

木霊 KODAMA 木霊

Logline: When their island village is slaughtered by mercenaries, three Elders pass their souls into ancient Japanese pines, then seek their revenge on all involved both on land and at sea.

Summary: An island with a mysterious history. A peaceful tribe slaughtered for a hidden purpose. Businessmen, Investigators, and Criminal Empires all seeking the same answers. They will find only death and revenge for anyone responsible for the desecration of the Island's secret – Kodama Energy.

In Japanese folklore, a tree in which a spirit resides is called Kodama. Cutting or desecrating a Kodama tree would bring misfortune or death to all involved. For centuries, Kodama Energy has been protected on an uncharted remote Island by a peaceful Warrior tribe...until now. In a sneak attack, the criminal ALIAS Group strikes the island, killing everyone in their path. With defeat inevitable, three Tribal Elders (Sohi - The Chief, Magi – The Cleric, Heru – The Warrior) pass their spirits into ceremonial trees in their dying moments, and begin a path of revenge both on land and at sea against all those that destroyed their way of life.

When criminal ALIAS Group businessman CHAD, his hired mercenary JACK, a female secret agent, CHIA-JUNG, and Chad's friends, LIN and ANNYA, become trapped on a luxury yacht in the middle of the East China Sea, surrounded by the Kodama tribe of fifty foot logs each weighing two tons during a tropical storm, it suddenly becomes Man v Nature, and Nature is pissed.

The Kodama tribe propel themselves through the water with a supernatural force, smashing into the yacht like battering rams, as Chia-Jung, Jack, Chad and Annya fight to stay alive in the feeding frenzy. Using Kodama Energy, Magi bursts into blue flame and decimates everything in its path while Heru propels shipping containers against the yacht and its crew. One-by-one, those responsible for the desecration of the Island are killed, but when Heru wants to kill the innocent, Sohi stops him, causing division within the Kodama clan. Heru and Magi lead the Kodama tribe away.

As the yacht capsizes, Sohi returns to save Chia-Jung who hangs on for dear life through the passing storm. On the way back to safety, Sohi and Chia-Jung must endure a battle of Elders for ultimate control of the Kodama Energy, leading Magi to sacrifice himself to save Sohi for the soul of Kodama.

By the conclusion, Chia-Jung has proof of the Island and its power, understands why ALIAS wants it so badly, and knows she must protect it at all costs, while Heru survives in order to possess Annya with his remaining Kodama Energy, driven by revenge, and Sohi disappears out to sea back to the Island.

Setting and Scope: Written for live action, but adaptable for Anime. Part of a trilogy: Sequel will follow Chia Jung, Annya (Heru), Sohi, and The Client back to the Island as the battle for Kodama Energy will come to a deadly conclusion. Then, a Prequel, would explore the mythology of Kodama on the Island, as well as the birth and battle over Kodama Energy, up through present day.

Author: I have written ten additional feature screenplays (including 9 Top Ten Finalists in PAGE and Screencraft competitions) and three one-hour TV pilots. I currently reside in Los Gatos, California.