carved figurehead. Dinonicus approaches carefully, cautiously from the side so she can see him coming.

DINONICUS

Almost there.

XENA

Yes, I remember these waters, the long chain of volcanic isles. Glaucus struggling and hideous on the blackened sand after you'd dared him to assail the witch. Did Scilla ever find out that small detail? She was fond of him you know. You might've gotten yourself banished.

DINONICUS

Another reason to hope you don't come back with us.

XENA

(smiles)

So much animosity, Dinonicus. It's given you wrinkles and gray hair. Why so much energy wasted on hating me?

DINONICUS (hoarsely)

You know why.

He walks away, deep frown and angry snarl. She remains impassive as the sphinx, eyes straight ahead, unreadable.

CUT TO:

31 EXT. BEACH - DAY

31

Gabrielle on the beach at sunset watching and waiting, a shawl is draped over her shoulders by Scilla who appears behind her.

GABRIELLE

Thank you.

SCILLA

Lovely cool breeze during the day, but it changes as soon as the sun goes down. I got tired of watching you pacing. The wives of sailors refer to this as the widow's walk. Some wait forever.

GABRIELLE

You really don't want to leave this place, do you? You're afraid. Not just because of some curse you may