

LARA CROFT
TOMB RAIDER

THE DIAMOND TOTEM

EGYPT

EGYPT

FADE IN:

EXT. EGYPTIAN DESERT - DAY

The sun burns down brightly on the sandy desert. Sand blows across the land, and in the distance there are PYRAMIDS. In the foreground are several BOULDERS.

TITLE OVER: Egypt, 2008.

LARA (V.O.)

Have you ever wondered about the
monsters under your bed? The
creatures waiting to get you.

Distant sounds of a car engine begin as something starts getting closer.

LARA (CONT'D)

What do they look like? Are they
real?

And a JEEP enters into frame, SAND blasting all around it as it speeds towards the boulders. It slows as it approaches.

The person at the wheel steps out - it's LARA, Britain's renowned adventurer. She's back in her blue sleeveless top and shorts, with her trusty DUAL PISTOLS hanging from her belt.

LARA (CONT'D)

I do. And that's why I'm here. My
name is Lara Croft, I'm an
adventurer hailing from Britain.

(beat)

And I'm here in search of an
ancient totem with mystical powers.
But not for myself. A man named
Hyde is after it, and I'm
determined to stop him.

Lara sighs, closing her eyes as the sand brushes against her legs...it's something she likes to feel whenever she's in Egypt.

BRYCE (V.O.)

(filtered through headset)

You alright there, Lara?

LARA

I'm fine. It's just...Egypt. I love
coming here.

And then there's a new voice on the headset - Lara's faithful butler, Hilary.

HILARY (V.O.)
(dry; filtered through
headset)
I can see why.

Lara opens her eyes and steps forward, inspecting the boulders. She frowns - something isn't right.

She places both hands on the top boulder and PUSHES - it rolls off quite easily.

It also exposes a small hole. Lara peeks through, but can't see much.

HILARY (CONT'D)
(sarcastic)
Just what everyone loves finding on
their holiday.

She gets back to the boulders and pushes the seconds - it rolls away, exposing a large HOLE in the ground.

LARA
Aren't butler's supposed to be
supporting, Hilary?

HILARY
Staying quiet, Lady Croft.

LARA
Thank you.

Lara takes steps forward, and looks down - as the ground BREAKS beneath her and she FALLS!

Seconds later, the third boulder TOPPLES to the side and begins to fall down the hole after her!

INT. CHUTE - CONTINUOUS

Lara slides down the gravelly chute, well aware of the boulder rolling behind her.

She frantically searches around for something to get out of the way or to stop the boulder -

BRYCE
Lara, it's getting closer!

- and quickly grabs a CRACK in the chute.

The boulder ROLLS past, leaving Lara dangling from the crack, taking deep breathes as she tries to register what just happened -

HILARY
By God, that was frightening!

- and the crack breaks, leaving Lara tumbling back down the chute, but this time in safety.

INT. TOMB ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

Lara slides out of the chute, landing with a roll before getting to her feet. She brushes herself down, patting the sand away.

BRYCE
You alright?

LARA
Always.

With a frown, Lara takes in her surroundings. Dark tiles line the floor, the sand seemingly having been pushed back to the sides of the rooms.

When she steps onto the tiles and walks forwards, she realizes why.

LARA (CONT'D)
There's a breeze.

She looks around, and everything seems to be indoors. No way the wind could get in, at least not in this room.

LARA (CONT'D)
But from where?

Distant sounds make Lara freeze and she strains her ears, listening.

HILARY
What is it?

LARA
I think I can hear... voices.

BRYCE
Hyde?

LARA
Possibly.

She begins to walk towards the opposite doorway and just as she's about to step through - a BLADE slides DOWN, nearly cutting Lara in half from head to toe!

And it would have done if Lara hadn't jumped back in surprise. She blinks rapidly, and then mentally kicks herself for not being more careful.

WHISPERS
Intruder...

Lara spins round, her dual pistols in hand as she aims in every direction. The whispers came from somewhere hidden.

And then a MOAN makes Lara turn round. A MUMMY is wailing whilst it shuffles towards her, BANDAGES hanging from its outstretched arms. It's like a scene right out of an Indiana Jones movie.

LARA

Hmm.

Lara FIRES, and the Mummy staggers with every bullet it takes, but doesn't stop, just keeps shuffling forward.

Lara narrows her eyes, firing twice as fast, but to no visible reaction.

Scowling, Lara makes a DIVE for the door, and as the BLADE slides DOWN, it CUTS the Mummy IN TWO!

INT. THE OBELISK ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Lara ends her dive with a roll and as she stands, she's barely able to get a good look at things when she's CHARGED by a BLACK PANTHER.

Lara's pushed down to the ground, with the Panther snapping its jaws, trying to rip out Lara's throat!

She pulls one hand free and FIRES with one of her pistols - and with a single shot to the head the panther collapses on top of her, DEAD.

She pushes it off her, flipping to her feet and finally takes in her surroundings.

In the center of the room is an OBELISK. Around it is a POOL of water, with a thin strip of ground passing over it to the Obelisk, like a bridge.

Behind the Obelisk is the front half of a SPHINX, which takes up the entire side of the room. A SEALED DOORWAY is in between its two stone paws.

PILLARS line the left and right walls, and an entire other floor is above that, although it's more a section of narrow passages and holes with long drops than a floor.

BRYCE

Impressive.

(beat)

Although, I've been wondering something, Lara.

Lara begins to slowly walk towards the obelisk, guns at the ready.

BRYCE (CONT'D)

These shards - you haven't actually told us what they do. I guess it's bad, if you want to stop Hyde from getting them, but...

Lara steps forward, crossing the bridge and steps up to the Obelisk, scanning the HIEROGLYPHICS on it.

LARA

The totem makes the user indestructible, and gives them eternal life. It's also believed to have hypnotic powers, so Hyde could do whatever he wanted.

(beat)

If he gets all the pieces, of course.

(beat; serious)

I don't have any intention of letting that happen.

BRYCE

So... why not tell us beforehand?

LARA

I only learnt recently, actually. I had a friend, Rutland, searching up on the history of the shards, he sent me the message back on the plane.

However, she's distracted when DUST falls into her hair and down her face. She freezes, looking up - to find the Obelisk shaking!

BRYCE

Well, that can't be good!

And suddenly the tip of the Obelisk BURSTS open, revealing a DUST SPIRIT, something apparently human, but made of dust, and with no facial features or gender-specific features.

In both of it's arms are two SCIMITARS, the sunlight glinting off them.

Lara takes steps back, avoiding the rubble of the Obelisk as it falls down in front of her. She doesn't take her eyes off the spirit.

HILARY

It was a trap!

BRYCE

(confused)

But who could have...

LARA

Well. This should be a challenge,
shouldn't it?

The spirit cocks it head, staring at her intently.

SPIRIT

(raspy voice)

Target: Lara Croft.

(beat)

Kill Lara Croft.

The spirit LEAPS forward as Lara unhooks her PISTOLS and FIRES - the bullets ping off the spirit, as if it was covered in armor.

The spirit LANDS on the other side of the bridge, trapping Lara. She continues to fire but to no avail.

She looks around for an escape route, but she's trapped in the center of the pool with no way back to the main land space... unless she swims.

She catches site of the water and raises an eyebrow. Before the spirit can stop her, which it tries by diving for her, she SWAN DIVES into the water and out of sight.

INT. UNDERWATER - MOMENTS LATER

Lara swims down and swivels int he water, getting a good look up - just as the ROBOT jumps in after her!

BRYCE

How the...

Lara, eyes widening, swims for the side as a dusty arm GRABS her leg! Lara turns, pulling out a PISTOL and SHOOTS, but the bullet is almost useless underwater.

Lara shoots at the hand grabbing her leg and it twitches, loosening slightly. Lara kicks it with her other leg and quickly surfaces, climbing out.

The spirit follows, bullets pinging off it as it climbs out after her.

INT. THE OBELISK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The dust spirit smoking, as if burning, as it stands to it's full height, and as it scans the room, it finds that Lara is GONE -

- until she dives into frame, delivering a KICK that knocks it back into the water.

It stays near the surface, but we can see smoke rising from it as it twitches underwater. Lara lets rip another round of BULLETS as it slowly falls still.

Particles of dust begin to drift to the surface of the water. The dust spirit is DEAD.

HILARY
(grimaces)
Nice.

BRYCE
I'm still clueless as to who could
have put it there!

LARA
Who knows what other secrets this
temple holds. I don't fancy being
on the wrong end of any others,
however.

Smirking, Lara holsters her guns and looks in further detail at the room.

She begins to head towards the door, but no switch to open it is in visible sight. So, she turns to the nearest pillar and scans it. Sure enough, there's a CRACK in it not high up.

Lara steps back and gets a run up as she SCALES the wall and grabs the crack with both hands.

Lara scans the rest of the pillar and SHUFFLES ROUND until there's a pillar a little above and JUMPS UP, grabbing it.

She shuffles round once more, until one of the narrow passages is just above her.

She steadies herself before jumping as high as she can. She grabs the side of the passage, and pulls herself up into a handstand...

INT. NARROW PASSAGES - CONTINUOUS

And her legs land on the passage, followed by her upper body. She scans the area...

A SWITCH is on the north wall and ANOTHER is on the south wall.

In the center of the room is a COMPASS, and as Lara approaches she notes that it unusually points at the south wall.

A TEXT is written on the wall opposite it and Lara reads it allowed for Bryce and Hilary to hear.

LARA
Do you trust the compass, or do you
take it as a lie?

She thinks on it for a second...

BRYCE
So?

LARA
Please, Bryce, this requires focus.

BRYCE
Sorry.

Thinking for a few more seconds, Lara heads towards the south wall and pulls down the LEVER SWITCH -

- and the entire room SHAKES! On top of that, the passages are standing to RETRACT INTO THE WALLS!

HILARY
Lara, get out of there!

Lara's eyes widen as she has to come up with a plan fast - and she pulls out her GRAPPLE, throwing it even as the passage below her retracts into the wall.

Lara shoots down, but is kept in the air by the grapple - which has attached itself to the other lever, which has been pushed down with it.

Satisfied, Lara lets out a sigh of relief as she begins to LOWER herself down into...

INT. THE OBELISK ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

And as she reaches the bottom of the grapple, she TUGS on it and it comes loose from the lever it was attached to.

Attaching it back to her belt, Lara races forward towards the door which is slowly ROLLING upwards.

At the last minute, Lara dives through the gap - and the door seals up seconds afterwards.

INT. MIRROR PUZZLE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lara lands in a roll and gets to her feet, eyes darting for any enemies. Only when she makes sure the coast is clear does she approach the next room.

Inside are two GIANT HANDS. On each is a large BLOCK, which can ROTATE. On one side of each block is a MIRROR.

One mirror faces the other block, and the DAYLIGHT from a CRACK in the CEILING is shining down onto it.

Lara puts together the various pieces of the puzzle, figuring out what she has to do. She goes over to the block on the left and turns it so the mirror is facing the other mirror.

The light from that mirror reflects into the other mirror, and that back to the crack into the ceiling in a complete triangle.

The doors beyond the two hands ROLL OPEN. Lara frowns, this was certainly too easy, but continues onto the next room.

INT. STATUE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

And as she enters, she realizes what the hands meant. A giant STATUE of a MAN sitting on a chair is present in this room and his hands reach out into two holes in the side of the room, obviously the hands from the room before.

Lara's standing on a LEDGE halfway up the wall, with a large drop beneath her and a large gap above her. She is opposite the statue's torso.

Inside the torso, in a visible CAGE is a floating, rotating DIAMOND SHARD - a LEG. The second leg, to be precise.

Lara allows herself to smirk and walks to the edge of the ledge. Looking down, she calculates the drop. It's a long way down.

Thinking, Lara takes several steps back - and then takes a RUNNING JUMP, grabbing the hole in the statue's torso. With one hand, she reaches up to grab the cage.

She turns her body slightly - and then throws the cage back onto the ledge.

After a few seconds, she leans back further and kicks off from the wall...

...and her fingers only just grasp the edge of the ledge. She pulls herself up and walks towards the cage. Pulling out a pistol, she SHOOTS the LOCK.

Opening the cage up, she grabs the DIAMOND LEG and admires it for a second.

BRYCE

Two down.

LARA

And four more to go until I can get the final piece.

HILARY

Ah, Lara. I've been doing some research on the "Land of the Creators".

LARA

And?

HILARY

I got a hunch from that compass puzzle earlier - the compass. The Chinese were the first to develop compasses, amongst other things.

LARA

Of course. Focus your scans on there too, then.

Sounds of a chair being pushed back indicate Hilary has once again left the building. Lara sighs and heads back to the door when -

WHISPERS

Intruder!

Lara turns - and finds the statue's eyes are WIDE OPEN and it's mouth has contorted into a SNARL. The head bends down to look at her.

STATUE

You shall not leave!

Lara slowly inches back, taking out her PISTOLS. Without warning, the statue ROARS - and a FLAME ejects from it's mouth!

Lara has to move quick, and she does - but forward and she sails over the edge of the ledge!

She falls, down and down and she lets her pistols DROP from her hands in order to grab a CRACK in the giant chair the statue's sitting in.

Slowly, she drops to another crack and another, lowering herself to the floor.

Clearly out of the statue's sight now, it sits back down on it's chair.... Where several DOORS in it OPEN, revealing several MUMMIES, arms outstretched and trying to reach Lara.

Lara dives for her guns... but the area of ground they are on collapses inwards, revealing POISON-TIPPED SPIKES just begging for Lara to have an early death.

BRYCE

Jesus, Lara! Get out of there!

Lara's eyes widen and as she sees the mummies are closing in, she looks for an exit.

A SIDE DOOR ROLLS OPEN.

Taking no chances, Lara runs for it and quickly dives through. It closes behind her, and almost reluctantly the mummies return to the doors they came through.

INT. LADDER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The side door Lara exited through led to a tiny room, with it's only feature a long LADDER.

Looking up, Lara can see a speck of LIGHT at the top. With a disgruntled sigh, Lara starts to climb.

FADE TO further up on the climb and Lara's climbing, although visibly tired -

- and a BLADE whips out of the left wall and Lara leaps upwards on the ladder to avoid it!

Suddenly, FLAMES start to spit out at her from the wall and Lara climbs faster.

Spikes begin to jut out of the ladder and Lara's forced to be more careful with where she puts her hands.

With a sigh, she stops, turns - and JUMPS to the opposite wall. She jumps back to the ladder again, slowly going up, but much faster then before.

Using this method of transport, Lara begins to get nearer to the top and when she's close enough she JUMPS...

And her fingers GRASP the edge. She pulls herself up -

EXT. EGYPTIAN DESERT - DAY

And finds she has the barrel of a GUN facing her, pointing at her dead in between the eyes.

Lara glares at the person on the other end of the gun. It's a handsome man wearing rugged clothes and a REVOLVER, the gun pointing at Lara. This is JACKSON HYDE.

He offers Lara a victorious smirk. This is obviously the first time he's had the upper hand over Lara, and it shows. She's getting frustrated.

HYDE

Nice to see you, Lara.

LARA

(cold)

And you.

HYDE

Alright, let's just skip to the chase.

Hyde outstretches his hand, as if waiting for Lara to place something there. She doesn't take the hint.

HYDE (CONT'D)
The pieces, Lara. I know you have at least three.

LARA
Wrong actually.

Hyde raises his eyebrows, he obviously assumed she collected a piece in Peru, which she didn't.

HYDE
More?

LARA
Possibly.

HYDE
So it's less. Either way, give them here.

LARA
You really think I'm just going to hand them over?!

Hyde shrugs and offers a laugh, indicating the revolver pointing at Lara's head.

HYDE
You're the one with a gun to your head and several other guards with machine guns aimed at you.

Lara checks around herself, and notices the presence of THREE GUARDS, all armed to the teeth with WEAPONS and all aiming them at Lara.

She shrugs and turns back to Hyde. And then, she cracks loose a wide smile. This makes Hyde shiver despite himself.

HYDE (CONT'D)
What?! What's so funny?

LARA
This.

WHACK!

Lara knocks his arm away and the revolver skids across the ground. Lara dives to the side and scoops it off the ground.

In three swift SHOTS, the guards are all down, either DEAD or INJURED.

Lara turns to Hyde and points the gun at him.

LARA (CONT'D)
I should end you here.
(beat)
But I like the competition.
(beat; playful)
Toodles.

Almost playfully, Lara DROPS the revolver down the hole and into the ladder room.

HYDE
No!

Hyde goes to dive forward but sees the drop and stops. He turns to Lara, fuming.

She smiles sweetly - and then SUCKERPUNCHES him. He goes out like a light, dropping in seconds.

Lara smirks at the mess she's made, fishing in his pocket and pulls out a set of KEYS.

She turns and strolls over to Hyde's JEEP and unlocks it. She enters and boots up the engine. It ROARS alive and she begins to reverse and turn.

As she accelerates and starts to drive forward, Bryce speaks out over the headset:

BRYCE
So were next Lara?

LARA
Oh, I don't know.
(beat; sadistic)
But I hope it's just as fun.

She lets out a playful laugh as the jeep roars out of sight, and we:

END OF EGYPT