

## INT. EGGMAN'S WAREHOUSE

It is dark. We can hear the sound of approaching footsteps.

With a loud THOOM, a bright spotlight shines on a gigantic metal case. It looks like future-military. It's sealed with an electronic lock that glows. The case is big enough that it rests on a flatbed wheeled cart. It is sitting near a workshop table.

The footsteps get louder.

Stepping out of the shadows and into the light around the case, we see DOCTOR EGGMAN. The case comes up to around his hips in height. We see his hand trace along the top of the case; hand written in permanent marker on a label, it reads "PROPERTY OF PROFESSOR GERALD ROBOTNIK." Under that, it says, in bigger underlined text, "RESEARCH MATERIALS."

Parts of the case are wrapped in caution tape that say "EVIDENCE."

With the same hand, EGGMAN, tears some of the tape away. The case automatically unlocks and opens, its sealing mechanism briefly hissing as the contents are exposed to the open air for the first time in 50 years.

Bending over, EGGMAN disappears into the case as he roots around inside. He straightens back out again, holding some kind of leather rucksack, clearly containing something.

He sets it aside on the workshop table nearby.

Sliding the first STONE TABLET out of the rucksack, we can only see the Doctor's face as he looks it over. We can tell the lower half is missing. He's deep in thought. Setting it on the table, he pulls the next one out, looking it over with an increasingly furrowed brow. He sets the second one next to the first, before pulling the final tablet out of the bag.

Both brows raise as something catches his attention.

We finally see what's in his hands: a crude carving of several Echidna warriors in a line bowing before a gigantic diamond-shaped jewel. The jewel is larger than any of the warriors. Standing on top of the jewel appears to be their ruler, a bearded Echidna warrior with bushy eyebrows and a staff. He has his arms outstretched, with a sunbeam pattern behind him. Rising up behind him is a shadow in the shape of a gigantic snake, several times the king's size. The Doctor's fingers trace across the etched artwork of the warrior king.

We see a sinister grin creep across Eggman's face.

He makes a dash over to a COMPUTER CONSOLE and quickly types something in.

A close-up on the screen reveals the text:

LOCATION CONFIRMED  
ANGEL ISLAND  
INTERCEPT TRAJECTORY

CROSS FADE TO...

EXT. ANGEL ISLAND, MASTER EMERALD ALTAR, NIGHT

From a distance, it is obvious that ANGEL ISLAND is a floating island, freely flying miles above the ocean below. Errant clouds pass beneath the airborne landmass.

Weathered ruins sit in the stillness of night. One gets the impression this used to be a place of significance, maybe some kind of amphitheater, but there's almost nothing left. Hundreds, if not thousands of years of being exposed to the elements have nearly erased the structures that used to reside on the edge of Angel Island's thick jungle.

At the base of a set of stairs sits KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA. Head drooped, his eyes are closed, and like everything else on this island, he is still, apparently sleeping.

Up a few crumbling steps behind him sits the MASTER EMERALD, a massive green jewel that faintly glows in the darkness. It floats ever so slightly above what used to be an altar, gently revolving.

A gust of wind suddenly carries a leaf from the jungle that hits Knuckles in the face, causing him to flinch. Eyes still closed, he frowns and reaches up to brush it off. Just then, we can hear a vibration of energy. A green glow builds behind Knuckles. His eyes snap open in confusion.

Knuckles stands up and turns around to see the MASTER EMERALD, now several feet in the air, practically burning with a pulsating green energy. The pulses quickly shorten as the vibrating sound increases in tempo until these pulses give way to a blinding FLASH, followed by the sound of something shattering. Knuckles shields his eyes.

As the light fades, we see there are nearly a dozen SHARDS of the shattered MASTER EMERALD spinning weightlessly in the air. An orb of shadow collects in their center, outlined by a green glow. In an instant, it grows into the silhouette of CHAOS, THE GOD OF DESTRUCTION, in his base form of CHAOS ZERO. The force of the transformation blows the emerald shards away. To where, we do not see.

Knuckles, identifying an attacker, charges Chaos in anger. He reels back for a punch, but before his fist connects, Chaos effortlessly bats him away with a back-hand slap. Knuckles careens back and tumbles at least ten feet, landing face down at the bottom of the stairs, in the grass.

Chaos touches down on the platform at the top of the altar, looming down the steps at the fallen Knuckles. Furious, Knuckles picks himself up off the ground and rushes up the stairs at Chaos again, winding up to deliver another punch, but this time with his other arm. Surprisingly, his fists lands the punch, causing Chaos to explode in all directions in a huge splash of water.

The look of fury on Knuckles' face slowly fades into one of absolute confusion. He is soaking wet. Water drips from his dreadlocks. He is standing in a puddle, fist still outstretched, hanging in the air. Chaos is nowhere to be seen.

Knuckles scans the area with his eyes, only to just now notice what's become of the MASTER EMERALD. Its diamond-like shape has been reduced to nothing more than a stump of shattered glass laying on the ground, its glow quickly fading. Knuckles rushes over just as the light flickers out, and the whole of Angel Island begins to shake, throwing Knuckles off balance. In the background, we can see clouds and stars turn as the whole horizon begins to shift.

EXT. THE CLIFFSIDE SHORES OF THE MYSTIC RUINS, BORDERING THE OCEAN, NIGHT  
The landmass known as Angel Island plummets towards the ground. As it nears the MYSTIC RUINS, its descent begins to slow, the island perfectly slotting in along the cliffs like a long lost puzzle piece. It locks into place with a great crash, violent but not destructive, loose rocks falling off the side of the island and landing on the ground below. Dust and debris is everywhere as the island settles, almost gently, as if it belonged here once, long long ago.

Knuckles stands up once again, looking out over a cliff that used to offer a view of the night sky and a distant ocean below, now showing a jungle shore, with a metropolis on the horizon.

TITLE CARD: "SONIC ADVENTURE"

FADE TO BLACK

EXT. STATION SQUARE CENTRAL STATION, A SUNNY DAY  
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG bounds the sides of skyscrapers, running so fast he seems to defy gravity. He comes to a stop on the roof of the STATION SQUARE GRAND CENTRAL, the city's main train station. He looks out over the plaza. People and cars hustle and bustle, but amidst the crowds, Sonic spots an orb of ORANGE LIGHT. It catches his attention.

It flutters through a crowd, only for Sonic to suddenly lose sight of it around a corner. Curiosity piqued, Sonic drops to street level and pursues.

EXT. STATION SQUARE SHOPPING DISTRICT, A CLOUDY DAY

Around the corner are rows of tiny corner markets, including a BURGER SHOP. Though not as busy as it was around GRAND CENTRAL, there are still people and cars down this block. As more clouds push up in the sky, the little bit of sunshine begins to fade from view. At first, Sonic can't seem to find the mysterious orange light he saw earlier, but in the growing shade, he sees it flit behind one of the large stone walls surrounding STATION SQUARE CITY HALL.

EXT. STATION SQUARE CITY HALL, OVERCAST

As Sonic approaches the doors, the cloudy day turns into a RAINY DAY. Dark clouds swirl overhead, blotting out the sunlight, with the distant rumble of thunder. The stone walls provide something of a dead end, so unless the light happened to go inside City Hall, there's nowhere for it to go.

As Sonic approaches the doors, we can see that the streets of Station Square behind him are empty. All of the cars and people have vanished. It is suddenly eerily silent.

Sonic pulls on the door handles. They appear to be locked, not budging an inch. His eyes trace the building.

A sudden flash and a CRACK of thunder breaks the silence. Errant raindrops are falling. Instinctively, Sonic turns to face the opposite direction. Hanging in the air is the orb of orange light, just floating. Then, suddenly, forming out of the ground, we see the same shape that attacked Knuckles on Angel Island -- it's Chaos Zero. He's bigger than he was when he faced Knuckles. His silhouette undulates like liquid. The Orb of light, caught between the two, drifts towards Sonic, who now realizes he is cornered by these entities. He takes an attack posture.

Sonic prepares to fight, when suddenly, a distant rumble fills the air. It almost sounds like a deep creaking. WATER blows the tops off sewer grates. More water bursts out of shop windows, spilling out onto the street. It's pouring out of everything, everywhere. Even the very street itself cracks, liquid seeping up through the ground. Soon, the doors for Station Square City Hall burst open, releasing a flood of water. Sonic, with nowhere to run, is quickly washed out to sea as Station Square fills up with water.

Struggling, but unable to swim, Sonic falls like a rock towards the bottom of an endless ocean, noticing the orb of light just above the surface of the water. Its light fades from view as he sinks into the blackness. Sonic's eyes close as he succumbs to the depths, the last of his air bubbles floating away.

EXT. STATION SQUARE, EMERALD COAST HOTEL

Sonic the Hedgehog snaps awake in his lounge chair. It is a bright, sunny, clear day. A waiter serves women near the opposite side of the pool with drinks. The skies are blue, and just

beyond the hotel's swimming pool area, the faint sound of waves crashing can be heard from the nearby beach. Sonic is a little shaken, but quickly realizes it was just a dream.

Just then, we can hear the distant sound of an AIRPLANE ENGINE. Instead of the motor keeping its intended rhythm, it's sputtering and struggling to stay running. As Sonic turns to look at where the sound is coming from, we can see the pilot: MILES "TAILS" PROWER, Sonic's friend and sidekick. He's fighting the controls of his biplane, which seems to have been patched together with scraps from a junkyard.

Suddenly there is an EXPLOSION and both Tails and his Biplane disappear in a cloud of black smoke emitted from the engine's exhaust. Sonic loses sight of Tails as the plane lurches towards the ground behind the hotel, out of view. There is a loud CRASH.

Visibly concerned for his friend, Sonic springs off his lounge chair and blasts off at high speed along EMERALD COAST'S BEACH to check on him.

Sonic races along the shore, throwing heaps of sand on unfortunate people lounging in the sun before stopping in front of the smoking wreckage. He surveys the damage. The plane nosedived straight into the sand. A few more feet, and it would have landed in the water. Pieces of it are everywhere, and the fuselage is on fire. Tails is nowhere to be seen.

Suddenly, a lump of sand begins moving. Two tails pop out, before Tails himself sits up, covered in sand. He shakes his head, trying to get the sand out of his fur. He's a little dizzy, but no worse for wear. Sonic reaches out his hand and helps him up, patting his back to help clean him up. Tails tilts his head to the side and knocks some sand out of his ear.

Finally coming to his senses, Tails notices the wreckage around him and panics. He immediately runs over to the fuselage and sticks nearly his whole body in. The fire has gone out now, but it's still pouring out black smoke. Tails emerges, now visibly dirty and a little singed, hoisting a prize over his head: a glowing, blue Chaos Emerald. He's happy to have rescued it.

He presents it to Sonic, beaming. It leaves a trail of sparkles whenever it is moved. Sonic is completely mesmerized by it. It gives off a light that pulses slowly, along with a faint hum of energy.

Tails, pleased with his ability to impress Sonic, grabs the Emerald, spins around, and strikes a pose, giving the "V for Victory" sign with his fingers while winking. We hear the "Emerald Get" SFX from the Sonic & Knuckles game.

A small explosion from the wreckage startles Tails, causing him to instantly drop the cool guy act. Sonic looks incredulous.

Suddenly, Tails stashes the Emerald (slips it behind his back, in classic cartoon fashion) and flies into the air using his twin tails as rotors. He points further down the beach, beyond where the sand ends, into the jungle towards the mountains. He gestures for Sonic to come with him.

Sonic's curiosity has been sparked.

Tails reaches out for Sonic, who grabs Tails' hands. Airlifting Sonic, Tails flies off towards the jungle.

PAN UP IN TO THE SUNLIGHT, FADE TO WHITE

EXT. STATION SQUARE CITY STREET

Knuckles the Echidna shields his eyes from the sun while standing in the middle of a busy sidewalk. He's completely oblivious to everyone, yet quite clearly unhappy.

A rude person from behind bumps into Knuckles, almost knocking him over, and for a moment, Knuckles sees a flash of the Master Emerald in his vision. As he catches his balance, he looks up to see a person carrying home a tiny Chao creature in a square pet carrier. The Chao locks eyes with him briefly, not happy, not sad, just looking.

Looking over, Knuckles sees dozens of people surrounding a PET STORE. There is a lot of commotion. He approaches and peers inside, to see dozens of people packing the store to buy Chao as pets. Through pet carrier bars, some Chao reach out, not wanting to be separated from the group. They cry out, but the people buying them think it's cute.

At the register, Knuckles notices one of the Chao being bought is clutching a shard of the Master Emerald nearly as big as it is. As the person leaves the Pet Store, Knuckles decides to follow.

INT. EMERALD COAST HOTEL CHAO GARDEN

After following that person, they duck into an area Knuckles isn't familiar with. He looks up at a sign: though this claims to be a PARK, a banner draped over the gate proudly welcomes people to "THE CHAO GARDEN".

Knuckles enters and looks around. This is a small little gated park with plenty of grass, a few trees, and even a small pond. A handful of Chao are wandering around here, some of which are different shapes and colors from the average Chao. Knuckles has lost sight of the person he was following, and their Chao, but he ends up spotting Dr. Eggman crossing through the park for some reason. Knuckles, instantly suspicious, rushes over to Eggman.

Knuckles jumps towards Eggman, ready to strike, when Eggman rightfully cowers in fear after being caught totally off guard. Knuckles silently yells, gesticulating wildly with anger, and we see

through a thought/speech bubble that he's ranting about the Master Emerald and Chao. Eggman looks befuddled for a moment, before reaching off screen to produce the Chao with the emerald shard, which it is hugging tightly.

Eggman forcibly yanks the shard away from the Chao, who begins crying. Knuckles pauses his tirade to see what Eggman has done, and Eggman hands him the emerald shard while disposing of the Chao somehow off screen (and he makes a "yuck" face).

Eggman then turns his back on Knuckles for a second, and we hear the sound of a permanent marker scribbling. He whirls back around, dropping to his knees so he can put one arm around Knuckles. In his other hand, he shows Knuckles a polaroid-style PHOTOGRAPH of Sonic the Hedgehog, mouth wide open, as if he's about to eat something. Over Sonic's hands, a HAND-DRAWN PICTURE of a green crystal shard has been stuck to the photo with a piece of clear tape. Writing under the photo reads, "Sonic and new best friend"

It takes a second for Knuckles to absorb what he's seeing. He turns to Eggman in a sort of disbelief. Eggman, stone-faced for a brief moment, suddenly grins, a little nervous.

We cut back to the photograph, and Eggman amends the caption to read, "Sonic and new best friend (WHICH HE STOLE)"

Suddenly, Knuckles is furious. He takes the photo from Eggman and STORMS out of the Chao Garden, leaving Eggman to stand alone, looking satisfied, next to the still-crying Chao. It then kicks him in the ankle, and he recoils in pain, hopping on one leg. He makes a "why I oughta!" gesture at the Chao, before storming over to a big BUSH. He pulls the leaves away to reveal his hidden EGGMOBILE.

As Eggman climbs into the EGGMOBILE, he stops, scrunches up his face, and sticks his tongue out at the Chao.

The Chao returns the gesture.

Eggman, now in his EGGMOBILE, orients the vehicle and pushes the thruster to maximum. It blasts off into the sky with such force that it blows the Chao off its feet, stunning it.

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## Future Story Beats

- Going in to Tails' workshop by opening the garage and leaving it open
- Tails showing Sonic a machine that measures Chaos Emerald energy in electricity

- Tails removes the Chaos Emerald only to have it snatched by Eggman's extendo arm
  - Eggman introduces Chaos 0
  - Sonic is unnerved, realizing that's the monster he saw in his dream
  - Tails picks up on Sonic's horror
  - Eggman feeds the emerald to Chaos, who bulks in to Chaos 1
  - Sonic attacks Chaos 1, who turns in to water to avoid the attack
  - Chaos 1 immobilizes Sonic in water, attempting to drown him
  - Tails notices Chaos 1's brain (or should it be some sort of jewel or rock now?)
  - Tails strikes Chaos 1 in his brain, causing him to release Sonic
  - Eggman retreats
  - Tails helps Sonic up in the same way Sonic helped Tails up
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- Tikal's orange spirit orb leading Sonic and Tails to the next emerald, in Windy Valley
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- Sonic and Knuckles fighting over the Green Chaos Emerald
  - Both are broken up by Eggman, who steals the emerald and feeds Chaos
  - Knuckles shows Sonic the photo Eggman gave him, and the taped-on shard falls away to reveal it was a photo of Sonic eating a chili dog.
  - Sonic gets pulled into the lake by Chaos and begins to drown
  - Really emphasize that he can't swim
  - Knuckles saves him
  - (This is also about friendship)
- 
- Sonic finding the Perfect Chaos mural in the ruins
- 
- Should tie scenes of Chao being sold as pets into something. Maybe that's where we bring Amy in? She could find some mean kids mistreating one.
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- Also need to show Angel Island flying with the Master Emerald (early on!) to make that connection for viewers that aren't familiar with the Sonic mythos

## Motivations

### Sonic

- Just trying to figure out what's going on.
- Trying to get the Chaos Emeralds.
- Is having a lot of fun most of the time.
- Loves to explore.

### Tails

- Trying to prove himself to Sonic

- Gaining more independence

#### Knuckles

- Wants to restore his home
- Wary of anyone that would lead him astray
- Still gets lead astray anyway because he's lived alone for his entire life and has zero communication abilities
- Gets very angry very easily.

## CAST OFF (Deleted Scenes)

### INT. EGGMAN'S LABORATORY

A large, circular room with a single spotlight illuminating an empty table. BLINKING COMPUTER LIGHTS line the back walls. Suddenly, mechanical doors part with a futuristic hiss.

Through the doors steps a portly man wearing a PITH HELMET and SAND-DRAB CLOTHES. The room is dark, so we cannot get a good look at his face, save for a gleaming pair of ROUND, BLUE GLASSES and the outline of a BUSHY MUSTACHE. He struggles, but places a RUCKSACK on the table with some effort. Three STONE TABLETS can be seen peeking out of the top of the sack, now laid on its side.

The man adjusts his lamp to give the room a little more light and then takes his hat off to wipe sweat from his brow. We finally see his face: it's DOCTOR EGGMAN. As he wipes his brow with a rag, he gives a sigh of exhaustion. He reaches off screen and pulls a cup of water off an unseen table, drinking it through a straw.

He slides the first STONE TABLET out of the rucksack, though we can only see the Doctor's face as he looks it over. He's deep in thought. Setting it on the table, he pulls the next one out, looking it over with an increasingly furrowed brow. He sets the second one on top of the first, before pulling the final tablet out of his bag.

Both brows raise as he pulls a large surprised SLURP from his drink cup.

We finally see what's in his hands: a crude carving of several Echidna warriors in a line bowing before a gigantic diamond-shaped jewel. The jewel is larger than any of the warriors. Standing on top of the jewel appears to be their king, a bearded Echidna warrior with bushy eyebrows and a staff. He has his arms outstretched, with a sunbeam pattern behind him. Rising up behind him is a shadow in the shape of a gigantic snake, several times the king's size. The Doctor's fingers trace across the etched artwork of the warrior king.

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