

THE SILVER SURFER

STORY/OUTLINE DRAFT 1

"BATTLECRY"

WRITTEN BY

LARRY BRODY

TEASER

1. EXT. THE SOUL MASTER DIMENSION. A scene we've witnessed before—but a more pleasant version this time. It's the SILVER SURFER, SHALLA BAL, and the VIRAL OVERMIND, working together to save Zenn-La and the rest of the planets in this dimension. Except that this time Shalla Bal is *not* left behind. Instead, she makes it through just in time, rushing into the Silver Surfer's arms! The Surfer starts to kiss her, and *now* Shalla Bal vanishes, only her voice remaining, crying out that she is in a dark, frightening place, and begging for the Surfer's help in getting her out.
2. EXT. SPACE NEAR ZENN-LA. The Surfer soars all around, searching—and awakens to discover that he is flying upward from the now safe Zenn-La...and that everything that just happened was a dream. Yet even now he hears Shalla

Bal calling to him, her voice fading out only *after* the dream has ended.

3. As the Surfer ponders this, he realizes that he is hearing another distress call through a COM BEAM. It's the leader of a group of REFUGEES, fleeing from a planet that has just fallen to the KREE EMPIRE, and asking for a safe haven. Right behind the Refugees is a KREE FLEET, and the pursuers begin FIRING THEIR ENERGY WEAPONS, hitting not only the Refugees but the Silver Surfer as well! He's hit again and again in rapid succession, reeling weakly to one knee, as we FADE OUT.

#### ACT ONE

1. EXT. SPACE NEAR ZENN-LA. The Surfer FIRES COSMIC BOLTS to intercept the Kree bolts, and buy himself some time to recover. Then he starts FIRING in earnest, at the fleet itself, routing the Kree and sending them WARPING away. THERON, the leader of these beautiful, almost angelic-looking beings calling themselves the JHETUDES, eagerly follows the Surfer to:
2. EXT. ZENN-LA. As an advanced adept, EYESONOR welcomes Theron and the others, but sees how troubled the Surfer is, how without joy at this "victory." The Surfer

doesn't want to talk about himself, but finally tells Eyesonor of the pain he feels just by being here on Zenn-La. Too many memories. Too many hopes of things that now seem never to be. Feelings of powerlessness..

Then, as Theron and a JHETUDE CHILD come forward to thank him, the Surfer is sparked by an idea that will change his life—and the entire universe as well! He has, he realizes, saved the universe—but not made it a better place. Violence. Hardship. Suffering...it's time that the Silver Surfer stopped them. And since the Kree-Skrull War has caused so much of this pain, then it's up to him to put an end to the war! More determined than he has ever been before, the Surfer calls out to his board and takes to the sky!

3. EXT./INT. KREE-LAR. The capitol of the Kree Empire.

Here, in a GENETICIST'S lab, a holographic image of the SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, the organic computer that is the leader of the Kree, shows PRIME MINISTER ZAREK the result of its latest experiment: The ultimate Kree warrior. Once a "normal" Kree, the military man named CAPTAIN MARVELL has been genetically enhanced to the point where he can fly through space, fire energy blasts from his own hands, and be impervious to almost anything. Zarek is

eager to activate the Captain, who is now being held in a STASIS FIELD, but the Supremor points out that there's one drawback to its creation: The genes that make him superior also carry with them what could be a tragic flaw—

4. ALARMS SOUND before Zarek can be told anything more, and Kree defenses mobilize—to no avail. As he has done in the past, the Silver Surfer soars down to the planet. This time, though, he is not here to ask anything. This time he has a different purpose, and he encases the Prime Minister in an ENERGY BUBBLE and takes off with him, heading back out to space! Behind the Surfer, on the planet, the Supremor is not dismayed. To it, any attack is simply an opportunity—to win, to experiment, or to learn. Like a great chess master, it ponders its next move...

5. EXT./INT. SKRULLOS. The capitol of the Skrull. Here, PRIME MINISTER KIAR meets with ADMIRAL ZEDRAO, getting a report on what progress has been made in finding the baby Skrull Mother that the Silver Surfer hid from the Skrull not that long ago. Zedrao reports his failure, and Kiar is incensed.

6. Before Kiar can order the Admiral's punishment, ALARMS SOUND and defenses are mobilized—against the Surfer, who charges in just as he did on Kree-Lar, placing the Skrull leader in an ENERGY BUBBLE and soaring away! Behind the Surfer, on the planet, the Skrull are in an uproar. Except, that is, for Zedrao, who is thrilled at his narrow escape!
7. EXT. INTERGALACTIC DISCONTINUITY. A universal No-Man's Land where two galaxies are colliding, particles, energies, and gases spinning together in a spectacle of death and rebirth. Here we FIND the Silver Surfer and the two enemy leaders, on an otherwise deserted world. Zarek and Kiar are busy at two activities—threatening each other and demanding that the Surfer return them to their homes. The Surfer, however, has no such intention. He has brought them here to hash out an agreement that will end the eons-old conflict between the two cultures and won't let them leave until they've done it. And they'd better hurry: This planet will break up in mere hours. Zarek and Kiar say they never would do such a thing! Although churning inside, the Surfer forces himself to seem calm. He settles back to wait...

8. EXT./INT. KREE-LAR. The Supreme Intelligence has made a decision. The abduction of Zarek is the perfect opportunity for it to test Mar-Vell. It orders the Geneticist to remove Mar-Vell from stasis—and all hell breaks loose! Disoriented, Mar-Vell emerges believing himself under attack. Using his ENERGY BLASTS to bring down the lab, the undamaged Mar-Vell flies from the wreckage and easily takes out the Kree squadron that tries to stop him. As Mar-Vell becomes more rational, the Supremor, who is watching, becomes more pleased, convinced that not even the Silver Surfer will be able to stand up against an onslaught like this! FADE OUT.

## ACT TWO

1. EXT. INTERGALACTIC DISCONTINUITY. A chunk the size of a continent breaks off the planet where the Surfer watches over the two Prime Ministers, but the animosity between Zarek and Kiar remains. Each insist that there can be no discussion of peace...at least not until one of them gives up. The Surfer is a harsh taskmaster, pointing out that there isn't much time until the planet breaks up. Within himself, he knows he can't really abandon them there—or can he? The Surfer finds himself wondering about his own beliefs.

2. Suddenly, his thoughts are interrupted—by another cry from the same voice he heard after his dream ended. It's Shalla Bal, pleading with him to rescue her from the "dark place." Zarek and Kiar look on uncomprehendingly as the Surfer calls out to his beloved, asking for more details. Shalla Bal responds with a deeper description—and the Surfer realizes that there's only one place in the universe where she could be. Leaping onto his board, the Surfer soars away. Another chunk of planet goes also, and, alone now, the two Prime Ministers start to realize what will happen if they stick to their rigid attitudes.

3. INT. PLANET OF THE MONOLITHS. A hollow world filled with towering structures honoring the heroes of an ancient, lost civilization. Dark and mazelike, it has only one entrance, into which the Silver Surfer now flies. Using his ability to locate energy sources, he spots such a source in the maze and zooms through the corridors. But instead of Shalla Bal, it's Captain Mar-Vell who waits! The call and the location are a trap. Mar-Vell's job is to subdue the Surfer, and although the Surfer goes all out, he can't recover from being taken by surprise. His foe gains the upper hand by luring the Surfer into the

same kind of STASIS FIELD that held him. The Surfer is frozen there, unable to move.

4. EXT. SPACE/INT. KREE FLAGSHIP. Mar-Vell transfers the Surfer to a Kree fleet, and he and the ship's COMMANDER report to the Supreme Intelligence. The Supremor, however, already knows what's happened. It is in constant touch with every Kree organic computer in the universe. That, in fact, is how it devised the trap: The computers in the ships chasing the Jhetude refugees recorded the genuine mental message the Surfer received from Shalla Bal. It was a simple matter to "play" on that and beam out a false message to lure the Surfer. The Supremor doesn't know where Zarek is, though—because there are no Kree computers in the Discontinuity. He needs to extract that information from the Surfer...with a Kree mental probe. The probing process begins, but both the pain that accompanies it and the realization that Shalla Bal *is* alive somewhere give the Surfer renewed strength. He struggles against both the probe and the stasis field, and it's clear he's going to break free—unless Mar-Vell stops him.

5. But Mar-Vell actually *questions* the Supremor's order. The inhumanity of what the Supreme Intelligence is doing

to the Surfer appalls him. Mar-Vell's ability to think for himself is, in fact, the genetic "flaw" the Supremor was worried about, and the instant's hesitation it causes is all the Surfer needs to burst from the STASIS FIELD! Again, the Supreme Intelligence gives Mar-Vell an order: Stop the Silver Surfer. But it's too late. The Surfer bursts through the ship...and Mar-Vell chooses to use his power to save the men he is now serving with instead of abandoning them to certain destruction by continuing after the Surfer.

6. EXT. INTERGALACTIC DISCONTINUITY. The planet where the Surfer has left Zarek and Kiar is on the edge of extinction, and the only way the two men can keep from falling off its last madly spinning piece is by hanging onto each other. The Surfer returns just in time—and learns that his plan has succeeded. A peace treaty has indeed been worked out. The Kree-Skull War seems to be as good as over!
7. EXT. SKRULLOS. The Surfer returns to the Skrull capitol with both Prime Ministers—and finds that the realities of politics have made peace impossible. In Kiar's absence, Zedrao has seized power, making any agreement made by his predecessor worthless. A COM LINK with Kree-Lar shows

the same situation there. The Supremor has decided that it has no need of Zarek or anyone like him and will run the Empire alone!

8. EXT. DEEP SPACE. The Silver Surfer soars alone. He has failed, but still finds himself heartened. Mar-Vell's actions have proved to him that there is hope for honor and nobility among the Kree. And, even more importantly to him—somewhere out there Shalla Bal still lives. The Surfer vows to find her, no matter *what* he must do, as we  
FADE OUT.

THE END