

BEAT SHEET

by

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Logline: In a land that is falling apart due to natural disasters, one amnesiac wanderer embarks on a journey to discover his true origin as a vessel of one of the twelve ancient gods, which may hold the key to restoring balance to the natural world.

ACT I: Noct is found and makes a deal

Sequence 1: Noct is discovered by Vanessa and he defeats her captors

While running away from the bandits who kidnapped her, Vanessa is caught and locked in a room of the Amenti ruins. She finds Noct lying in the corner due to the light of a relic on his neck. She tells the guards she's found a treasure and they come in to investigate. When endangered, Noct's relic releases a deadly purple miasma like the one covering the majority of the desert and making it inhabitable. Noct kills the bandits, and although Vanessa knows he's dangerous, she can't make it back home without him. He can't remember anything from his past.

Sequence 2: Noct and Vanessa are caught in an "earth rend" (earthquake)

On their way to Selas, Vanessa's hometown, they have to cross a chasm that separates the desert from the forest. Part of the way across a massive stone bridge, a "calamity" strikes, collapsing the bridge and nearly killing them. Noct's superhuman abilities save them, and Vanessa realizes Noct might not be evil. She confides in him that she reminds her of her brother, who she thinks is dead.

Sequence 3: Noct meets important guests at Vanessa's return party and makes a deal with James

Upon Vanessa's return, James and Victoria Van Doren (her parents) are impressed by Noct. He is invited to stay with them and attend a party to celebrate Vanessa's return. The next day at the party, he meets Anastasia (AKA Ana ambassador of the Borea territory) and Ammon (ambassador of the Sect of Man), nobles who are there doing "business" with James and discussing the natural disasters. Noct is called upon by James, who tells him about Ismene (a scholar from the Radia territory) who studies the miasma in the desert. James says he'll fund Noct's journey to Radia and beyond if he marries Vanessa when he comes back. Noct reluctantly agrees and leaves for the port city of Nox the next morning with Ana who is there to watch him. Vanessa is sent to a boarding school to become "more ladylike."

ACT II: Journey to discover Noct's past

Sequence 4: Kai is forced into a contract

Kai (leader of Nox's thieves guild) is stopped by members of the Cult of Man while returning from a successful hit. They know he's the best thief/hitman in the land, and they want him to acquire Noct's relic. If he refuses the job, they'll tell the guild his true identity as a Van Doren (Vanessa's brother). He can't let that happen, so he agrees. Upon his return to the guild, he tells Emilie (second in command of the guild) that he'll be gone for a while on a job. She's suspicious of the contract he speaks of, and follows him in secret.

Sequence 5: Noct, Ana, Kai, and Emilie board ship for Radia

Ana and Noct arrive in Nox. Kai tries to fight Noct and kill him, but loses and runs away. Ana and Noct can't find a ship to take them to Radia because of a calamity brutal storms over the sea. Kai appears and offers to help them across the sea if he can travel with them. Ana and Noct agree because there is no one else to take them. They board the ship set for the city of Adustio, which houses a great library where Ismene works. Emilie follows in secret.

Sequence 6: They sail through the storm to Adustio

The captain finds Emilie stowing away on board, and Kai is livid at her betrayal. The seas are rough, and Noct gets terribly seasick, but thankfully Emilie is a doctor who can treat him. A storm hits them by the Chal Isle (island that is no longer inhabitable) and the ship almost capsizes. They somehow make it through and, as soon as they arrive in Adustio, Ana and Noct sneak off the ship without Kai.

Sequence 7: Kai finds them and they learn where Amenti's temple is

Kai, furious at being left behind, goes to an "old friend" for information on Ana and Noct's whereabouts. In return, he has to kill some people in cold blood, which he does without hesitation. Emilie secretly follows him again. Ana and Noct go to the library to see Ismene, and they run into Kai while inside. Kai tries to fight them, but Ismene shuts it down. She tells Noct more about the miasma in the desert and how it matches his own. She says the symbols on his relic, which is the base of his power, point to the god of death Amenti's temple. They decide to go there to discover the meaning of it all.

Sequence 8: Noct, Ana, and Kai are ambushed

Noct, Ana, and Kai begin their journey to the desert over land. They get ambushed by hooded assailants in a castle ruin per Ana's secret plan. Kai is captured and nearly dies, but Emilie jumps in to save him, killing for first time in the process.

Kai notices a relic of his own has appeared around his neck, which he can't take off, and hides it from the others. Together with Noct, they defeat the ambush and celebrate in a nearby town, unaware of Ana's betrayal. While celebrating, Kai begins to see a shadowy woman but tries to ignore it.

Sequence 9: Journey into the desert

The four arrive at a town on the desert's outskirts. Tormented by visions of the shadow woman and hearing her voice, Kai snaps and lashes out at Noct. They almost fight, but are stopped by Ana. They begin their journey into the desert, and once they reach the miasma, it parts for Noct like the red sea. They follow the path clear of miasma and find Amenti's main temple.

ACT III: Noct's identity is discovered

Sequence 10: Noct relives his memories and Kai is chosen

Kai, Ana, and Noct descend into the temple depths while Emilie keeps watch. They find an altar and a pair of stones stained with blood, which Noct vaguely remembers. Noct steps forward and touches the main altar, which flashes and brings his mind into Amenti's realm. Amenti shows him his memories and how he was planted inside of Noct's body by force. Amenti tells Noct that they can either work together to find the villains who did this to them (the Cult of Man) or he has to have his memory erased again. Noct chooses to work with Amenti. Back in the human realm, Ana and Kai watch as Noct's body runs out of energy and tries to restore life force via miasma. When they think they're doomed, Kai yields to the shadowy woman following him and lets her take his mind into her realm. She is Sinniht, god of shadow and she wants to make a deal to grant him power to stop Noct in exchange for him following her orders. He agrees. He wakes up in Ana's arms and stops Noct with his new powers given to him by Sinniht. He renders Noct unconscious and the shock wave from doing so causes the temple to start collapsing.

Sequence 11: The band try to help Noct and jump into quicksand

Ana and Kai carry an unconscious Noct up to the main floor, almost getting crushed in the process. Emilie takes a look at Noct, who isn't doing well, and says she can't help him because he needs a spiritual doctor. Ana, Emilie, and Kai carry Noct out into the desert, which has now cleared of miasma, and try to bring him to someone who could help him. They only get a few miles before a glass storm, another type of calamity, hits. To avoid being torn to pieces, they must jump into quicksand, which Ismene told them may have caverns underneath. Kai kicks Ana in first to test the waters before jumping in with Emilie, Noct on his back.