you? What are you doing on this property?

CLOSE ON CRAZY EYES

CRAZY EYES

I am the caretaker of these ancient sacred grounds. They call me Crazy Eves.

He opens his eyes, revealing that his pupils are glazed over with a white foq.

WIDER ON SOLDIERS

They react in surprise, looking at one another.

CORPOREL CLEMENTE

He...he is blind!

GARCIA

Ha! What a stupid tribe you must have, putting a blind man in charge of their sacred land.

TWO SHOT - GARCIA AND CLEMENTE

GARCIA

It's going to be easy to get rid of this old fool.

(MORE)

WIDER ANGLE

As Garcia grabs Crazy Eyes, he and his men react to the sound of an O.S. HORSE GALLOPING UP. Then Toronado's legs enter in the foreground. The soldiers look toward camera.

REVERSE ANGLE - ZORRO

on Toronado. He circles his bullwhip over his head and whips it out, right into camera. SNAP! Then cut to...

THE FIRE

as the end of the bullwhip snaps into shot, hits the red-hot coals, sending sparks and coals flying.

FAVORING GARCIA

as a little red coal sails into the back of his pants. Garcia dances about like a wild man, trying futilely to reach behind him and extinguish the coal.

GARCIA

Aaahh! Oooh! Eeee! Muy caliente!

WIDER TO INCLUDE ZORRO

as he gracefully dismounts from Toronado.

ZORRO

Now, who is the fool?

FAVORING CRAZY EYES

Though his pupils are opaque, he appears to be enjoying what he "sees" as he looks in the direction of Garcia, who continues to dance, then drops to the ground and bumps his backside several times on the dirt.

GARCIA

Ooohhhooohhhooohhh!!

CRAZY EYES

(laughing)

ON GARCIA

He looks up, angry as heck.

GARCTA

Don't just stand there! Get Zorro!

WIDER ANGLE

Garcia's soldiers whip out their swords and move in around Zorro, who draws his own sword in his free hand. They begin to duel. There are some sandstone boulders precariously perched on the wind-carved escarpment behind them.

FAVORING ZORRO

As he disarms one of the soldiers.

ZORRO

If you are going to protect El Pueblo, you really must improve your swordsmanship.

Two more soldiers enter with swords, one of which is Corporal Clemente.

CORPORAL CLEMENTE

No better way to practice than cutting you to ribbons, Zorro.

Clemente and the other soldier begin to fiercely duel with Zorro, forcing him back into the escarpment. Zorro holds the two men off with his sword as he whips his whip upwards, out of shot.

ANGLE ON BEACH BALL-SIZE BOULDER

precariously perched on another. The whip encircles it.

BACK TO SCENE

Zorro pulls down on his bullwhip and steps to one side as the boulder tumbles down, bowling the soldiers over.

SOLDIERS

(walla)

Aaaaahhhh!!! Unngghh!

ANGLE ON GARCIA

Just as he gets up and dusts off his backside, he reacts as the boulder rumbles through shot and knocks him down again.

GARCIA

Oooohh!

FULL SHOT - ALL

Zorro is standing beside Crazy Eyes, who is still seated before the fire.

ZORRO

Tell your capitán to leave the sacred Indian lands alone.

Suddenly a half-dozen more soldiers, on horses, gallop into shot, surrounding Zorro.

FAVORING GARCIA

He gets up, faces Zorro.

GARCIA

You can tell him yourself, Zorro, from inside the jail. Arrest him!

ON ZORRO

There is nothing he can do as the five soldiers move their horses in closer, tightening their circle around Zorro and Crazy Eyes.

CLOSER ON ZORRO AND CRAZY EYES

ZORRO

(to Crazy Eyes, sotto)
I'll try to distract them long enough
for you to escape.

But Crazy Eyes just remains seated, a serene look on his face.

CRAZY EYES

(calmly)

Be calm, El Zorro, for the 'fox' has friends as well as the hounds.

PUSH IN on Crazy Eyes as he closes his eyes and moves his hands over the fire.

CRAZY EYES (rhythmic humming)

And as...

THE SOLDIERS

move in closer around Zorro and the Indian...

CRAZY EYES

takes a pinch of powder from his magic pouch and throws it over the flames. FWOOSH! The flames explode with sparkling energy and smoke.

WIDER

The soldiers' horses rear back nervously as the smoke and flames dance up before them.

CLOSER ON SMOKE AND FLAMES

as a ferocious albino buffalo "morphs" out of the smoke, ROARING as it leaps out of the fire and gallops toward...

THE WIDE-EYED SOLDIERS

The horses bolt as the albino buffalo chases them, kicking and SNORTING and trying to gore them with its horns.

SOLDIERS

(panicked walla)

DRAMATIC ANGLE

the fearsome buffalo blows steam from its nostrils as it races straight into camera, ROARING WILDLY. And cut to...

SERGEANT GARCIA

running for his life. The buffalo runs into shot and gores him in the backside, sending him flying o.s.

GARCTA

Waaahhhh!!

ANGLE ON MORE SOLDIERS

still on foot, nervously scrambling to get onto their horses, who are as scared as the men. Garcia drops into shot like a bomb, knocking the soldiers down.

GARCIA

Oooff!

(panicked)

This p-place is haunted! Out of my way!

GARCIA

Shoves his men out of the way as he desperately tries to get on his skittish horse. He gets his foot in the stirrup just as his horse bolts, dragging him away.

GARCIA

Aaaaahhh!!! Ooohhh!

WIDER ANGLE

As all of the soldiers gallop away, a floundering Garcia is dragged after them. The albino buffalo stops chasing them, watching as they disappear over the horizon.

CLOSER ON ZORRO AND CRAZY EYES

Again, Crazy Eyes appears to "see" what is happening.

CRAZY EYES

(bellowing laughter)

WIDER

Zorro looks at the buffalo before him, which faces the other way, breathing heavily.

ZORRO

(to Crazy Eyes)

Thank you for your help, Crazy Eyes.

CRAZY EYES

You are welcome, Zorro. But I wasn't helping you. I was protecting my tribal land.

CLOSE ON CRAZY EYES

He turns and looks o.s., then smiles "playfully". He makes a little circular gesture with his hand, and...

THE ALBINO BUFFALO

turns around, and reacts with an ANGRY SNORT to...

HIS POV: ZORRO

whose cape is blowing in the wind.

BACK TO THE BUFFALO

It paws the dirt and SNORTS again.

WIDER TO INCLUDE ZORRO AND CRAZY EYES

The buffalo stares Zorro down. Zorro looks to Crazy Eyes.

CRAZY EYES

I forget to tell you. He doesn't like capes.

Suddenly the albino buffalo charges toward Zorro.

FAVORING ZORRO

He quickly whips off his cape and, like a matador, holds it to one side, shaking it.

WIDER ANGLE

The buffalo runs straight for Zorro, who skillfully whips his cape away as the buffalo runs past, then evaporates into thin air.

TWO SHOT - ZORRO AND CRAZY EYES

ZORRO

I'm impressed, Crazy Eyes. That was quite an illusion.

CRAZY EYES

That was no illusion, Zorro. Look at your cape.

CLOSER ON ZORRO

He holds up his cape, reacts in surprise as we see two tears it in from the buffalo's horns.

CLOSE ON CRAZY EYES

CRAZY EYES

Illusions are what crazy men see. Magic is as real as the man who makes it.

WIDER ANGLE

to reveal the day is beginning to break on the horizon. Zorro gets on Toronado.

ZORRO

Be well, Crazy Eyes. Hasta la vista!

Zorro gives Toronado a kick and gallops off. And as Crazy Eyes waves good-bye...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE GARRISON - MORNING

A very expensive carriage arrives at the garrison and MONTECERO is there to greet it.

CLOSER ON CARRIAGE

as a well-dressed Spanish nobleman steps out before Montecero. He is DON RICARDO RICACHÓN (pronounced ree-cah-SHONE).

MONTECERO

Welcome to El Pueblo, Don Ricardo.

DON RICARDO

Gracias, Capitán Montecero. (MORE)

CLOSE ON DON RICARDO

DON RICARDO

I have come to take possession of my land grant.

TWO SHOT - MONTECERO AND DON RICARDO

MONTECERO

Everything has been taken care of, señor. I would be delighted to personally escort you to your new property.

DON RICARDO

That is very kind of you.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Montecero and Don Ricardo react as Garcia and his soldiers gallop into shot, stopping before the Garrison.

CLOSER ON MONTECERO AND DON RICARDO

MONTECERO

Ah! This will be my sergeant reporting that your land is ready.

Garcia enters, out of breath and excited.

GARCIA

(out of breath)

There was some trouble, my Capitán!

MONTECERO

(nervously)

Uh, we can talk about that later, sergeant, er, in my office.

Montecero starts to usher Garcia off, when Don Ricardo stops him.

DON RICARDO

No! If there is a problem, I want to hear about it now.

Garcia looks to Montecero, who reluctantly nods yes.

GARCIA

There was an old Indian on the land. We couldn't capture him.

MONTECERO

(enraged)

One old Indian and you couldn't take care of it?!

GARCTA

But, Capitán...Zorro came.

DON RICARDO

Who is this...Zorro?

MONTECERO

Uh, just a common outlaw. No one for you to be concerned about.

TWO SHOT - DON RICARDO AND MONTECERO

DON RICARDO

If he prevents me from getting my land I am very concerned.

Don Ricardo shoves a royal decree, on parchment with wax seal, into Montecero's face.

DON RICARDO

(angry)

May I remind you that you personally assured the Royal Governor of Madrid that you would see to it I got the land for my new ranch.

MONTECERO

(contrite)

Uh, yes, of course. This is only a minor delay.

DON RICARDO

I hope so. For if I do not have my land within 24 hours...

CLOSE ON MONTECERO

DON RICARDO (V.O.)

...your military career will be over!

Off Montecero's shocked expression, we cut...

WIDER

as Don Ricardo storms off. Montecero turns to Garcia, a look of rage on his face.

MONTECERO

This is all your fault, you incompetent fool!

GARCIA

I am sorry, my Capitán, but the Indian's magic was just too powerful. He conjured up an albino buffalo.

MONTECERO

Bah! It was just an illusion!

GARCIA

No, my Captain. It gored me, I swear! Look!

Garcia turns his rump toward Montecero, points to the tear in his pants.

CLOSE ON MONTECERO

He thinks for a beat, then appears to get an idea.

MONTECERO

(thinking)

If what you're saying is true, I could kill two birds with one stone.

TWO SHOT - MONTECERO AND GARCIA

MONTECERO

I want you to go back to the scared land.

GARCIA

B-b-but, my Capitán...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. HACIENDA DE LA VEGA - DAY

PUSH IN on the house as we hear AWFUL PIANO MUSIC over. Then cut to...

INT. MUSIC ROOM

Where ALEJANDRO is playing piano, making some really horrible sounding notes. DIEGO and BERNARDO stand behind Alejandro, wincing at the music.

DIEGO

(lying)

You're, uh, getting much better, father.

As Alejandro continues to play poorly...

ALEJANDRO

Yes, well, I'm a little rusty. But I'm supposed to accompany Anna Rosa Dominguez at the welcoming party for Don Ricardo Ricachón next week.

FAVORING DIEGO AND ALEJANDRO

DIEGO

Do you know Don Ricardo well, father?

ALEJANDRO

You know me, Diego, I don't like to speak ill of anyone. But Don Ricardo! Well, it's hard to say anything good about the man.

WIDER TO INCLUDE BERNARDO

Alejandro suddenly stops playing, looks at Diego and Bernardo grimly.

ALEJANDRO

Just as it is hard to say anything good about my piano playing. (lets out a laugh)

And as Bernardo smiles and Diego laughs with his father...

WIPE TO:

EXT. SACRED INDIAN LAND - LATER THAT DAY

PAN the beautiful landscape and PUSH IN on Crazy Eyes, sleeping under the shade of a saguaro cactus. HOLD a beat, then Corporal Clement sneaks into shot quietly.

CLOSER ON CLEMENTE

As he moves along he steps on a branch which CRACKS LOUDLY.

CLOSER ON CRAZY EYES

He suddenly sits up, eyes open, reaches for his magic pouch. But just before he grabs it, Garcia enters from the other direction and steps on the pouch as Crazy Eyes clutches it.

GARCIA

You are not as smart as you think, old man, falling for the old decoy trick.

(MORE)

Clemente and a third soldier enter, grab Crazy Eyes.

CLOSER ON GARCIA

He picks up the magic pouch.

GARCIA

Let's get him back to the garrison. Pronto!

WIPE TO:

EXT. THE GARRISON - THAT NIGHT

PUSH IN on the jail wing as:

MONTECERO (V.O.)

I'm not asking very much...

INSIDE THE JAIL

Crazy Eyes is in a cell. Montecero is on the other side of the bars beside Garcia (who has Crazy Eye's magic pouch).

MONTECERO

...Just perform the magic that I described, and I will let you go.

CRAZY EYES

No.

CLOSER ON GARCIA

As Montecero continues talking over shot, Garcia opens the magic pouch in his hand, holds it close to his face, looking curiously at the magic powder inside.

MONTECERO (O.S.)

(angry)

If you don't do what I say, I will confiscate <u>all</u> of your tribal land.

Garcia touches the powder, smells it. His nose wrinkles. His eyes twitch. Then he suddenly sneezes...

GARCIA

ACCCHHHOOOOO!!

...sending a cloud of powder into the air, covering him.

WIDER TO INCLUDE MONTECERO

The powder clears around Garcia, revealing that his uniform is now a comical, tattered and smoking mess.

MONTECERO

Give me that, you idiot!

Montecero angrily grabs the pouch from Garcia. He turns to Crazy Eyes.

MONTECERO

Well, what is your answer?

CRAZY EYES

(reluctant)

My tribe has suffered enough. I will do what you ask.

MONTECERO

Bueno!

Montecero hands Crazy Eyes his magic pouch. PUSH IN on the cell as the old Indian closes his eyes, takes a pinch of powder and throws it into the air before him.

ANGLE ON MONTECERO AND GARCIA

They watch curiously as we hear:

CRAZY EYES (O.S.)

(rhythmic humming)

Their faces are suddenly lit up by an o.s. flash. Then the shadow of a threatening figure appears on the wall, towering over them. The shadow is the same basic shape as Zorro. And as Montecero and Garcia react in wide-eyed awe:

THE ANTI-ZORRO

(lets out a sinister, echoing laugh)

Then the MUSIC STINGS and we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. ZORRO'S LAIR - CLOSE ON BERNARDO'S HANDS - NIGHT

He is mending the two tears in Zorro's cape. WIDEN to include Zorro, sans hat and cape.

ZORRO

Sorry, Bernardo. Next time I'll be sure to stay clear of Crazy Eye's magic.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Zorro and Bernardo look up as ISABELA enters. She holds a bolt of black cloth.

ISABELA

One bolt of the finest black cloth, as you ordered. I told the storekeeper it was for an old widow!

ZORRO

Gracias, Isabela. That should be enough to keep me in capes for a year.

TWO SHOT - ZORRO AND ISABELA

ISABELA

Oh, by the way. When I was leaving the store, I saw Garcia and his men taking an old Indian into the garrison. Do you think it could be the one you saved?

ZORRO

Crazy Eyes! I wouldn't put anything past El Capitán.

CLOSE ON ZORRO

ZORRO

(concerned)

I'd better find out what he's up to.

WIDER ANGLE

Zorro takes his cape from Bernardo, who makes a frustrated gesture, as if to indicate he's not done mending it.

As Zorro exits, Isabela shrugs, then hands the bolt of black cloth to Bernardo.

WIPE TO:

EXT. WIDE ON GARRISON - NIGHT

Zorro gallops up on Toronado, stopping in the trees a short distance from the garrison.

CLOSER ON GARRISON

There are two guards standing by the entrance, talking inaudibly. A beat, then Zorro sneaks into shot, moving into the garrison without the guards seeing him. But as Zorro disappears into the garrison, the guards turn and look after him, then back at one another. And as they smile knowingly, we cut to...

THE GARRISON COURTYARD - FAVORING JAIL AREA

Zorro moves stealthily to the jail area and into...

THE CELL CORRIDOR

where he continues surreptitiously along the corridor, stopping at Crazy Eyes' cell. Crazy Eyes is chained to the wall, his mouth stuffed with a rag.

ZORRO

(sotto)

I figured Montecero would try something foolish.

Zorro finds the cell keys hanging from the wall, moves back to the cell.

ZORRO

(sotto)

I'll have you free in a minute, my friend.

He opens the lock and moves into...

THE CELL

where he takes the rag out of Crazy Eyes mouth.

CRAZY EYES

Leave this old Indian, Zorro, and free yourself!

ZORRO

I don't understand.

(MORE)

Zorro reacts to an o.s. CLATTER.

ZORRO

And there's no time for explanations. This way!

Zorro grabs Crazy Eyes' arm and leads him out of the cell, down the corridor, and into...

THE GARRISON COURTYARD

As they move across the open courtyard...

ZORRO

We'll be out of here in a...

Suddenly Zorro freezes, stopping Crazy Eyes. An ominous shadow moves over them both. Though Crazy Eyes' opaque eyes don't look up at the o.s. figure, he speaks as if he sees it.

CRAZY EYES

I am sorry, Zorro. Capitán Montecero forced me to do it.

DRAMATIC UP ANGLE - THE ANTI-ZORRO

He is an exact duplicate of Zorro, only with glowing white hat, mask and cape, and riding a glowing white stallion. The stallion rears up with a WHINNY, and the Anti-Zorro waves his sword just as Zorro does. Streams of energy flow off him like the aurora borealis.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

(echoing laughter)

WIDER ON COURTYARD

Montecero and the other soldiers appear on the second story veranda.

MONTECERO

(shouts to Zorro)

Allow me to introduce you to your executioner, Zorro. Behold, the Anti-Zorro!

The Anti-Zorro dramatically leaps off his horse and lands before...

ZORRO

who whips out his sword. As they begin to duel, glowing energy shoots off of the Anti-Zorro's body, forcing Zorro to shade his eyes. The Anti-Zorro seems a bit stronger.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

You are not long of this world, Zorro.

And as the Anti-Zorro swings his sword, Zorro defends. Their swords crash together, sending off a brilliant display of sparks.

ANGLE ON CRAZY EYES

He appears visibly weakened by the o.s. fight, as if his life energy were somehow connected to the Anti-Zorro.

CLOSER ON ZORRO AND ANTI-ZORRO

As they continue to duel, their swords lock. The Anti-Zorro pushes closer to Zorro, then extends his finger toward the medallion around Zorro's neck. As the finger begins to CRACKLE with static electricity, Zorro grabs the Anti-Zorro's wrist, trying to hold his hand away.

ANGLE ON CRAZY EYES

He staggers forward toward the battling Zorros.

CRAZY EYES

(weakly)

Zorro!

CLOSE ON MEDALLION

as Zorro holds the Anti-Zorro's wrist, trying to keep his finger from touching it.

CRAZY EYES (O.S.)

Don't let him touch your medallion!

CLOSE ON CRAZY EYES

CRAZY EYES

If he does, his negative life force will combine with your positive life force...

(MORE)

WIDE ON GARRISON COURTYARD

Montecero and the others watch as the two Zorros continue to struggle with one another.

CRAZY EYES

...forming an energy storm which will annihilate both of you in a terrific explosion!

FAVORING MONTECERO AND GARCIA

GARCIA

E-e-explosion?!

MONTECERO

I wish I could stay to see you blown to bits, Zorro. But I must think of my own safety, first.

Montecero retreats from the wall.

GARCIA

And mine second!

Garcia races off after him.

TIGHT ON TWO ZORROS

The Anti-Zorro is about to touch the medallion when we cut...

WIDER

Zorro drops backwards, thrusting one boot upwards into the Anti-Zorro's stomach and flipping him over backwards. He lands on his back in the dirt, dramatically diffusing like a cloud of energy, then reforming out of the cloud so that he's standing before Zorro once again, unscathed.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

(echoing laughter)

You cannot stop me, mortal!

The Anti-Zorro takes out a glowing, energy bullwhip and lashes it toward Zorro, who dives out of the way just as the whip sends a blast of energy at him. The energy streaks o.s., and hits...

THE GARRISON WALL

exploding a gaping hole in it. BOOM!

ANGLE ON CRAZY EYES

Again he cringes, as if weakened by the Anti-Zorro's expenditure of energy.

CRAZY EYES

Oohh!

(MORE)

BACK ON THE TWO ZORROS

The Anti-Zorro is now more transparent in appearance. He whips his bullwhip again. Zorro rolls, barely avoiding another energy blast, which ricochets off the dirt, and hits...

THE GARRISON VERANDA

blowing up a portion of it. KABOOM!

ANGLE ON CRAZY EYES

He drops to his knees, extremely weak.

CRAZY EYES

(very weak)

Zorro! My life force is nearly drained. Now is your chance to defeat the Anti-Zorro while we are weak.

WIDE ON GARRISON COURTYARD

The Anti-Zorro grows more transparent still, his energy SPUTTERING, obviously weaker. Zorro reacts to the sight of Crazy Eyes, on his knees.

ZORRO

It's too dangerous for you, Crazy Eyes!

As the Anti-Zorro begins to dissipate into the air, two soldiers grab Crazy Eyes and pull him back into the cell corridor.

CRAZY EYES

Forget about me. Save yourself!

ZORRO

No! I'll find another way to stop him!

DRAMATIC UP ANGLE - ANTI-ZORRO

THE ANTI-ZORRO

You can't stop me, Zorro. I will return...and be more powerful than ever! Ha, ha, ha!

WIDER ANGLE

Zorro watches as the Anti-Zorro fades away above him. Suddenly the soldiers descend on Zorro. He WHISTLES and...

TORONADO

gallops into the garrison, right through the gathering soldiers, scattering them.

SOLDIERS

(walla)

FAVORING ZORRO

He leaps onto his horse and rides away through the garrison entrance.

ANGLE ON SHADOWY VERANDA

Montecero and Garcia step out of the shadows, along with two soldiers, who are holding Crazy Eyes.

CRAZY EYES

(weak)

I did what you asked. Now release me as you promised.

MONTECERO

No. You shall remain in jail until I get what I wanted...

CLOSE ON MONTECERO

MONTECERO

...and see your magic destroy Zorro!

WIPE TO:

EXT. HACIENDA DE LA VEGA - WIDE ON RANCH - DAY

Alejandro, Diego, Bernardo and Isabela are on their horses, galloping across the property.

CLOSER ANGLE - MOVING WITH FOUR OF THEM

ISABELA

Everyone in town was talking about it, Don Alejandro. Whatever this Anti-Zorro is, it's out to get Zorro.

ALEJANDRO

Ah, it's probably just another old Indian legend. Nothing to worry about.

TWO SHOT - DIEGO AND ISABELA

They exchange a look of concern.

DIEGO

(sotto)

Easy for him to say.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The four of them stop their horses. Bernardo points o.s., past camera.

ALEJANDRO

Carrumba! You were right, Bernardo.

WIDEN to reveal a dried up riverbed.

ALEJANDRO

The river that supplies water to our hacienda has dried up overnight.

THREE SHOT - DIEGO, ALEJANDRO AND ISABELA

DIEGO

Without water, our livestock and crops can't survive.

ISABELA

But how could the water disappear so fast?

CLOSER ON ALEJANDRO

ALEJANDRO

There's one way to find out. Hyah!

He gives his horse and kick and gallops off.

WIDER ANGLE - RANCH LAND

Alejandro and the others gallop upstream, along the riverbed.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SACRED INDIAN LAND - SHORT WHILE LATER (DAY)

Don Ricardo is with Montecero and several workmen. One of the men is surveying the land, while others are staking out where the nobleman's new home will be. The river in the b.g. has been dammed and is beginning to form a lake.

FAVORING DON RICARDO AND MONTECERO

Don Ricardo's personal ARCHITECT is beside him. They look at a set of plans, which are spread out on an elevated wooden worktable (like a podium).

DON RICARDO

Magnifico!

CLOSE ON PLANS

They are of a palatial estate; twice the size of Don Alejandro's, with a beautiful lake beside it.

DON RICARDO (O.S.)

It is the largest estate in El Pueblo,

WIDER ANGLE

MONTECERO

The largest by far, Don Ricardo. I especially like your private lake.

DON RICARDO

Thank you, Capitán.

TWO SHOT - DON RICARDO AND MONTECERO

Don Ricardo hands a small bag of coins to Montecero.

DON RICARDO

Here are my property taxes...

(with a wink)

...and a little something extra for helping me acquire the land.

MONTECERO

Gracias, Don Ricardo.

WIDER ANGLE

Alejandro, Diego, Bernardo and Isabela ride up.

MONTECERO

Buenos tardes, Don Alejandro.

CLOSER ON MONTECERO AND DON RICARDO

Alejandro, Diego and Isabela enter.

MONTECERO

May I introduce Don Ricardo Ricachón.

Don Ricardo bows politely.

DON RICARDO

A pleasure to make your acquaintance, Don Alejandro.

ALEJANDRO

I am not so sure you will find it a pleasure, señor.

WIDER TO INCLUDE LAKE

Don Alejandro points to the dam and lake.

ALEJANDRO

You have no right to dam the river that brings water to my property.

DON RICARDO

But I have every right, señor.

FAVORING DON RICARDO AND ALEJANDRO

Don Ricardo takes out a piece of parchment with an official wax seal and ribbon on it.

DON RICARDO

The deed to my property says the river is now mine. It is not my problem that your property is downstream.

Alejandro turns to Montecero.

ALEJANDRO

Capitán Montecero, surely you can talk some sense into this gentleman.

Montecero puts his hands up.

MONTECERO

I am afraid I cannot get involved in a dispute between neighbors.

ANOTHER ANGLE - FAVORING ALEJANDRO AND MONTECERO

MONTECERO

But I understand you are having a small dinner party at your hacienda this evening, Don Alejandro. Perhaps if you invited Don Ricardo and myself, the matter could be worked out peacefully.

ALEJANDRO

Very well, then. I'll expect to see you both at six o'clock.

CLOSE ON DON RICARDO

DON RICARDO

I will be my pleasure.

Off his less than genuine smile, we...

WIPE TO:

EXT. HACIENDA DE LA VEGA - THAT NIGHT

Don Ricardo's carriage, and several horses, are tied up out front. And as we PUSH IN...

ALEJANDRO (V.O.)

(loud and angry)

If it didn't have to be the largest lake in El Pueblo, there might be some water left for my hacienda.

INT. DINING ROOM

Alejandro, Diego, Don Ignacio, Isabela, Montecero and Don Ricardo are seated at the large table in the dining room, while Bernardo and two housemaids serve dinner. Garcia and three of his men are at the perimeter of the room.

DON RICARDO

There is plenty of water. All you have to do is dig a canal.

Alejandro stands up suddenly.

ALEJANDRO

(exploding)

And spend 10,000 pesos to get what I had yesterday! Are you loco?

Montecero stands up between Alejandro and Don Ricardo.

MONTECERO

Easy, gentlemen. This is not a matter of life and death.

Suddenly CRACKLING arcs of blue static electricity begin to snake around the room. A wind blows through shot. Everyone reacts in alarm.

ALEJANDRO

What is happening?

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON FRONT DOOR

Suddenly a backwards "Z" is cut into the wooden door in three strokes which burst into flame (like an acetylene torch cutting through a bulkhead from the other side). Then cut to...

VARIOUS REACTION SHOTS:

of the people around the table. Then back to...

THE FRONT DOOR

as it explodes off its hinges into the room. ZOOM IN FAST as the glowing white Anti-Zorro steps into the doorway, sword in hand.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

I've come for Zorro!

And as the MUSIC STINGS we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

The Anti-Zorro stands in the doorway, looking at the frightened guests.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

Where is he?

MONTECERO

(scared)

Y-you're making a terrible mistake. Zorro is not here.

CLOSE ON ANTI-ZORRO

THE ANTI-ZORRO

It is you who are mistaken.

PAN THE GUESTS AS:

THE ANTI-ZORRO (O.S.)

I can sense Zorro's presence among you.

The guests look at once another suspiciously, wondering who among them could be Zorro.

ANGLE ON GARCIA AND OTHER SOLDIERS

Garcia looks at the other soldiers, takes a nervous step back, grabs his hilt.

FAVORING MONTECERO

He draws his sword, looks over the guests, as if to see which one might be Zorro.

MONTECERO

So, one of you gentlemen is Zorro, eh.

And just as Montecero looks at Diego, cut to...

ANGLE - FAVORING DIEGO AND ISABELA

Isabela stands up defiantly.

ISABELA

What makes you so sure Zorro couldn't be a woman?

ANGLE ON ANTI-ZORRO

THE ANTI-ZORRO

Silence! Zorro cannot hide his presence from me.

PUSH IN on the Anti-Zorro as he scans the quests. Then...

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GARRISON CELL - CLOSE ON CRAZY EYES - CONTINUOUS

His eyes are closed. They suddenly blink open. WIDEN to reveal he's seated cross-legged in his cell.

CRAZY EYES

The Anti-Zorro is about to expose Zorro's true identity. I must try to distract him.

Crazy Eyes waves raises his arms dramatically.

CRAZY EYES

(rhythmic humming)

MATCH DISSOLVE BACK TO:

THE ANTI-ZORRO

We can hear Crazy Eyes' HUMMING V.O. The Anti-Zorro covers his ears, as if reacting to a pain inside his head.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

Aaaahhh!

WIDER ON DINING ROOM

THE ANTI-ZORRO

If Zorro doesn't reveal himself I shall destroy you all!

The Anti-Zorro dramatically slices the dining table in two. The guests all disperse in panic.

GUESTS

(frightened walla)

As the Anti-Zorro slices his sword through the air, sending bursts of glowing energy through the room...

DIEGO AND BERNARDO

are behind one of the dining table halves, their heads down, ducking the flying energy as if it were artillery fire.

DIEGO

(sotto)

I'd better reveal myself before anyone is hurt.

Diego begins to stand, then Bernardo pulls him back down. He gets Diego's attention, then points at a powder horn hanging from the wall behind them. Diego takes it off the wall.

DIEGO

It might work, Bernardo. Stay low!

Diego lobs the powder horn o.s. And cut to...

THE ANTI-ZORRO

still whipping up an energy storm. The powder horn sails into shot, landing beside an overturned candelabrum, the powder spilling out.

CLOSE ON POWDER HORN

As the flame hits the powder, and...

WIDER ON DINING ROOM

The powder horn explodes right under the Anti-Zorro. KABOOM! The Anti-Zorro temporarily deforms into the smoke and flame, so that all we can see of him is his distorted face.

CLOSE ON ANTI-ZORRO'S ETHEREAL FACE

THE ANTI-ZORRO

(chilling echo)

If Zorro does not come to face me at the sacred land tomorrow night, I will destroy all of Los Angeles! (evil fading laugh)

WIDER ON DINING ROOM

The frightened quests watch with awe as the smoke dissipates, and along with it the Anti-Zorro's face. He's gone! As the guests begin to get to the their feet, cut to...

ANGLE - FAVORING MONTECERO, ALEJANDRO AND DON RICARDO

ALEJANDRO

That Anti-Zorro is a dangerous devil.

DON RICARDO

You must get rid of him, Capitán.

MONTECERO

Get rid of him? If he can get rid of Zorro as he says, I will give him a medal!

WIDER ANGLE

to include everyone in the room, soldiers, servants and all.

MONTECERO

I order every man in this room, including my own soldiers, to be at the sacred Indian land tomorrow night. When Zorro arrives we will all know who he is...

CLOSE ON DIEGO

MONTECERO (O.S.)

...because the gentleman who is not among us will obviously be Zorro!

Off Diego's worried expression we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ZORRO'S LAIR - LATE AFTERNOON

PUSH IN on the cave opening as:

ZORRO (V.O.)

Now I've got two problems.

INT. THE LAIR

Zorro is anxiously pacing before Isabela and Bernardo.

ZORRO

Not only must I find a way to destroy the Anti-Zorro without harming Crazy Eyes, I've got to prevent anyone from finding out that Diego and Zorro are one and the same.

ISABELA

But Diego and Zorro cannot show up at the sacred Indian land at the same time. You are certain to be exposed.

FAVORING ZORRO

ZORRO

I believe I can solve that problem, Isabela. It's destroying the Anti-Zorro that I'm concerned about.

Bernardo writes a note in his pad, tears it out, hands it to Zorro, who reads it.

ZORRO

Bernardo says the explosion at dinner last night disturbed the magical energy that makes up the Anti-Zorro.

CLOSER ON BERNARDO

There is a candle on the work table before him. He takes a pinch of powder out of another powder horn, sprinkles it over the flame. There is a tiny explosion which blows out the flame.

WIDER ANGLE - ALL

ZORRO

Of course!

TSABELA

Of course what?

ZORRO

With enough energy we may be able to "extinguish" the Anti-Zorro, just like the gunpowder extinguished the candle flame.

ISABELA

But the explosion last night only made the Anti-Zorro laugh. To get enough energy to destroy him we'd have to blow up the entire pueblo.

CLOSE ON ZORRO

ZORRO

Maybe not, Isabela. I know where we can get more than enough energy. But I'll need Crazy Eyes' help. (MORE)

WIDER TO INCLUDE BERNARDO

Zorro makes a quick sketch on Bernardo's note pad.

ZORRO

Start building this device, Bernardo. I've got something to take care of at the garrison.

And as he grabs his hat and cape we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE GARRISON - DUSK

Montecero and his soldiers are mounted up, at the garrison entrance.

MONTECERO

To the sacred Indian land. Vamanos!

As the soldiers all gallop off, cut...

CLOSER ON GARRISON ENTRANCE

where a single soldier stands guard before the gate, watching the other soldiers ride off. Zorro sneaks into shot behind him, surreptitiously moving into the garrison.

INT. CELL BLOCK - ANGLE THROUGH BARS

Crazy Eyes is seated cross-legged in the center of his cell. Suddenly he reacts to a CLICK. Then WIDEN to reveal Zorro has opened his cell door.

CRAZY EYES

Zorro!

ZORRO

I need your help, Crazy Eyes. But we've got to hurry.

As Zorro leads Crazy Eyes o.s...

WIPE TO:

INT. ZORRO'S LAIR - NIGHT

As Bernardo finishes packing his special device into a leather saddlebag we see Isabela, behind a dressing screen, changing her clothes. She throws her dress over the top.

ISABELA

If your device works, Bernardo, we should have quite a display of fireworks tonight. (MORE)

Then she steps out from behind the screen, revealing that she is wearing a suit of Diego's dress clothes and boots.

ISABELA

And I will be putting on a little display for Capitán Montecero.

Bernardo looks at Isabela with a smile.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SACRED INDIAN LAND - NIGHT

Montecero is there with his soldiers. He checks to see who is there, finding all of the men who were at dinner the night before, except Diego and Bernardo.

MONTECERO

Everyone is here except Don Diego and Bernardo.

ALEJANDRO

Uh, don't jump to any conclusions, Capitán. I'm sure they are simply delayed on the road.

MONTECERO

We shall see, Don Alejandro. We shall see.

AND CUT TO:

EXT. NEARBY FORESTED HILLS - NIGHT

Bernardo and Isabela (still dressed in Diego's attire) are riding toward the sacred land on horses. The "device" is slung over Bernardo's horse like a saddlebag.

ISABELA

The sacred land is just ahead.

CLOSER ANGLE

The two of them stop. Bernardo hands Isabela a full-face rubber mask. She leans forward, then pulls it over her head. And when she sits up straight she looks like Diego!

WIPE TO:

BACK TO THE SACRED INDIAN LAND

Montecero paces impatiently.

MONTECERO

If Diego does not arrive soon, I must assume...

Montecero looks off at the sound of APPROACHING HORSES.

WIDER ANGLE

as Bernardo and Isabela/Diego ride up on their horses, stopping about thirty feet away. "Diego" waves at Montecero.

ALEJANDRO

You were saying, Capitán?

MONTECERO

(confused)

What!? Everyone from the dinner is here!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Suddenly the Anti-Zorro appears, as if galloping out of thin air. He stops before the others, rears up on his white horse. He looks about, seeing all the men from the night before, but no Zorro.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

(enraged)

You're trying to trick me! Well, it won't work. I'll destroy every one of you!

The Anti-Zorro brandishes his glowing sword, sending bolts of CRACKLING energy at the others, who run and duck for cover as the scene explodes around them.

GUESTS

(walla)

Take cover! Look out! Vamanos!

GARCIA

comically dives behind a cactus as the ground erupts around him.

GARCIA

Aaaahh!

He leaps up again, holding his backside, a thousand cactus needles in it.

GARCIA

Oh, oh, oh, oh!

ALEJANDRO AND DON IGNACIO

duck behind some rocks as more explosions erupt around them.

A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY

Crazy Eyes is alone, seated on top of a strange looking rock formation, beneath the vast, star-filled night sky. Though growing weaker as his life energy is being used up by the Anti-Zorro, he begins to toss his magic powder into the air.

> CRAZY EYES (rhythmic humming)

UP ANGLE ON NIGHT SKY

As dark storm clouds appear out of nowhere, we cut back to...

THE SACRED INDIAN LAND

The Anti-Zorro is throwing his "energy tantrum" when...

ZORRO

rides up on Toronado.

ZORRO

Looking for me, amigo?

TWO SHOT - ZORRO AND THE ANTI-ZORRO

The Anti-Zorro stops for a beat, faces Zorro.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

It doesn't matter who you really are, Zorro. For when I am through with you, you will be no one!

The Anti-Zorro gallops to Zorro, brandishing his sword. They begin to duel, their sword clashes sparking and CRACKLING.

ANGLE ON BERNARDO AND ISABELA

now beside their horses. Bernardo takes out a strange metal rod and cable from his saddlebag. He gives the other end of the cable (which has a metal clamp on it) to Isabela/Diego. The he moves off.

WIDER ANGLE

As the two Zorros continue their fierce battle before the awestruck spectators...

THE ANTI-ZORRO

locks swords with Zorro and tries once again to touch his medallion. As we PUSH IN on his glowing finger, cut to...

CRAZY EYES

who grows weaker as he continues to hum.

CRAZY EYES (more rhythmic humming)

ANOTHER ANGLE ON SKY

as the clouds come together, growing darker and stormier. They begin to RUMBLE with distant thunder. And as a flash of lightning CRACKLES, cut...

BACK TO THE TWO ZORROS

The Anti-Zorro strikes hard at Zorro with his sword, forcing Toronado back. Then the Anti-Zorro takes out his whip and lashes out at Zorro, encircling his sword arm. The Anti-Zorro yanks hard, pulling Zorro off his horse. Then cut to...

BERNARDO

climbing a tall tree. PUSH IN as he gets to the top, where he places the metal "lightning rod" (with attached cable) at the tip of the tree, pointing into the sky. Then cut back to...

ZORRO

in the dirt. The Anti-Zorro's two glowing white legs step into shot before camera, facing Zorro.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

Prepare to be annihilated, Zorro.

Zorro gets to his feet.

CLOSER STILL

as the Anti-Zorro grabs Zorro. They struggle as the Anti-Zorro tries to touch his medallion.

ZORRO

(struggling)

But...you will be...annihilated, too.

EXTREME CLOSE - ANTI-ZORRO'S GLOWING EYES

THE ANTI-ZORRO

Of course! That is the very purpose of my being!

TIGHT TWO SHOT - ZORRO AND ANTI-ZORRO

PUSH IN as the Anti-Zorro reaches his glowing finger towards Zorro's medallion. And just before he touches it, cut to...

ISABELA/DIEGO - BENEATH THE TALL TREE

holding the end of Bernardo's cable, with the small metal clamp on it.

ISABELA

(disguising her voice
 as Diego)

Zorro!

And as she tosses the cable o.s., cut back to...

ZORRO AND THE ANTI-ZORRO

Zorro catches the clamp.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

You are doomed!

Just as his glowing fingertip is about touch the medallion, Zorro's attaches the clamp to the Anti-Zorro's sword, then pulls away from him and steps back.

ZORRO

And you are in for a "shocking" experience.

And as the Anti-Zorro raises his glowing sword to cut Zorro in two...

A BOLT OF LIGHTING

erupts in the stormy sky, CRACKLING down past camera, hitting...

THE LIGHTNING ROD

at the top of the tree. And as the CRACKLING electricity races down the cable, cut...

BACK TO ZORRO AND THE ANTI-ZORRO

Just before the Anti-Zorro has time to bring his sword down, the electricity CRACKLES thru the cable and into the sword.

CLOSER ON ANTI-ZORRO

The electricity courses through his body, covering him in a fantastic display of sparks. He dramatically turns transparent, his skeleton showing through.

THE ANTI-ZORRO

(echoing over)

AAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHH!!!

A SERIES OF CUTS:

Of the horrified faces of the spectators, as they react to the o.s. scene, their faces eerily illuminated by the o.s. spectacle of lights and energy.

DRAMATIC ANGLE - THE ANTI-ZORRO

As he continues to shake from the CRACKLING energy in his body, he dramatically explodes like a Fourth of July fireworks.

MONTECERO AND DON RICARDO

duck as the sizzling trails of energy shoot over their startled faces.

WIDER ANGLE

The spectators watch in awe as the smoke and flames clear, revealing both Zorros are gone!

FAVORING ALEJANDRO, MONTECERO AND DON RICARDO

looking at a smoking hole in the ground where the Zorros were.

ALEJANDRO

Th-they're both gone!

MONTECERO

(a bit gleeful)

He did it! The Anti-Zorro destroyed Zorro!

WIDER ANGLE

to reveal Zorro in the distance, on Toronado.

ZORRO

I believe you've got that reversed, Montecero! Better luck next time.

Zorro gives Toronado a kick and gallops off into the night.

FAVORING MONTECERO AND DON RICARDO

MONTECERO

(vamping)

Well, at least I succeeded in ridding us of the Anti-Zorro. Your land is now free of evil spirits, Don Ricardo.

DON RICARDO

You may be pleased, Capitán, but I am not. I expected a peaceful estate, not spirits and explosions!

WIDER ANGLE - ALL

The others watch as Don Ricardo takes out his deed and tears it in two, throws it in Montecero's face.

DON RICARDO

Take your useless land. I'm going back to Spain, where I intend to tell my friends in high places that Capitán Montecero is a bumbling fool!

As Don Ricardo storms off, Montecero is left with egg on his face as the others restrain their smiles and laughs.

FAVORING ALEJANDRO

ALEJANDRO

(stifling his laughter) Look on the bright side, Capitán. You saved the sacred Indian land. And I'll have plenty of water on my ranch.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Isabela (back in her normal clothes) rides up on her horse.

ISABELA

Is everything all right?

Montecero looks at her suspiciously.

MONTECERO

Just a moment, señorita! You were the only one present at Don Alejandro's dinner who wasn't here during Zorro's appearance.

ISABELA

(with a laugh)

Are you suggesting that Zorro is a woman? Don't be ridiculous, Capitán!

And as the others LAUGH at poor Montecero, including Garcia, we cut to...

CRAZY EYES

standing safely on a beautiful sandstone escarpment. He waves to someone o.s.

CRAZY EYES

Good-bye, my friend. And thank you.

Then cut to...

THE FULL MOON ON THE HORIZON

as Zorro rears up on Toronado, waving his hat. And as he gallops off, we...

FADE OUT