The Package

By

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An Iraqi-esque war film portraying the trials and tribulations of teens joining the modern army and how individuals coming from different backgrounds come to being recruited into the British and US Armies and integrate with each other. The group go through various lengths to protect the British Prime Minister's son whilst try avoid getting killed when his cover in the army is blown.

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EXT. DOCKING YARD. SEAFRONT. SOUTHAMPTON. UK -- ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

A COLD and WINDY night. The world seemingly at a standstill until -- An UNMARKED SEDAN pulls up into the picture.

Four teens in ski-masks, JACK, 23, with NIGEL, 22, DAVID, 23, and his younger brother DANNY, 17, jump out -- walk to the back of the Sedan. The trunk opens and a large bag is carried out.

SUPERIMPOSE: Docking Yard -- 22.00 HRS.

JACK Okay guys. Lets do this.

The trunk opens and Danny pulls out a large bag. They all pull off their masks.

DANNY I'm not too sure about this guys.

JACK What's wrong? Don't tell me you want to chicken out?

DANNY We've never done a job like this before.

Jack pats Danny on the shoulder.

JACK So here's a first.

DAVID Don't worry guys. It's just like any other job we've done before.

DANNY

This is different. Compare selling crack to nicking cars.

DAVID You are getting us all nervous now. Lets just do this and go home.

NIGEL (to Jack) Did you analyze the security? JACK No problem. It's a docking yard. How much security would you expect?

DAVID Lets go do this then.

NIGEL I'll get the bag.

The boys pull on their masks. Nigel carries the bag on his back. The boys run to a corner on the fence. Jack takes out a pliers -- cuts through the fence. They all crawl through -- moves the fence in the original position.

JACK (to David) Get the feed. Take this with you.

He throws a radio at him.

NIGEL Call us if you see anything suspicious.

David parts with the group. Nigel, Danny and Jack cautiously walk up to an assembled line of brand new MAZDA RX-8 Hatchbacks. They stand marveling at the Mazdas momentarily. Nigel pushes forward.

NIGEL I'm taking the blue one.

He throws the bag on the ground -- takes out some tools -- PICKS a door LOCK on the Mazda and jumps in. The ALARM goes off. Jack turns to Nigel.

JACK Get the alarm quick.

Nigel reaches below the dashboard CUTS the alarm cable -- turns OFF.

NIGEL Piece of cake.

JACK Yeah Whatever.

David joins up with them.

JACK Coast clear? Did you see anything?

DAVID Nothing unusual. We are ready to roll. I've intercepted the camera feeds.

JACK Lets do this then.

The boys pick out tools from the bag -- David, Jack and Danny pick locks of three other Mazdas. They cut off the alarms -- open hoods of the Mazdas.

Nigel works on the attached TRACKING DEVICES under the hood -- signals a thumbs up.

DANNY I cut the trackers off. We're ready.

NIGEL

Lets go.

They start the ENGINES -- head for the exit with LIGHTS OFF.

EXT. ROADSIDE. OUTSIDE DOCKING YARD - CONTINUOUS

2

An UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL sits in an unmarked police cruiser -- hidden in the shadows -- watches the boys stealing the Mazdas.

INTRO - THE POLICE'S LEAD OFFICER

LEAD OFFICER (whispers into the radio) Wait for them to make their move before we make ours. Make sure... importantly that he does not get away.

EXT. DOCKING YARD. SEAFRONT. SOUTHAMPTON - CONTINUOUS 3

The Mazdas approach the dock yard exit. Jack opens the door -- picks up a tool bag as he drives to the exit. The Mazdas line up side by side near the exit.

DANNY (nervously into the radio) Guys... It's suspiciously quiet don't you think? NIGEL (V.O.) I know. We did not even see one security guard or anything.

JACK (V.O.) Don't chicken out now. Just remember... don't stop until we get to the meeting place. If you see anything off... you know what to do.

POV: LEAD OFFICER WATCHES THE MAZDAS LINE UP BY THE EXIT.

LEAD OFFICER (O.C.) (to himself) What are you waiting for? (over the radio) Hold you positions. Wait for my call.

EXT. DOCKING YARD EXIT. SEAFRONT - CONTINUOUS

The stolen Mazdas SPEED out of the compound and separate into twos -- speed off in opposite directions. Lead Officer tails Nigel and Jack from a distance.

> LEAD OFFICER (over the radio) One of you follow me and we take Nigel and the other guy. The rest of you follow the two brothers.

EXT. STREET. LOW DENSITY NEIGHBORHOOD 1 - NIGHT - LATER 5 Jack and Nigel cruise down the street in separate Mazdas.

> LEAD OFFICER (O.C.) (over the radio) When in position... take them all down.

Suddenly FLASHING LIGHTS as Jack and Nigel notice approaching police squad cars -- SIRENS blasting.

NIGEL (across to Jack) If he gets too close... go for it.

Jack nods -- gets a tight grip of his steering wheel.

OFFICER #1 (V.O.) (over a loudspeaker) Pull over your vehicles to the side of the road and come out with your hands...

The two stolen Mazdas -- Jack followed by Nigel ACCELERATE down the road at top SPEED.

LEAD OFFICER (over the radio) Don't lose them.

OFFICER #1 (V.O.)

Roger.

EXT. STREET. LOW DENSITY NEIGHBORHOOD 2 - CONTINUOUS

6

7

Danny and David's stolen Mazdas are CHASED down by two police squad cars. David slows down -- waves Danny in front.

Squad car#1 catches up with him -- tries OVERTAKING David's Mazda -- the Mazda SIDESWIPES into the side of it and CRASHES into a hedge.

## DAVID

You can't mess with me.

A ROADWORKS BLOCKADE looms in front of Danny and pumps the BRAKES. David sees the barrier late -- CRASHES into the back of Danny's Mazda. David's Mazda ramps over the Mazda in front -- catches some air and CRASH-LANDS onto it's roof.

EXT. STREET. LOW DENSITY NEIGHBORHOOD 1 - INTERCUT - CONTINUOUS

Nigel followed by Jack are CHASED down by two police squad cars. Lead Officer's Unmarked Cruiser gains on Jack's Mazda which is TAGGED on the back -- Jack loses control momentarily.

JACK

Come on.

Nigel checks his rear view mirror to see his buddy in trouble. He slows down letting Jack lead the chase.

LEAD OFFICER (over the radio) We won't get anywhere like this. Take out their wheels. OFFICER #1 Let me get close to him.

Officer#1's squad car gains on Nigel's -- Officer#1 brandishes a SHOTGUN -- SHOOTS at Jack's tires. Nigel opens the window -- takes out a HANDGUN -- SHOOTS multiple rounds at Officer#1's windshield.

Officer#1's squad car VEERS off the road CRASHING into bushes on the roadside.

The rubber on Nigel's Mazda DELAMINATES -- he LOSES CONTROL and it FLIPS on it's side rolling several times. The close chasing unmarked cruiser CRASHES into the driver's side.

Jack's Mazda disappears around the corner at SPEED. Lead Officer gets out of his badly DAMAGED Mazda -- HANDGUN in hand -- looks into Nigel's MANGLED Mazda -- walks to the side DEJECTED with his hands behind his head.

INT. JACK'S BEDROOM. JACK'S MUM'S HOUSE. SOUTHAMPTON - MORNING

Jack is laid back on the bed -- still dressed in the robbery gear. Remote control in hand, he watches the TV.

POV: JACK LOOKING AT THE TELEVISION.

## REPORTER #1

(on the televison) Last night a high end car chase brought about the resulting deaths we are reporting this morning. A group of four youths tried stealing some cars from the Southampton dockyard which were due to be shipped to Europe. As the police tried to get to the group there were some unfortunate fatalities. Two unfortunately were killed in the chase. One is in intensive care but one is reported to have got away but police are working on leads to whom it was. The police are hoping to get information from the boy in intensive care if he recovers... but right now the outlook is gloomy. The police are now looking into who these boys were so that they can contact their next of kin.

Jack turns off the television. He gets up to his feet slowly -- changes his clothes -- packs some clothes and toiletries into a travel bag.

He goes to a wardrobe takes a out an outdated picture of a young boy with his father -- stares at it momentarily -- throws it on the bed and exits the room.

INT. KITCHEN. JACK'S MUM'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

9

JACK'S MUM, 48, a working class woman prepares some breakfast. Jack walks into the room dragging the travel bag. Jack's Mum remains focused on the cooking.

JACK'S MUM Do you want some breakfast dear?

JACK

Not really.

His mother turns to face him worriedly.

JACK'S MUM What is wrong? (notices the bag) Are you going somewhere?

JACK I'm sorry.

JACK'S MUM So where do you think you are going?

JACK I have to go. I cannot be here anymore. Maybe some other day I going to make you proud... or at least I will try.

JACK'S MUM What's wrong my dear?

Jack walks up to his mother -- gives her an elongated hug.

JACK

I love you.

JACK'S MUM I love you too. But right now you have me worried.

Jack lets go -- starts walking toward the exit.

JACK'S MUM (CONT'D) Don't leave me now Jack... like your father did. You hear me? You remember what happened to him don't you?

Jack ignores the comment -- walks out the door -- closes it behind him. His mother breaks down and starts CRYING.

INT. RECRUITMENT OFFICE. ARMY RECRUITMENT BASE. PORTSMOUTH. UK - DAY 10

SUPERIMPOSE: Army Recruitment Base, Portsmouth, UK.

An in-shape male RECRUITMENT OFFICER, 47, dressed in army uniform is sat behind a desk. Jack is sat across him watching on anxiously.

> RECRUITMENT OFFICER Are you sure about this son?

> > JACK

Yes sir.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER Because... once I file this sheet of paper there is no going back.

JACK I am sure Sir.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER How old are you?

JACK Twenty. Sir.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER Do your parents know about this?

JACK

Um... Yes.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER What do they think about it?

JACK They were not too happy about it... but ultimately it's my decision.

Recruitment Officer gets up -- walks up and down the office.

## RECRUITMENT OFFICER

Way to man up. That's the answer I wanted to hear. No one wants their child to go away to do something like this because of the risks involved. If you would have said they were fine with this and feed me bullshit... I would have sent you back home.

Recruitment Officer sits on the desk -- Shakes Jack's hand.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER (CONT'D) Welcome to the family kid. Now you can go and join the rest of the freshers and get settled in before the whole thing gets too hectic.

Jack gets up. Walks to the exit and turns.

JACK Thank you Sir.

RECRUITMENT OFFICER See you around compadre.

Jack grabs his stuff and walks out hurriedly.

INT. DANCE FLOOR. NIGHTCLUB. LONDON - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: BAYS Nightclub, London.

A DRUNK HENRY CAGNEY, 22, male politician heir, DANCES and DRINKS on the dance floor whilst surrounded numerous ATTRACTIVE WOMEN -- music (b.g.).

# HENRY Excuse me ladies.

Henry stumbles up to the bar -- leans against the counter. An attractive lady standing across the bar counter winks at him -- he smiles shying away. A young male BARTENDER walks to him behind the bar.

> BARTENDER Don't you think you've had enough?

> HENRY I'll tell you when I've had enough alright? Get me another one.

BARTENDER Calm down. I'm just looking out for you.

HENRY (oblivious to the comment) Can you see all these fit birds in here mate?

BARTENDER I'm sorry. I don't think I can serve you more alcohol.

HENRY Well... I think I am going to go anyway. Okay then. How about one more for the road?

Henry burps and sways.

BARTENDER Are you okay? You should take it slow you know.

Henry waves the bartender away.

HENRY

I'm fine.

The bartender shakes his head -- pours pint of beer -passes it over the counter watching Henry suspiciously. Henry drinks half of the pint in one go -- Henry stumbles out of the exit.

EXT. PAVEMENT. OUTSIDE NIGHTCLUB - CONTINUOUS

12

A large crowd of nightlife seekers is gathered. Tabloid PHOTOGRAPHERS taking PICTURES, SCREAMING girls -- girls calling out his name. Music (b.g.).

Henry stutters toward a parked ROYAL ROLLS ROYCE SEDAN -- drops the rest of the pint on the ground.

A muscular BODYGUARD in a suit escorts Henry into the backseat of the Rolls Royce. The car door SLAMS shut.

Bodyguard jumps into the passenger's seat -- closes the door -- the Rolls Royce drives off into the night -- tailed by a RANGE ROVER SUV. SUPERIMPOSE: Peckham, London.

SEAN'S MOM, a middle-aged frail and untidily dressed woman -- seemingly older than her age, cooks unappetizing food in the kitchen on an OUTDATED small dirty stove.

The kitchen joins to the living room -- separated by a division arch. Sean watches some television on a small outdated television set.

SEAN'S MOM (in an American accent) Baby you know it is gonna get easier with time?

SEAN (American accent) But I don't want it to get easier. I just want my life back.

SEAN'S MOM You did not gimme much choice. You are eighteen now. It was either this or jail. The prosecutor was prepared to send you away for a long time.

SEAN Why did we have to come out here? We could have just moved to stay with grandma in Atlanta.

His mother SWITCHES OFF the stove. She walks into the living room -- hands Sean a plate of food. Sean looks at it disapprovingly. Sean's Mom sits next to him facing each other at an angle.

> SEAN'S MOM You know that your grandmother loves you more than anything else. She would do everything for you when you were there... but no more pain for her. Consider this a fresh start.

Sean's Mom walks off to the kitchen -- a commercial comes on the television. Sean pays close attention at the television.

POV: SEAN LOOKING AT TELEVISION.

## COLONEL

This is a call out to all enthusiastic youngsters out there. Ever felt you are not doing anything with your life? Do you enjoy traveling... adventure... friendship? Here is your chance to something that will gain you respect and your mates. Showing dignity, passion and commitment to serve country and people. You may get to be a national hero. Who knows?

## INT. LOUNGE. PECKHAM - CONTINUOUS

SEAN Ma'. I think I'm gonna join the army.

SEAN'S MOM (O.C.) That's a big decision. Since when did you come up with this?

SEAN Since right now.

Sean's Mom walks into the room.

SEAN'S MOM Why don't you take some time to think about...

SEAN I wanna move out on my own. This is the perfect opportunity.

Sean's Mom walks to stand in front of the television -- obstructing Sean's view. He waves her off.

SEAN Mom. Please.

SEAN'S MOM You are not serious right?

SEAN I am. Really.

SEAN'S MOM I save you from going to jail and this is how you repay me... by (MORE)

SEAN'S MOM (cont'd) trying to go and get yourself killed? This is not just something you do when you are trying to be cool.

SEAN The deal is sealed. (takes a stand) The other time it was the same. The cops got it wrong and you did not take my side. At least now you can support me.

SEAN'S MOM This is not about sides.

SEAN They got it wrong. Admit it.

SEAN'S MOM

Did they?

Sean's Mom storms out of the room -- he slumps into his seat.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. SIDEWALK. OUTSIDE BASKETBALL ARENA. PHILADELPHIA. USA - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: Philadelphia, USA -- One Year Ago.

Sean and three BASKETBALL FRIENDS walk along the sidewalk, dressed in sporting gear. They stop in front of a house and face each other.

SEAN You see what the coach did? He did not give me time in the middle tonight. He even took out our best guys when we were down. What's up with that?

BASKETBALL FRIEND #1 He was just trying to give everyone some game time. You know that.

SEAN Don't try to defend him man. He's gonna cost us the chance at a championship if this continues. BASKETBALL FRIEND #2 Don't worry about that. The coach is gonna get what is coming to him. Lets go.

They all follow Basketball Friend#2.

BASKETBALL FRIEND #1 What are you gonna do?

BASKETBALL FRIEND #2 You'll see. C'mon.

The boys run down the street.

EXT. SIDEWALK. OUTSIDE COACH'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 16

The boys stand outside a house, PETROL BOMBS in hand.

BASKETBALL FRIEND #2 Are we gonna do this or what?

Basketball Friend#2 LIGHTS UP the petrol bomb -- he lights up Sean's as well and throws one which EXPLODES into flames on the front porch of the house.

Sean takes a breath -- throws the petrol bomb which slips from his hand -- it BREAKS through an up stairs bedroom window. EXPLOSION of fire in the house.

> BASKETBALL FRIEND #1 What are you doing? Are you trying to kill him?

SEAN It slipped.

BASKETBALL FRIEND #2 We were just supposed to scare him. What is wrong with you?

Sean stands watching as the house FIRE spreads across the house. SCREAMING from inside the house. The two friends run away.

BASKETBALL FRIEND #1 (O.C.)

Run dude.

Sean stands NUMB in shock. SIRENS HOWLING (b.g.) -- FLASHING LIGHTS (b.g). Police OFFICER#2 comes out of a squad car and POUNCES on Sean. He holds Sean to the ground.

A balding black man and his family exit the house in panic -- a crowd gathers watching the burning house -- taking pictures.

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT. LOUISVILLE. KENTUCKY. USA - DAY17

SUPERIMPOSE: Louisville, Kentucky.

TONY, 24, is working behind the counter -- awaits to serve a customer.

TONY

Next please.

An attractive girl, BONNIE, 22, approaches the counter. Tony smiles shyly.

TONY What can I get you today?

BONNIE What's good that you have?

TONY You know... always the same. It sucks here. If you ask me... I would go to the restaurant down the street.

#### BONNIE

Is that how you treat all your customers? How do you make money from that when you are driving 'em away?

Tony raises his hands in the air -- as if to surrender.

TONY I'm not the one who said it. I won't take blame for that.

Bonnie laughs. Tony stares -- MESMERIZED. He looks around -- faces Bonnie nervously.

TONY (CONT'D) So are you ordering or what? You know I would want you to stay here the whole day if you wanted... but you are kinda backing up the queue. My boss could fire me.

Bonnie looks at the queue building behind her. She faces Tony -- smiles.

BONNIE

Okay. I'll cut you some slack this time around. So can I get one of your famous cheese burgers?

Tony rings the order through the till.

TONY Extra mayo right? Anything else?

BONNIE No. That's fine.

TONY Okay. One cheese burger coming up.

Tony takes in the money and walks off to the holding warmer behind -- packs a burger for Bonnie -- hands it to her with some change.

BONNIE Thanks. And what am I supposed to do with the one copper change?

TONY I don't know. You might start a piggy bank. Who knows what it could lead to?

Bonnie laughs -- walks out of the restaurant. Tony stares as she leaves. A male WORKMATE taps him on the shoulder, snaps him back to reality.

> WORKMATE Why don't you just ask her out?

> > TONY

Who?

### WORKMATE

What do you mean who? I can obviously tell you have got something on her. You have been flirting around with her for a while now.

TONY It's not like that. She's just here for the burgers.

WORKMATE You said it yourself that the food here sucks man. So why else would a (MORE) WORKMATE (cont'd) girl like that be coming here? Think about it okay?

Tony's workmate walks off. Tony gets back to his till -- smiles to himself. He turns to the queuing customers.

#### TONY

Next please.

INT. LOUNGE. TONY'S PARENT'S HOUSE. LOUISVILLE. KENTUCKY - DAY 18

A mid-sized suburban house. Tony is sat on the sofa -magazine in hand with feet up on the table. A middle-aged tough guy, TONY'S DAD, 50, enters the room -- pushes Tony's feet off the table -- grabs the magazine out of his hands.

> TONY What is wrong with you?

TONY'S DAD Sorry mister president. Am I disturbing you? You even put your feet on my table. So do you think you are gonna amount to anything by sitting on my couch and doing nothing?

TONY What do you mean... doing nothing?

TONY'S DAD So you think that fast food job and your IT and engineering course is a career with a real future?

Tony gets up -- walking out the room --

TONY I don't need this.

TONY'S DAD And I don't need you. I ain't your biggest problem. You need to face the real world son.

TONY'S MOM has been watching all along in the corner. Her eyes and her husband's meet.

TONY'S DAD The kid needs needs to learn some manners. He should go and get a real job. Do you remember us growing up?

Tony's Mom walks to a window -- pushes the curtain aside and looks outside.

TONY'S MOM Give him a break. So you think only manual labor jobs make you a real man? So this is why you wanted a girl who cannot stand up to you like he does? You wanted that so that you would send her to me and avoid dealing with the problem.

She walks out of the room -- Tony's Dad is left standing there.

TONY'S DAD

Whatever.

EXT. SIDEWALK. OUTSIDE TONY'S HOUSE. LOUISVILLE - CONTINUOUS 19

Tony walks up to some FRIENDS stood by the gate -- they do a fancy handshake.

TONY My old man has to learn to respect me man. He's giving me nothing but a hard time.

FRIEND #1 You got anything in mind?

FRIEND #2 I know he is a hard ass. Don't let it get to you.

TONY

I have to live with him every day. He always wanted me to do a manly job. Maybe if I break a few heads in the army then he might get off my back.

They all laugh.

FRIEND #1 So what's going on with that girl at your workplace?

TONY What about her?

FRIEND #2 I've seen her. She's really nice.

TONY

You think so?

Tony's friends nod in agreement.

FRIEND #1 The army thing is your thing man. But don't be mad though if you come back and I've taken your girl.

FRIEND #2 You might just come back gay. There are no ladies out there. Why do you think I'm still here?

TONY Because you are chickenshit and rubbish at everything. Even if I were gay... you'd still be my bitch.

They all laugh and share a fancy handshake -- walking off --

FRIEND #1 Just remember... we always got your back.

TONY See you later boys.

Tony's friends walk off. He remains standing -- lost in thought.

EXT. STREET. OUTSIDE FAST FOOD RESTAURANT. LOUISVILLE - NIGHT 20

Bonnie is stood on the corner of the street. A tired Tony -still in his work uniform -- walks up to her.

> TONY Waiting for someone special at this time of the night?

BONNIE Look who's a funny guy all of a sudden. Tony takes a breath. TONY I have something important to tell you. BONNIE What is it? TONY You make it hard though. BONNIE C'mon. Be a man. TONY (hesitantly) Okay. I think I am falling for you... but I don't know what to do. Bonnie stares at Tony. Tony looks away. TONY C'mon man. Why do you gotta be like that? BONNIE Ask me out then. TONY Are you being serious? Just like that? BONNIE Yeah. Do you really think I was coming to your place for the burgers? Tony smiles to himself. She takes a step closer. TONY I should have figured. There is only one small problem though. BONNIE What is that?

TONY

I was thinking of joining the army and I don't think this would work. It will be unfair to you.

## BONNIE

Don't worry. We can sort something out later. I might wait for you. That what love is about ain't it?

TONY So are you saying...

Bonnie moves in very close to Tony -- she kisses him. He holds her in his arms and kisses her back.

SHOT: BLACK SCREEN.

SUPERIMPOSE: THE PACKAGE

INT. NEWS DESK. UK NEWS CHANNEL HQ. LONDON

SUPERIMPOSE: London.

A FEMALE news ANCHOR sorts her reading notes -- news graphics roll across the screen.

### ANCHOR

We have some breaking news just coming through. The Prime Minister's oldest son... Henry has decided to pack his bags and leave the comfort of Downing Street to join the army. Most people's question is however... have the Cagneys gone mad? The people are questioning if he can last this? And also... is this really true or are we being fed false information? Coming up... the full story and the rest of the headlines.

EXT. NO. 10 DOWNING STREET. LONDON -- ESTABLISHING - DAY 22

No. 10 Downing Street in it's splendor with tourists wandering the premises.

SUPERIMPOSE: No.10 Downing Street, London.

PRIME MINISTER CAGNEY, 62, and his wife SACHA CAGNEY, 55, the prime minister's male ADVISER, with Henry and his young brother, IAN CAGNEY, 18, are sat around the table. Henry is slumped into his seat.

### MR. CAGNEY

(to Henry) You know I love you with all my heart Henry. But I think you should reconsider.

SACHA CAGNEY I know you want to show your courage... and that you are brave. But I think this is way over your head.

### ADVISER

I think you should listen to your father and mother. This would be a big loss to the family if something were to happen to you.

Henry stands up -- pushes the chair out and walks around the table slowly.

## HENRY

It is always about how it affects everybody else isn't it. How about how it affects me? Has anyone ever thought of that? When this assignment is done... I will surely do it again. I understand all the risks involved but...

#### MR. CAGNEY

No you don't. If you did... you would realize that you are a Cagney... a face of British politics... and your place is here.

HENRY Whose politics? I am not going to be prime minister anyway. So why

does it matter?

## SACHA CAGNEY

We have to protect our family and heritage. Not to mention the danger to the rest of the soldiers of you being out there. HENRY

I think this is why I want to do this. How about living up to my own will? I have grown up being told what to do and how to behave and now... now I can make my own decisions.

Henry storms out of the room. Ian follows him out. Sacha leaves her seat and paces around the room worriedly.

INT. PASSAGEWAY. NO. 10 DOWNING STREET - CONTINUOUS

24

IAN CAGNEY If this is what you want to do... then I wish you all the best. But do watch out because you will be a target because of who you are.

HENRY You know... at times I wish I was not a Cagney.

IAN CAGNEY You don't mean that? We just care about you... that's all.

Henry paces around nervously.

## HENRY

I know.

IAN CAGNEY How long do you intend to be out there?

HENRY Six months. Don't worry... I'll be fine.

The brothers give each other a long hug.

EXT. TRAINING BARRACK. MILITARY CAMP. GERMANY -- ESTABLISHING - DAY

25

SUPERIMPOSE: Military Training Camp, Germany.

A COLD and RAINY day. ARMY RECRUITS dressed in army pants with t-shirts and vests on their upper bodies. The recruits are lined up uniformly. A fearsome drill sergeant, SERGEANT LUCK, paces back and forth in front of the recruits. Henry, Jack and Sean lined up amongst the group.

## SERGEANT LUCK

Welcome ladies You might have seen me on TV before... but I am no celebrity. I know that you have come from many backgrounds. At this time I would like to thank you for your commitment. I am Sergeant Luck... and will be known as such form this day forward. I will be monitoring your fitness until the day we deploy. If you came here looking for a fairytale... please feel free to leave right now as this is your last chance.

The sergeant looks around -- no one dares to move.

SERGEANT LUCK Okay then. Honor. Courage. Commitment. Discipline. These are some of the important themes you will learn. Looking out for one another will be the most rewarding for anyone out here. If you think the job is hard... the training is even harder. Tomorrow training starts. Training in the barracks tomorrow at 0500 HRS sharp.

The are GROANS within the group.

SERGEANT LUCK Quit your moaning. Out here it's disobeying orders. Lights out is at 2000 HRS everyday. If you have a problem... tell it to someone who fucking cares. Enjoy your last day of freedom as you wish gentlemen. Welcome to hell... enjoy the stay.

EXT. TRAINING BARRACK. MILITARY CAMP. GERMANY - DAWN 26

SUPERIMPOSE: 0500 HRS.

A FOGGY and FROSTY morning. The recruits are carrying out various training exercises (b.g). Henry is doing some push ups alongside Jack and Sean and another recruit, FARAI, 26, a black guy. SERGEANT LUCK (to the group) I want everyone to take part in all the drills. That means all of you. Too bad if you are out of shape. Push ups... Sit ups... star jumps and cross country. Get moving.

The group jump to their feet -- do knee-high jogging in their space.

FARAI (whispers to Sean) Aren't we done yet? I want to go back to sleep.

SEAN You are whining already? We are just getting started. Most folks don't even make it past the training.

# FARAI

Screw that.

The Sergeant walks up to Henry, Sean and Farai. He stares Henry.

SERGEANT LUCK This is not a bingo gathering 'Crows'. You cannot keep up huh girls? This is no cooking lesson where you keep trying over and over.

Sergeant gets back to his position -- faces the recruits.

SERGEANT LUCK You are all weak. But if this was a race to get to Burger King... you would have been there by now. Stay focused and keep them knees up.

Henry and Sean crouch on their knees. Sergeant pulls Henry to his feet --

SERGEANT LUCK Get up boys. This is no place for slackers. You are supposed to be soldiers and leaders in the field. Show some mettle. (to Henry) You are going to be a target out there superstar. So if you want to (MORE) SERGEANT LUCK (cont'd) stay alive... listen up closely soldier to what I have to say. (to all) Now all of you get back to business.

Henry and the group get back to doing push ups. Sergeant walks away.

SEAN Looks like the sergeant has got a man crush on Henry.

Henry ignores the comment -- Sean, Farai and Jack laugh.

INT. TENT. MILITARY CAMP. GERMANY - NIGHT

27

The recruits are EXHAUSTED and RELAXING. Henry is sat on a bed -- browses through some pictures. Farai is laid back on a neighboring bed with other recruits messing around(b.g). Jack walks up to Henry.

JACK This is not Hollywood superstar. Are you lost Crow?

Most of the recruits laugh. Farai walks up to Jack and pulls him away.

FARAI If you were smart enough you would know the difference between Hollywood and Downing Street.

Jack walking away --

JACK We were just getting acquainted.

FARAI Have you been reading the dictionary again to learn some big words? Leave the guy alone.

## JACK

Look who comes to his defense. You have been in the army for how long now? Fourteen months... and you are still scrapping boots. So you think hanging with Cinderella will buy you a pass to get promoted? Farai ignores the comments. Jack walks away boastfully. Farai sits facing Henry.

## FARAI

Don't mind him. He picks on anyone new. The odd thing is... he is relatively new as well so I don't get why he thinks he's all that. He thinks that he has been in the army five years or something but still has not made it past training. Don't let him get to you.

### HENRY

Thanks.

## FARAI

No problem. The other time they were all ganging up on me.

HENRY

Yeah. So why were they picking on you?

#### FARAI

Because I'm from Africa originally. Sometimes you get outnumbered in certain arguments... like the Chinese and Indian recruits. They can tell you to go back home and go hunt lions and shit. Right now though it's your time in the spotlight.

Farai extends his hand -- they shake hands.

FARAI It's Farai by the way.

## HENRY

Fa-rai? Henry.

## FARAI

You are really funny. You have some jokes man. Everyone knows who you are. You attract a lot of attention. That is why most of the guys stay away.

## HENRY

What about you?

### FARAI

I don't really care. I personally think there is nothing too special about you. You are a son of the Prime Minister and all that... but you are human aren't you?

#### HENRY

Fair enough. So where are you from?

## FARAI

Zimbabwe. Harare to be more exact. The capital. It annoys me when I meet old white people who used to live there and say 'Rhodesia'.

### HENRY

My girlfriend was from out there... but South Africa.

## HENRY

So why the army then?

## FARAI

It is a long story man. I initially came to study like most foreign teenagers. I always said to myself... I will go back home soon but plans changed. I was at a university... struggled to pay my fees throughout and worked multiple jobs. I finished my degree but I could not get a decent job.

### HENRY

Why? I mean... what did you study?

## FARAI

It is not about what you study. I am a black African. It is hard enough to get a descent job as a foreigner. Anyways... my visa was running out. I panicked . So I joined the Army... and got sent straight out here. I have not seen my family ever since.

#### HENRY

That's sad. I personally see you as a good guy. Most people just see me as the prime minister's son pretending to be a soldier. I rarely have decent conversations with anyone.

#### FARAI

It must get very lonely in that big old house man. The girls love you though and the spotlight is always on you. You cannot even go to the toilet alone. I mean... when was the last time you were in a club and it was not in the news.

HENRY Who says I have ever been? You only believe what you see on TV?

FARAI After this? Not any more?

HENRY You have not really answered my question though. Why the army then?

FARAI I should be asking you the same question. (gets up, walks away) I'm not done with you yet though. We still have some unfinished business to talk about.

EXT. DESERT. TROOPS PATROL. BASRA. IRAQ -- ESTABLISHING -DAY 28

SUPERIMPOSE: Basra, Iraq.

The sun is SCORCHING in the HOT and HUMID environment. The troops are setting up station and get ready for action.

A remote controlled DRONE flies overhead -- controlled by a SOLDIER#1 over a laptop screen -- disappears into the distance.

INTRO - THE COLONEL

A tough COLONEL is unfazed by the environment.

COLONEL (to Soldier#1) What do you see?

Soldier#1 looking at a screen --

SOLDIER #1 Nothing yet sir.

COLONEL Let me know when you get something okay?

Colonel walks up to a group of foot PATROL SOLDIERS.

COLONEL Are we ready boys? If something goes wrong do not hesitate to retreat. We don't know what to expect. We're going in blindfolded.

HUMVEES start their RUMBLING ENGINES (b.g.).

COLONEL Okay. Lets move out men.

EXT. DESERT. TROOPS PATROL. BASRA - CONTINUOUS

Patrol soldiers, Specialist QUIZ, 22, Sergeants 100%, 23, and Farai, with sniper man, SHOOT'EM, 24, walk along a dusty trail whilst ALERT in a formation line.

FARAI Damn it's hot. I mean... how much more of a tan do these guys want me to get?

All laugh. Quiz pours water on his head.

QUIZ I'm starting to hate this whole foot patrol thing.

SHOOT'EM Starting? I mean... if anything goes wrong... it's our asses that are on the line.

POV: 100% LOOKING THROUGH THE BINOCULARS.

100% Guys. Unidentified subject in the distance. I think it's moving.

Farai lays to ground his MACHINE GUN. He focuses his aim at the threat.

POV: FARAI TAKES AIM. ARMED THREAT RUNS WITH A RIFLE IN HAND.

Farai pauses momentarily -- he SHOOTS multiple shells. The threat falls to ground.

100% Nice shot partner.

FARAI That's what we do.

BEAT. 100% looks through the binoculars.

100%

Oh shit!

## SHOOT'EM

What?

POV: 100% NOTICES A MISSILE FLYING IN THEIR DIRECTION.

100% dives to ground --

100% Hit the deck.

A missile EXPLODES a few hundred feet from them. They are all knocked off their feet from the impact. Quiz recovers slowly from the impact -- looks around at the carnage.

QUIZ

Oh shit!

## FARAI

(over the radio) We need backup ASAP. Anyone there?

There's a pause -- no response. Shoot'Em shows a worried expression on his face. 100% takes up a shooting position on the ground.

100% We have to do this on our own.

100% picks up a grenade launcher -- starts SHOOTING back at the threat. The remainder of the team joins in -- GUNFIRE exchanged and EXPLOSIONS around them.

A TANK is BURNED to shreds. Continuous GUNFIRE exchanged with the four continually fighting.

SHOOT'EM We are losing this one guys.

Farai continues SHOOTING.

FARAI Keep at it. Backup will be here in a second.

QUIZ In a second is not good enough.

SHOOT'EM (at Farai) Back up! That's an order.

Suddenly DEAFENING GUNFIRE from behind. They cover their ears. Farai points out the Support Vehicles behind them. They scamper hurriedly towards the Support Vehicles.

SOLDIER#2 runs for safety -- gets hit on the leg by an EXPLODING mortar -- falls to ground in agony.

100% jumps out of the Humvee and DIVES to the aid of the distressed soldier -- analyzes the horrific injury.

100%

Fuck me.

He drags the soldier in AGONY -- back to the Humvee. They get help getting him into the Humvee.

The Support Vehicles begin retreating back whilst continuously SHOOTING at the threat -- AIR SUPPORT PLANES take over the fighting from above.

INT. HUMVEE. DESERT. BASRA - CONTINUOUS

100% and Farai help in holding down Soldier#2 as Quiz attends to the injured soldier's heavy BLEEDING -- BANDAGES, INJECTIONS, MEDICINES being put to use.

Shoot'Em is slouched in the corner -- overcome by the developments. Soldier#2 goes into CARDIAC ARREST -- DEAD. The soldiers in the Humvee look at each other -- dejected.

INT. TENT. MILITARY BASE. BASRA - NIGHT

100% is laid fast asleep on top of his bed. Jack walks up to him and sits on the bed beside. Taps 100%'s shoulder.

JACK That was a courageous thing you did today. You almost saved the guy's life. You did all you could.

100% gets up dejectedly.

30

100% Thanks. Anybody would have done the same.

JACK I don't think I would have. I'd have tried to save myself before anything. What you did was selfless.

Jack gets up and walks away while 100% watches on -- still in shock.

EXT. OUTSIDE COLONEL'S TENT. MILITARY BASE. BASRA --ESTABLISHING - MORNING AFTER

A military HELICOPTER comes to land -- kicking up DUST as the Colonel watches on. The doors open. A highly decorated uniformed male, BRITISH ARMY GENERAL, steps out. The Colonel walks up to him -- SALUTE and HANDSHAKE exchanged.

Colonel leads British General into an office tent.

INT. COLONEL'S OFFICE TENT. MILITARY BASE - CONTINUOUS 33

The British General and the Colonel stand facing each other.

COLONEL What honor brings you out here General?

BRITISH GENERAL I am just passing by. I just thought I would pass the message as I pass through.

He strolls around the tent for a moment.

COLONEL I would think a phone call would have sufficed. What message General?

BRITISH GENERAL People back home are not happy with the number of deaths out here. This in turn... will not do any good for our heads of states' leadership.

COLONEL We are doing the best we can General... with the resources we have.

BRITISH GENERAL I know Colonel. But that's not enough. So... whatever you do, make sure you run it by me before going through with it. Because at the end of the day... my job is on the line as well. So I will see you later Bob.

Colonel looks at him suspiciously. British General walks out of the tent -- leaves the Colonel pondering. Helicopter ENGINE noises fade off into the distance (b.g.).

EXT. OUTSIDE COLONEL'S OFFICE TENT. MILITARY BASE - CONTINUOUS

34

The Colonel is stood outside his tent -- looks around. SOLDIER#3 runs up to him and gestures a SALUTE.

COLONEL How can I help?

# SOLDIER #3 Our intelligence have managed to track down a large gathering of some insurgent soldiers at some small village on the outskirts of Basra.

Colonel walks with Soldier#3 --

COLONEL How sure are you about this soldier?

SOLDIER #3 Very much sure Sir.

COLONEL Okay. In that case... get the men ready to deploy and lets go get these guys. They won't know what hit them.

Soldier#3 salutes the Colonel -- runs off. The Colonel walks back to his office tent.

35

EXT. OUTSIDE SMALL VILLAGE ESTABLISHMENT. TROOPS PATROL. BASRA - DAY

A small SQUADRON of a dozen soldiers -- with two TANKS and Humvees -- is stationed in a valley overlooking the small village from a distance. The troops are lined up on the hilltop on ALERT. The Colonel looks through some binoculars.

### COLONEL

# Okay. Fire a warning shot.

Sean turns to the Tank behind them.

# SEAN Fire warning shot!

A sole MORTAR SHELL is fired from the Tank and EXPLODES into the side of a hut in the village. There is no movement momentarily.

A small group of armed INSURGENTS come out from hiding and retaliate with MORTAR SHELLS and GUNFIRE -- GUNSHOTS and MISSILE SHOTS exchanged. The snipers SHOOT down at the insurgency soldiers.

The Colonel notices a MORTAR flying toward them. The missile EXPLODES on one of the Tanks. The Colonel waves the foot soldiers to take cover and signals the Tanks to keep firing at the village.

## COLONEL

## Bring out the big guns.

Two FIGHTER JETS appear overhead and drop BOMBS over the village -- EXPLOSIONS and total destruction. The SQUADRON starts regrouping themselves. A SOLDIER#4 gets SHOT in the back by an unidentified threat. They all rush for cover.

COLONEL (to Shoot'Em) Where did that come from?

SHOOT'EM (points) It came from the hills.

They look to the surrounding hills -- BOXED IN -- and notice MISSILES flying from all directions.

QUIZ It's a fucking trap. COLONEL Someone radio in air support again!

QUIZ They are long gone now. They won't make it in time. We have to hold them until then.

COLONEL We're on our own. Retreat now. Go go go!

GUNSHOTS and MORTAR ROUNDS are exchanged -- fatalities and casualties on both sides. A sole FIGHTER JET approaches in the distance -- showers MISSILES at the enemy.

FARAI

We got some backup.

The fighter jet gets SHOT DOWN and CRASHES into the hills -- large EXPLOSION.

SHOOT'EM

No!

The troops start retreating -- continue their assault of the enemy. Most Support Vehicles start MOTORING OUT.

Sean with the remaining foot soldiers start RUNNING toward the remaining Support Vehicles -- a Mortar EXPLODES in front of them -- KILLS the majority. Sean survives the blast but is severely INJURED.

> COLONEL (from the Tank) Lets move out guys.

A TANK leads the convoy of Support Vehicles. A trailing Humvee is SHELLED from behind. The motorcade FLEES the ambush -- leaving anyone in distress behind.

> SEAN (faintly in pain) Wait!

Sean turns on his stomach and CRAWLS in vain toward the disappearing convoy -- in vain.

SEAN (at last breath) Help!

Another mortar EXPLODES close to him.

A HALF-BURNT picture of him and his mother lays on the ground -- next to his MOTIONLESS and DISMEMBERED body.

INT. COLONEL'S OFFICE TENT. MILITARY BASE - NIGHT

The Colonel is sat behind his desk DISTRESSED and SWEATING heavily. He hesitates to pick up a phone receiver and finally dials a number.

BRITISH GENERAL (V.O.) (over the phone) Hello. What did I tell you about calling on my direct line?

COLONEL (into the phone) This in fact is an emergency Sir. I have some bad news.

BRITISH GENERAL (V.O.) What happened?

COLONEL We got ambushed by some insurgents outside Basra. We went out to neutralize a threat based on the information we had gathered. We were wrong. We walked right into a trap.

BRITISH GENERAL (V.O.) How much damage?

COLONEL We lost fifteen men out there General. It could have been higher.

BRITISH GENERAL (V.O.) I don't even know what to say right now. I have to go. We'll talk about this later. Notify their families.

COLONEL

Yes Sir.

Phone rings ENGAGED. The Colonel places the receiver down in regret and dejection. He FLINGS some paperwork to the floor -- FRUSTRATED.

SUPERIMPOSE: US Army HQ, Washington.

The US GENERAL is stood behind a desk -- places the phone receiver down slowly in DEJECTION. An ARMY MAJOR stands beside him watchfully.

MAJOR It's time to go General Sir. They are waiting for you.

US GENERAL

One second.

He takes a deep breath -- starts walking toward the exit led by his Major.

US GENERAL

Lets go.

MAJOR Are you alright Sir?

US GENERAL

I'm fine.

He loosens his collar as both exit the room.

INT. PRESS ROOM. US ARMY HQ - CONTINUOUS

The General enters the room -- walks up to a PODIUM on a stage in front of the PRESS and REPORTERS. Cameras FLASHING as he walks to the central podium.

US GENERAL (reads a speech) Good evening everyone. Thank you for your patience. I would like to begin by mentioning that both our countries... The USA and Britain... are all in the same boat even though at times we disagree. We are determined to fight for the good of our people and all the Iraqi civilians... and their rights of freedom from the negativity around 'em and threats for this freedom. Without further wasting your time... I would like to say... we will not be cutting down the number (MORE)

US GENERAL (cont'd) of soldiers in the front line in the near future.

There is MUMBLING, BOOING and WHISPERING within the crowd (f.g). Cameras FLASHING.

US GENERAL (CONT'D) As a matter of fact... we intend to be deploying more soldiers in the coming weeks... as we feel that we are at a critical crossroads that will help us win this war against terror. This is so that we can tie up the loose ends and bring our loved ones home as soon as possible. On that note I would like to finish and thank all of you for coming.

There is louder BOOING, WHISPERING and MUMBLING within the surprised crowd -- cameras FLASHING. US General puts his speech away -- wipes his forehead with a handkerchief.

US GENERAL (to the Press) I will now take a few questions from you.

A female REPORTER#2 stands.

#### REPORTER #2

Erica Miles. 441 News Channel. My question to you General is... why have you taken a step back from what you had been promising all this time?

#### US GENERAL

Do not get me wrong. I never promised to reduce the number of troops on the front line. All I said was that we would consider this if we could arrange for that. Anyone else?

Erica sits down. A male REPORTER#3 stands up.

## REPORTER #3

George Raening. New Age Reporters Channel. My question for you is... besides going back on your stance, you have completely gone on the REPORTER #3 (cont'd) opposite. Can you justify your position on this?

US GENERAL All I can say is that there is no opposite stance or taking a stance. We have just compiled all our information and expertise to come up with this conclusion that we need more men on the front line.

George sits down. Another female REPORTER#4 takes a stand.

REPORTER #4 Irene Towers here. World News channel. I was just wondering where this information you made your judgment on actually came from?

## US GENERAL

We have professionals who work hand-in-hand with us. They help us compile all the information we use. I cannot tell you who they are obviously... but I am disappointed that you would doubt your own country's judgment.

Irene takes a seat -- opens her arms signaling confusion to where she went wrong with what she asked. Reporter#2 stands again.

REPORTER #2 I have another question for you General...

The Major whispers into the General's ear.

US GENERAL (addresses the Press) Unfortunately that's all the time we have tonight. Thank you again and I'll see you later. It has been a pleasure.

The US General hurries off the podium -- followed by his Major. CAMERAS FLASHING around the room. The press are left perplexed and confused -- MUMBLING amongst themselves.

The female Anchor is sat with reading notes in hand. Headline graphics flashing across the screen, 'Threat issued towards Cagney's son' --

#### ANCHOR

Breaking news this minute. We have just been informed a while ago... that there's been discovered a tape recording on the internet posted by the insurgents' commanders with a threat to kill Henry when and if he goes to Iraq. The son of the Prime Minister might not be deployed after all considering the threat. Hold on... I'm getting some information coming through.

The Anchor holds her hand into an ear piece -- signals receiving a message --

ANCHOR (CONT'D) We are just going to cross over live to British Army offices... live right now... as a press release from the British General is taking place as we speak.

SWITCH SCREEN:

INT. PRESS ROOM. BRITISH ARMY OFFICES HQ. LONDON. UK - NIGHT 40

SUPERIMPOSE: British Army Offices HQ, London.

The British General is stood on a podium whilst addressing the PRESS.

BRITISH GENERAL

I would like to begin with commending that we have been all impressed with the Prime Minister's son's commitment and enthusiasm to go out and serve his country. But after careful consideration... it was my call to decided that the young Cagney's safety is a national priority. I am sad to announce at this juncture that Henry will not be going to Iraq right now... or any time soon in the foreseeable future.

CAMERAS FLASH (f.g.) -- MUMBLING amongst the crowd.

BRITISH GENERAL (CONT'D) It was vetoed that his presence could also jeopardize the security and well-being of his colleagues as much as of himself. We will inform you of any further decisions if and when we come around to them. Thank you.

Photographers' CAMERAS FLASHING. Reporters and photographers try rushing to the General. The General exits the room -- a GUARD blocks the path of the chasing mob.

INT. MEETING ROOM. NO. 10 DOWNING STREET. LONDON - DAY 41

SUPERIMPOSE: No.10 Downing Street, London.

Prime Minister Cagney and Sacha, an Adviser, British General, Henry, and Ian are sat around the table.

ADVISER Henry. If you are still thinking of going through with this... now would be the ideal time because the press statement has taken away the focus from you.

HENRY I had already decided... no matter the circumstances. War or not. Press statement or not.

MR. CAGNEY (to British General) Okay then. Promise me that you will keep him from any harm.

HENRY I want to go and be part of the troops... not to be a spectator.

There is momentary SILENCE. The British General turns to Mr. Cagney.

BRITISH GENERAL He is right. We cannot promise complete safety because it is a war zone. He will be as safe as when he first decided to go. The only advantage now is that... no one (MORE) BRITISH GENERAL (cont'd) knows that he will be there... besides his regiment and commanders. He will be a ghost... which will work in his favor.

Sacha takes a stand -- faces the British General and the Adviser --

SACHA CAGNEY Can you give us some time alone to reflect upon this... because we can all see it is a done deal.

The British General and Adviser get up from their seats.

BRITISH GENERAL (faces the Cagneys) Okay. We leave at the stroke of midnight. My men will be waiting outside... they will take Henry to a private hanger where they will take off for the UAE. From there... we will hand him over to our Marines crew and they will escort him by boat to Kuwait... there he will join his twelve men squadron.

British General picks up his notes. The British General and Adviser exit the room -- close the door behind them. Prime Minister Cagney, Sacha and Ian stand. Henry moves to where they are -- they all give Henry a hug.

IAN CAGNEY

Good luck.

HENRY Thanks. That means a lot.

MR. CAGNEY (hugs Henry) This does not mean we're not disappointed. The moment you feel the slightest bit worried... come back home.

HENRY I will. Don't worry. It's only for a few months. Henry wakes up alone on a bottom bunk bed. Henry sits up slowly -- stretches and smiles to himself. He dresses in his army gear, then walks out of the tent.

EXT. OUTSIDE TENT. MILITARY BASE. BASRA -- ESTABLISHING -CONTINUOUS

SUPERIMPOSE: Military Base - Basra, Iraq.

A blisteringly HOT morning. SOLDIERS are readying themselves for the day.

> COLONEL (O.C.) Gather around men. We have special announcement.

The soldiers gather around the Colonel. Henry walks out of the tent -- wears a beret -- tightens his belt. Henry runs to join up with the group -- the group watches Henry approach.

> HENRY (to Colonel) Sorry Sir.

> > COLONEL

(to the group)

This men... is our newest recruit to the team. You all have been carefully selected to be part of our team. All your orders come directly from me. We will operate slightly different from the rest of the troops. (points out Henry) 'Bullet magnet'... the team. The

team... 'Bullet magnet'.

Henry looks around -- waves his squad in acknowledgment.

COLONEL (CONT'D) (to Henry) This is your team. You are going to learn to be responsible for them. For the next few weeks you shadow Farai. He'll show you the ropes.

Farai SALUTES at Henry and WINKS.

43

COLONEL (CONT'D) (to Farai) I know you've already been acquainted so it will make it easier for you. (addresses the group, faces Henry) There is no special treatment for anyone who hangs around with him. There is no difference between him and all of you out here. There are however a few rules on the job. Remember his cover could pose a huge security risk to not only him, but all of you as well. So... You don't mention his real name in public. Two... help him get acquainted with the rules and protocols. Three... if his cover is blown... get back to base ASAP and regroup. And four... I have nothing else... I was starting to enjoy hearing myself. (all laugh) Dismissed.

The Colonel walks off -- the squadron disperses to take up their positions.

EXT. DESERT. UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION. BASRA - DAY

MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. Half of the squadron is fast asleep in the HUMVEE away from the sun with others playing soccer (b.g). Farai is stood outside the Humvee at alert.

Quiz is relieving himself (b.g). Henry is laid on the top of a TANK -- monitoring the scene with binoculars. Farai joins up with Henry on top of the Tank.

> FARAI I thought you were done with the army after all that chaos. I thought you had been sent packing.

> HENRY Yeah. No one could stop me though. This is a dream for me. I had to come back undercover.

> FARAI Great for you. Six months from now you'll be back to Downing Street. (MORE)

FARAI (cont'd) Us on the other had... we don't even know when we will leave... if ever. Most leave this place in a body bag which is dropped on your family's doorstep... with a stupid medal which has no value to anyone. Anyways... come and meet the rest of the guys.

Henry climbs down from the top of the Tank and joins up with the group playing football (f.g) with Farai. Shoot'Em approaches Henry.

SHOOT'EM I was beginning to think that you ladies are afraid to get a little dirty.

Shoot'Em shakes Henry's hand and bows. Henry is amused.

SHOOT'EM (CONT'D) Shoot'Em at your service. The baddest sniper in the land... 'Mr politics'. Or is it 'Son of politics'? The name speaks for itself. Anything in my way will be destroyed.

Shoot'Em points out the rest of the main characters in the group as the others continue playing football (b.g).

SHOOT'EM That is 100%. Always alert... day or night. One hell of a shooter. Never Misses. I personally think it's drugs. Quiz is next to him. His name... because he asks too many questions. And the dumb ass next to you... I take it you have met before.

HENRY Yeah. We met in Germany at the training base. He was...

GUNFIRE in the distance (b.g.) All soldiers DIVE to ground -- no one injured. The TANK motors into ASSAULT position. Farai drags Henry to cover.

FARAI

Take cover.

Henry and Farai run to a Humvee for cover. The group, including Henry, take up positions -- ready to retaliate at the threat.

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QUIZ
False alarm! Friendlies confirmed.
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The Tank retreats. The boys regroup -- meet up to take stoke.

SHOOT'EM Is everyone okay?

FARAI We're all good. Those came out of nowhere.

100% (to Henry) You see that? The insurgents can come from anywhere. You have to be on your game every single time.

FARAI And I saw Henry here pick up a gun too.

100% (to Henry) Good job Crow. I was not giving you deserved credit. It seems you know a thing or two.

The group exchange handshakes. Farai pats Henry on the back.

FARAI Bullet Magnet has become a man today.

All laugh.

HENRY Thanks guys.

FARAI I guess we have to let the Colonel know about this near miss. It could have been ugly.

100% That could risk Henry's stay here though. FARAI But we have to do it boys. It's the right think to do.

SHOOT'EM No we don't. You don't always have to be a goody-two-shoes man. Let Henry decide. It's up to him. (to Henry) But remember... If we spook the boss... you probably be on the next bus home. Is that what you want?

BEAT. Farai in thought.

FARAI (reluctantly to Henry) So what should we do? It's up to you then.

HENRY Don't tell him. I stay.

QUIZ Come on boys. It's been a long day back at the office. Drinks tonight. Lets go boys.

FARAI

Hold it. Don't get too happy Quiz. You are not allowed to drink. You are under-age.

All laugh. Quiz fakes to throw a PUNCH at Farai.

QUIZ Funny. At least I'm not walking back to base.

FARAI So is that's how it is?

Farai starts running towards one of the Humvees -- everybody follows -- except Henry.

100%

Run Henry!

All of the boys run gingerly to the Humvees -- TRIPPING over each other playfully. Shoot'Em drags Quiz to the floor -they squeeze into the two Humvees -- last jumping on as the Humvees drive off. The boys are boozing on ALCOHOL with music blasting (b.g). 100% and Shoot'Em playing cards (f.g) as others mess about (b.g.). Farai raises a glass drunkenly in the air.

FARAI That's the reward for doing our job well. To the greatest squad ever assembled.

They all raise their drinks -- CHEER.

SHOOT'EM You were lucky.

## FARAI

Shut up.

Quiz stands up drunkenly swaying. Turns to Henry --

QUIZ This morning... you were nobody... but the Prime Minister's son of course. Now... you have been initiated as part of the clan. It's not bad ain't it?

100% One time for 'Bullet Magnet' boys.

The all raise their drinks in celebration. Quiz falls over -- all laugh.

FARAI (into Henry's ear) You are part of the boys now. It's easier when they are on your side. You should relax and enjoy the moment.

Henry stands -- glass raised in the air.

HENRY Thank you guys for making me part of your group. It feels like home.

Shoot'Em stands on top of a bed -- everyone watches him. He waves his hands signaling the group to quiet down.

SHOOT'EM This is no home. It is a fucking shit hole. But you know what? This (MORE)

SHOOT'EM (cont'd) is the best shit hole I have ever lived in.

All CHEER -- raise their drinks -- music plays through the night (b.g.).

INT. TENT. MILITARY BASE. BASRA - MORNING AFTER

All the boys are fast asleep with LITTER everywhere. The Colonel is stood by the entrance to the tent. He BANGS the base of a bed with a metallic baton.

The boys get out of bed lazily whilst taking their time. They all stand at attention.

## COLONEL

Get up ladies. Had a good sleep huh? It is good to have a drink a bit... but getting up on time is a strong priority. The war is going on out there while you are sleeping in here. We could have all been dead by now. Get your asses out there.

The boys finish dressing up whilst rushing outside. The Colonel follows them out.

EXT. OUTSIDE TENT. MILITARY BASE - CONTINUOUS

The boys are lined up at attention but scruffily dressed. 100% still in his boxers. Colonel stands in front of them -shakes his head.

> COLONEL (to 100%) Where are your pants boy?

100% In the tent Sir.

COLONEL

Come on. You all disappoint me. Now all of you... drop and give me twenty. That should knock the hangover out of you. You need to regain your senses. Down. (groans within the group) Does anyone have something to say? 46

They get into position and do push ups slowly.

COLONEL I can't hear you counting. One...

The boys count out their push ups -- Colonel smiles in enjoyment of their agony. When the boys near completion --

COLONEL (O.C.) Make that twenty one. And all of you jump in the showers. You smell like crap.

The boys get to their feet.

COLONEL (CONT'D) Even my dead grandmother smells better than you all.

QUIZ How do you know Sir?

The boys attempt masking their LAUGHTER. The Colonel is not amused.

COLONEL It looks like we have a comedian in the house. Thanks to Mr. Chatterbox here... you will all be working in the sauna today.

GROANS in the group. The Colonel smiles cheekily and walks off. Farai stares at Quiz sternly.

FARAI Thanks man. You just couldn't let it go?

Shoot'Em takes his top off -- throws it on the ground. Henry faces Shoot'Em.

HENRY Where is that?

Shoot'Em points to the desert. The Colonel waves at the boys (b.g) smiling.

#### SHOOT'EM

In that heat. No water... no shade. Just the smoldering heat, rattle snakes and the vicious scorpions.

HENRY

Scorpions?

He's ignored. The boys walk off. Henry remains behind.

HENRY (CONT'D) You're joking right? Right?

He runs to join up with the boys walking off dejectedly.

EXT. DESERT. UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION. BASRA -- ESTABLISHING -DAY 48

ARID plains. The squadron is on patrol in the SCORCHING HEAT. Henry pours water on his head and passes the flask to Farai. Farai takes his helmet off, pours the water in and puts it back on.

> SHOOT'EM Don't use all the water in one go. We have along day ahead of us. If you run out... I'll let you die in this God forsaken thing.

Farai gestures the MIDDLE FINGER salute at Shoot'Em. A convoy of HUMVEES approaches them -- they watch on tentatively.

FARAI (to Henry) Hide. Glasses and Helmet on.

Quiz pushes Henry behind him. An AMERICAN ARMY squadron comes to a stop in front of them. The boys step forward as the convoy stops. One SQUADRON MEMBER#1 jumps out of the Humvee.

> SQUADRON MEMBER #1 (to Farai) How is the tanning going fellas? Try not to burn yourselves.

QUIZ I can see comedy is not one of your strongest points.

SQUADRON MEMBER#2 in the Humvee --

SQUADRON MEMBER #2 Hold on with that. You know we have nothing but love for y'all. I mean... we are on the same team.

Squadron Member#1 turns to Quiz -- resting against the Humvee.

SQUADRON MEMBER #1 I see you have some new guys around your little clique. Don't tell me we scare you so much that you had to recruit more manpower.

FARAI Don't flatter yourself. You and your clan of 'mini mes' can bring all you have any day. You know we have you covered.

Squadron Member#1 notices Henry. He walks back to his Humvee casually -- he climbs on and continually stares in Henry's direction.

SQUADRON MEMBER #1 You could fry something out here. See you around another time boys. Lets move out gang. Lets go before we melt.

Quiz raises the MIDDLE FINGER salute at Squadron Member#1. He ignores and turns away. The Humvees pull away as Henry's group watch on.

EXT. OUTSIDE TENTS. MILITARY BASE. BASRA - DUSK 49

The Colonel RUNS HASTILY out of his office and across base towards the tent of Henry's squadron. He BASHES through the entrance --

INT. TENT. MILITARY BASE - CONTINUOUS

The Colonel holds his hands on his knees whilst catching his BREATH. The boys stare at him confusedly.

COLONEL Code red! We have a big problem boys.

The boys JUMP to their feet anxiously and puzzled.

#### COLONEL

There is no time for details. They all know. Henry has been made. Which one of you leaked it out?

## SHOOT'EM

(all look around) No one said anything. Someone must have noticed.

## COLONEL

The insurgents are on an all-out offensive now. All planes in the air are being shot down... all major roads are blocked. We don't have much time.

The boys begin ARMING themselves.

QUIZ So what is the plan? Can we not regroup until morning?

#### COLONEL

We don't have until morning. We are past that stage. It might be too late by then. They are headed straight for us. You have to get Henry out of here quickly. We keep it amongst ourselves. It's the safest way. Code name 'Package'. (instructing) You never let Henry out of your site... no matter what. His presence is putting him and everyone else at risk.

100%

I'll get the tank.

100% runs out of the room. Henry and the other boys pack their valuables quickly. Colonel turns to Henry --

## COLONEL

No time for that. It's an all out war now. This is all your training and beyond. We act now. Your team can cross the border before anyone realizes. The night will provide you an advantage. COLONEL Farai... ammunition. Quiz... get some supplies. Shoot'Em... you have done something like this before. (Shoot'Em nods) Your small group will be easier to manoeuvre. Bring him home. And Henry... keep safe. No being a hero.

Henry nods.

COLONEL

Move out.

SHOOT'EM Let us go soldiers.

The boys carry their equipment and rush out of the tent.

EXT. OUTSIDE TENTS. MILITARY BASE - CONTINUOUS

51

The Colonel points out instructions on a clip board and hands some notes to Farai and Shoot'Em. BOMBING and GUNSHOTS (b.g.) in the distance.

#### COLONEL

Keep away from the roads. You have to pass through Basra. A team is waiting there and will cover you. You should head towards the coast and get a boat from there... to Kuwait or the UAE. Contact the General when you get there. A plane will pick you up from there.

FARAI

And you Sir?

COLONEL I have to stay and lead my men. We'll defend the fort the best way we know how.

The squadron loads up onto an HUMVEE and Henry jumps into the TANK with the rest of the team. The Humvee and Tank leave the base at SPEED.

> COLONEL (to himself) God bless all of us.

The Humvee and Tank disappear over the horizon.

INT. TANK. DESERT. UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION. BASRA - DAY 52

The soldiers ride in the TANK anxiously in deafening SILENCE. All keeping at high alert. A CRACKLING VOICE comes through the radio.

COLONEL (V.O.) (over the radio) Boys we've been boxed in. The window we got for you for your getaway will close in about fifteen minutes.

FARAI (over loudspeaker) Fifteen minutes? That's no good.

COLONEL (V.O.) The troops out there will not be able to contain them. How far out are you? How fast can you get there?

QUIZ (over loudspeaker) In about twenty minutes. Can you get the guys to hang on a little longer.

COLONEL (V.O.) No promises. I will do the best I can. Sorry to say... you have to push for it now fellas. There is no turning back. Sorry I let all of you down. It's all down to you now.

The radio clicks off. The soldiers look at each other puzzled. Farai takes his helmet off -- throws it on the floor.

# FARAI

Shit.

The boys look at each other worriedly.

INT. TANK. DESERT. BASRA - DAY - LATER

The Tank approaches a small housing compound fenced by a wall. The troops fighting at the front line are pulling back.

POV: HENRY LOOKS OUTSIDE --

FIRES and SMOKE everywhere and GUNFIRE ringing from every direction.

FARAI Shoot'Em. You have to break through the city wall. That is only way through.

HENRY Lets turn back. It is probably safer back at the base.

100% Did you hear what the Colonel said? There is no going back now. This our only choice.

100% picks up his Rifle -- cocks it.

100% Lets bring the rain.

The tank fires two MORTARS into a wall -- collapses the wall. The tank rumbles through -- DEAD BODIES sprawled on the ground -- BURNT OUT VEHICLES.

SHOOT'EM (at Henry) It's a hell-hole in here. When we get in we'll take cover you.

HENRY

No way. You are not serious. I'm not abandoning the only thing protecting us from those savages.

SHOOT'EM I'm going out there. You can keep this thing on your own if you like.

QUIZ

(to Henry) This is not made out of force-field mate. This thing is an object for target practice. So if you really want to stay in this piece of shit and become roast meat... that's your call. But I won't be in it with you.

HENRY So lets do it then. The Tank and Humvee CRASH through the rubble as GUNFIRE rains at the TANK. The Tank picks up SPEED and loses control. It CRASHES into the side of a house -- comes to a GRINDING HALT.

Farai opens the top hatch and SHOOTS a few rounds outside.

#### FARAI

Let us move out quick.

Farai JUMPS out of the Tank followed by Quiz, 100%, Henry and Shoot'Em. They hold their handguns up at ALERT looking around for any threats. Shoot'Em signals the group to follow him.

> SHOOT'EM This way. Follow me.

The group RUNS into a dark building.

INT. ROOM 1. HOUSING COMPOUND. BASRA - DAY 54

SHOT: PITCH BLACK DARKNESS IN THE ROOM.

The soldiers BREATHE HEAVILY and catch their breath -- GUN COCKING sound (b.g.).

FARAI What is this supposed to be?

JACK Drop your guns men.

HENRY You speak English. Whose side are you on?

JACK Shut up. I'm on our side. Drop them and step back slowly.

Guns DROP to the floor.

SHOT: A LIGHT SWITCH FLICKS -- BRIGHTNESS FILLS THE ROOM. The boys cover their eyes. Jack focuses on Farai.

> JACK You again. Weren't you sent away? Why are you here gentlemen? An order to pull out was given. You should not be here.

FARAI So why are you here then? And who authorized that call?

JACK I got separated from the group. We are covering our own backs now. They say it's too risky to come in hot now.

100% takes a step forward. Jack cocks his Rifle -- points it at 100%.

JACK (CONT'D) Don't do anything stupid soldier. Aren't you afraid to die?

100% steps in Jack's face confidently.

100%

Afraid? No. Where do I get the fear from? My parents were murdered for no reason and I grew up in an adoption center... where we were treated like animals so if...

Farai pulls 100% back. Turns to Jack --

FARAI

So why did the troops pull out?

JACK Because the package did not show.

QUIZ But the package is...

FARAI

Do you even know what you were looking for? Are you sure what the package is?

JACK Who cares huh? It's not about what the package is. It is whether if it is there or not. Many of our guys have lost their lives for nothing out there.

FARAI And who's to blame? JACK I don't care. What is so special about this stupid package anyways?

Henry steps forward from shadows.

HENRY I am the package.

JACK We are all dead. If they are after him... it means that we are in the firing line as well.

HENRY It's not their fault. The plan was working. There was an internal leak.

JACK So you want us to put everything on standby to babysit him until he gets rescued from here? I'm not with it.

SHOOT'EM Rather than standing here and acting like a bunch of old ladies... we still need to get out of this mess. I think we should just work together to get out of here then...

An EXPLOSION rocks the building -- all FALL to the ground. The side of the wall BLOWN OFF -- leaves an open void on the wall.

> FARAI Do you all still want to stand here and continue arguing or what?

> > JACK

Lets move.

They pick up their Guns -- RUN deeper into the center of the building.

The group piles into the room hurriedly -- hide from view in line against a wall.

FARAI (to Jack and Shoot'Em) You guys are snipers right?

Jack and Shoot'Em stare at Farai with a worried look --

SHOOT'EM I don't like that look on your face.

## FARAI

We need a decoy. These guys are going to come in here to look for some hostages if there are any survivors. We can't just wait. So I say... let us make a distraction. When they advance... you guys take them out.

QUIZ

You want to make us target practice? If it's you volunteering to go out there then it's fine.

# 100%

(to Quiz)

There is no other way. It's either we go out there to fight... or we wait for them to come here... or to fire a shell at us.

JACK Well I choose to live.

QUIZ

Easy for you to say if it's not your ass out there as bait.

100%

Lets go out there and put some hurting on these cunts.

The boys hold up their GUNS on ALERT. Henry breathes heavily.

FARAI Don't panic now. We need your clear head out there.

I'm fine. Lets do this.

The boys rush out of the room.

INT. NEWS DESK. UK NEWS CHANNEL HQ. LONDON

The Anchor reads the news with notes in hand.

#### ANCHOR

This is breaking news. Our latest update from Iraq states that the operation to ensure and safeguard the return of Henry is in limbo. Our correspondent has notified us that the troops have been pulled out of Basra... as the fighting escalated. The whereabouts of the Prime Minister's son and his squadron are unknown at this moment in time. The situation looks grim but they are believed to still be alive.

INT. MEETING ROOM. NO. 10 DOWNING STREET. LONDON - DAY 57

Adviser waits in the room at his feet. Prime Minister Cagney and Sacha walk into the room --

MR. CAGNEY What is this I am hearing? How is it possible that the whole world hears the news about my grandson before I do?

ADVISER I was on my way here and...

MR. CAGNEY So where is he then?

ADVISER I'm not sure. But I'm sure that...

MR. CAGNEY So you don't know?

ADVISER Not exactly.

SACHA CAGNEY You are not helping.

ADVISER

The last information is that they left the base headed towards a small town outside Basra... where the troops were preparing for their escape... but they never made it in time.

MR. CAGNEY What do you mean? They are out there somewhere.

The Cagneys walk towards the exit -- turn to Adviser --

## SACHA CAGNEY

Find them.

Prime Minister Cagney and Sacha exit the room -- door SLAMS shut behind them. The Adviser scratches his head -- looks down at the floor.

EXT. ROOF TOP. HOUSING COMPOUND. BASRA - DAY 58

The group has taken up various strategic positions. GUNSHOTS and EXPLOSIONS ringing in the distance (b.g). Jack and Shoot'Em are out of view on the roof scouting for potential threats.

Henry and 100% hide in Room 1. Farai and Quiz search the rooms around them for threats.

JACK (over the radio) The coast is clear. The troops got us a distraction play.

FARAI (V.O.) (over the radio) Negative. Keep focused. You must cover me.

JACK Roger. Hundred can you read me?

100% (V.O.) Loud and clear. It's stable. Over.

POV: JACK --

Jack adjusts his stance -- takes a breath -- SHOOTS. The threat is hit and FALLS off the rooftop -- DEAD. Farai wipes sweat from his forehead in relief -- walks up to the body -- checks for pulse --

FARAI (over the radio) Damn. You are my eyes. Keep focused. That was close.

Farai walks across the open area to another side of the building. He takes cover by leaning against the wall -- peeks through the window -- sees a threat.

He takes out a hand grenade -- arms it -- rolls it through the door crack and RUNS for cover.

The grenade EXPLODES -- windows SHATTERED. Shoot'Em switches positions with Jack. Jack walks into the courtyard -- handgun raised and looks round. Farai waves Jack away.

FARAI Get back! I've got this covered.

A Rifle's nozzle points at Jack from one of the buildings behind him (b.g.). Jack obliviously stands in the middle of the courtyard in the open. Quiz notices the threat -- RUNS towards Jack --

> QUIZ Watch out!

A GUNSHOT. Jack falls to his knees then onto his side. Quiz SHOOTS a round of bullets -- continues RUNNING towards Jack and SHOOTS the target in the head.

Quiz slides to ground and holds Jack's head up. Jack BLEEDS heavily -- nose and mouth. Quiz applies pressure to the wound on his chest.

QUIZ (CONT'D) (into the radio) Man down! I need some help guys. (sobs to Jack) Don't die on me. Not today. Don't die on me man.

Shoot'Em runs on the roof -- JUMPS from building to building to the scene. Farai runs to Jack with the rest of the guys. Henry stands on the exit of the building -- handgun in hand. SHOOT'EM (to Henry) Get back! Stay in cover. We cannot lose you.

Farai and Shoot'Em kneels next to Jack holding his hand.

JACK (stutters in a whisper) This was my choice. I will never regret doing this. I wanted to become a better person. Promise me you will all make it.

SHOOT'EM We are all getting out of here.

JACK (in a whisper) No. Tell my mum I love her and... that I hope she's proud. Take this... and give her.

Jack takes his badge off and gives it to Quiz.

QUIZ I can't take this.

## JACK

I became a better... better...

Jack collapses -- DEAD. Shoot'Em and Quiz remain holding on to him. Farai taps Quiz's shoulder -- walks to a dejected Henry. 100% notices a small group of insurgents mobilizing on the outskirts of the compound through his binoculars.

> 100% (over the radio) We have company boys. We need to go now.

A MISSILE suddenly HITS the far wall to where they are gathered. FIRE and building side DESTROYED. 100% jumps off the roof into the courtyard. Shoot'Em stands and pulls Quiz away from Jack's corpse.

> SHOOT'EM Lets move. He's dead.

The boys start RUNNING and an Humvee CRASHES through the wall and stops in the middle of the courtyard blocking their path. All stop frozen in FEAR. A door opens and a soldier, Tony, signals them towards himself. TONY C'mon. Jump in. No time to explain.

The boys jump in. Farai rushes to grab Jack's body and a GUNSHOT hits his leg and falls to ground in agony. Shoot'Em fires GUNSHOTS at the enemy -- distracting the threat. Henry jumps out of the Humvee and runs to Farai's aid.

SHOOT'EM No! He's gonna get both of them killed.

QUIZ We have to help them.

The guys exit and provide cover -- SHOOT at the insurgents. Henry grabs Farai -- carries him on his shoulders and staggers back towards the Humvee. Tony turns the Humvee round -- facing the entry direction.

> SHOOT'EM (to Henry) Hurry up. They are almost here.

Henry stumbles to the Humvee. Shoot'Em helps him get Farai into the Humvee and all hurriedly jump in. The small army of insurgents' vehicles appear in the courtyard. Tony drives the group off speedily -- insurgents SHOOTING at the Humvee.

The Humvee accelerates through the gap in the wall and speeds off into the desert. The Humvee comes to a sudden HALT facing the direction of the compound.

> HENRY What are you doing?

TONY I have a present for 'em.

Tony takes out a DETONATOR from his pocket. Insurgent vehicles start moving towards them and Tony pulls the lever -- huge EXPLOSION. Tony smiles cheekily as the compound goes up in flames.

HENRY What was that?

TONY Just a few custom made toys I keeps with me. You like?

The group stares at Tony -- speechless. The Humvee turns direction -- SPEEDS off into the distance.

The boys ride in the Humvee quietly.

SHOOT'EM (to Farai) That was stupid. What's wrong with you? You could have got yourself killed.

## FARAI

Not now man.

Farai takes out Jack's badge from his pocket and looks at it -- squeezes it in anger.

HENRY (to Farai) You did all you could.

FARAI But sometimes it's just not enough is it?

Momentary silence.

100% (to Tony) By the way... who the hell are you man?

TONY The name is Tony. 'The Scientist'.

HENRY What were you doing there? How did you know we were here and where to find us?

TONY I guessed. I was hoping that I would find someone still alive.

SHOOT'EM Did you bring backup?

TONY No. Everything is on lock down. They are waiting for reinforcements to come and search for you. That will probably take a couple of days. They think it's too risky. Plus they have no idea where we are. FARAI

So you thought you would become some kind of hero then?

TONY I got lucky alright. Plus without me you boys would have probably been toast by now.

HENRY Thank you for saving us.

TONY Since I joined in the army... no action until now. I've always kept safe behind the screen.

100% So what was that back there? Are you like Secret Service, FBI or MI5?

TONY No. IT specialist and engineer.

FARAI So you are basically a nerd then?

TONY

You could say that. I was recruited by the army before I had even finished my program. Beats working at a burger place.

SHOOT'EM And you agreed? You're not that smart after all.

TONY I wanted to be in the army man.

Maybe a bit because of my dad. They also offered me good money.

SHOOT'EM No money is worth having when you're dead.

Henry looks outside.

HENRY We have been driving for hours. Where are you taking us? TONY To a safe place for someone like you. It's an abandoned US air base known as 'No man's land'. No one will find us there.

SHOOT'EM What's so special about this place?

TONY Believe me... you don't wanna know. The place has more landmines than you can ever count in a lifetime.

FARAI And you call it safe?

TONY From insurgents? Yep. Because no one in their right mind would wanna stay there.

The guys look at each other suspiciously.

TONY (CONT'D) We are here now.

EXT. ABANDONED AIR STRIP - CONTINUOUS

The Humvee pulls over. The group remains in the Humvee analyzing the scene.

TONY (CONT'D) Don't go nowhere yet dudes. You will need these with you.

Tony passes some metal detectors and eyeglasses around.

FARAI No way in hell am I getting out of this truck.

TONY Suit yourselves.

Quiz holds up the glasses.

QUIZ What are these supposed to be? Don't we look stylish enough for you? TONY Put 'em on and see for yourselves.

The boys put them on -- amazed and fascinated.

HENRY

What are those green things?

TONY

The green spots are what you're trying to avoid. The landmines. So be careful.

FARAI You must have a lot of time on your hands to be making stuff like this.

TONY You should rather be thanking me for all this.

SHOOT'EM

It seems you are not surprised to see Henry. Did you already know about him?

TONY

Everyone knows. Info was circulating around. Also... someone stole my laptop and disclosed the information about the article I was writing. In some way... I may have mistakenly helped blow his cover.

Farai walks up to Tony -- PUNCHES him across the face and in the stomach. Tony falls to ground. Farai jumps on top of him.

FARAI Without you... Jack would still be here?

Quiz and Shoot'Em grab Farai -- hold him back away from Tony.

QUIZ It is not worth it mate.

TONY I said I am sorry. It was a mistake.

Farai tries breaking from Shoot'Em and Quiz's hold.

FARAI What is it going to change now?

TONY I did not know it was gonna end like this.

100% But seriously dude. How did you think it was going to turn out?

TONY

Hear me out. I did not know he was really here. Folks were just gossiping about it. So I wrote a hypothetical column about it not realizing he was actually here. People believed the stories. It turned sour when I realized that his cover was blown.

100% You are not making it any better. Just shut up and let it all cool down.

Shoot'Em pulls Tony to his feet.

SHOOT'EM

So that is why you came to help out? Because you were feeling guilty isn't it mate?

TONY

It is not like that. (the guys walk away) Okay then.

(the guys stop to listen) You are right. The main reason is because I felt a bit guilty... but I also really wanted some piece of the action. But I'm here now to help. Can't we just get past that?

100%

Yeah. So you want to help with your little toys?

TONY They are not just toys. They are really useful though. They will save someone at some point.

Henry walks up to Tony. Addresses the rest of the group --

HENRY I know we hate him... but we need him as much as he needs us now.

FARAI I can do without him. We can do this without him.

HENRY We may have been killed back in Basra if he did not show. We were outnumbered then. Numbers count. Can we just put our differences aside until we get out of here?

BEAT. The guys stare at Farai. He reluctantly turns to Tony.

FARAI Alright. But this doesn't mean we are friends again though. I'll be watching you.

HENRY That's good enough for me. What do you say guys?

QUIZ So where do we sleep?

The guys walk toward a rundown hangar the core of the air strip.

EXT. ABANDONED AIR STRIP. DESERT -- ESTABLISHING - MORNING61 The abandoned Air Strip in the middle of the arid desert.

INT. HANGAR. ABANDONED AIR STRIP. DESERT - CONTINUOUS 62

The boys wake up -- start getting dressed. 100% takes out an old picture of his parents -- gazes at it for a while. He looks around. Tony is missing from the group.

SHOOT'EM Where is Tony?

100% He probably ran away. I probably scared him so much so he went packing. HENRY Yeah right. Who would be afraid of you?

All laugh.

100% So you're one of the funny guys now right?

They finish dressing up in their gear and walk outside the tent.

EXT. ABANDONED AIR STRIP. DESERT - MORNING

63

Tony is going through some toolboxes and box crates -- throws things onto the ground.

QUIZ What the hell are you doing?

SHOOT'EM Look at this boy. He thinks he's James Bond. He looks more like double-o-nothing.

HENRY (shouts to Tony) Seriously. What are you doing?

Tony runs to join the guys where they are gathered.

FARAI And what is all that tape around the place?

TONY That's the safe zone.

FARAI The safe zone?

TONY Yeah. The area around the base with tape is free from landmines. Thus... the safe zone.

FARAI Whatever. So what are you working on?

TONY Crazy thing. I woke up and thought that we needed a plan. And now... I have a plan. FARAI Why doesn't that surprise me? What is it? TONY We fly out of here. SHOOT ' EM Easy. And how do you intend on doing that? TONY We will need a distraction ... to attract some attention away from us for it to flow out smoothly. 100% No. What we will firstly need is a plane. TONY We will build one. 100% It is not as easy as kicking a soccer ball around. OUIZ It's called football. With your feet. Only Americans call it soccer. Retard. 100% Fuck that. I'm not a fan. It's a bunch of men in short ass shorts... doing what any ass hole can. They should find a real sport. QUIZ That is the most popular sport in the world. I mean... HENRY

HENRY Lets finish this later ladies. (to Tony) So you were saying?

#### TONY

The insurgents are shooting down any aircraft in the air. We'll need to get the insurgents to feel like they have boxed us in first. When they move in for the kill... then we can have two planes flying. A decoy... and the getaway.

#### HENRY

Before getting carried away... how about that plane. We don't even have one. But you are talking about two?

## TONY

Yep. With the old planes and all the parts laying around the strip... we can do it. I am an engineer remember?

QUIZ

And you have built a plane before right?

TONY

Not exactly. But I have manuals on how to build one. I will need all your help to pull through though. We don't have any better choices.

#### HENRY

And why do we need two planes? Why not just the one?

TONY

Because... we wanna gamble on them focusing attention on one as a distraction... allowing the other to get away in the process.

Tony takes out a plan -- lays it on the ground.

TONY (CONT'D) The decoy flies and it probably gets shot down. The actual one flies at the same time as the ghost so by the time they realize the bluff... we would have gone.

## SHOOT'EM

So we can remove our ticket home from the scene and it's smooth sailing from there? TONY

Exactly.

QUIZ And if this doesn't work?

All stare at Tony. He shrugs his shoulders.

#### HENRY

You must have some faith. Anyways... what's the other option we have? Waiting for reinforcements that we are not sure are going to arrive? They don't even know where we are.

100% So lets get to work. We have to do this quick because we are running low on supplies. In any case... the hunger would kill us before the enemy does if we waste time.

LATER

SHOT: A RUN-THROUGH OF THE GUYS BUILDING THE TWO PLANES -- COOPERATION -- MESSING AROUND -- TIREDNESS.

INT. TENT. ABANDONED AIR STRIP - CONTINUOUS

The boys wake up from their sleeping bags. Henry comes out from his sleeping bag and stands above the team.

> HENRY Hey guys. I know you have worked your asses off in the last few days in this dry, hot weather... and I appreciate that. If we get through this...

QUIZ What do you mean 'if we get through'? What is wrong with you? Yesterday you were telling Shoot'Em to have faith... and now you have changed sides?

HENRY (in mocking American accent) Okay then. When we get through... like Tony says it.. Y'all can holler at me any time and if there (MORE) 64

HENRY (cont'd) is anything I can do for you in return.

All laugh.

TONY

We are all just trying to get out of here in one piece... that's all. But if there is anything you could do for me... that would be you never ever ever try to imitate an American accent. That was really terrible.

HENRY There is nothing wrong with my American accent.

TONY Yeah. And there is nothing wrong with Mickie Rourke's plastic surgery?

All laugh. The boys get up and ready themselves.

EXT. ABANDONED AIR STRIP. DESERT - MORNING - LATER

Another HOT and HUMID day. The boys stand outside stretching -- adjust their eyes.

TONY Hey guys. It is time to call it in.

They gather around. Tony takes out a radio.

TONY (CONT'D) (on the radio) KB spec 2-1-3... can anybody read me?

COLONEL (V.O.) KB spec 2-1-3. This is Colonel Bob Thompson speaking. What is your emergency?

100% (on the radio) The package... I repeat... the package is still stirring. 65

COLONEL (V.O.) Great to hear you Hundred. What is your team's location?

TONY We're at an abandoned airstrip 10 miles outside Basra. I'll send you the coordinates.

COLONEL (V.O.) Negative. We won't be able to get to you at the moment.

TONY

That's fine. We just need to get any support if we can. It's going down at midday. Send in as many men you can. We will need some heavy cover. We are entertaining a large party.

COLONEL (V.O.) I thought you were all dead. Why the long silence. So what is your getaway plan?

100% We cannot disclose the details at the moment. We can't jeopardize the assignment. We cannot confirm if we are being monitored or not.

COLONEL (V.O.)

Roger that.

TONY The coordinates are... 30N 20'31,43" and hold the position.

COLONEL (V.O.) My men will be there at 1200 sharp.

FARAI (on the radio) Bring the noise. Over and out.

The radio clicks off. The group salute each other.

100% This is it boys.

79.

HENRY Time to go home.

SHOOT'EM Let us spread our wings...

100% ...and fly.

All cheer.

EXT. DESERT. UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION - DAY

66

Shoot'Em and 100% wait on ALERT and ready for action in the HEAT beside a Humvee. 100% is on the binoculars monitoring the surroundings.

SHOOT'EM

(over the radio) Remember men... if you have secured the package and get a window to break for it... take the chance and don't look back.

EXPLOSIONS and GUNFIRE in the distance (b.g.).

POV: 100% --

100% notices smoke rising in the distance through his binoculars. Exchange of GUNSHOTS and MISSILE FIRE (f.g.).

100% Right on time. That's our cue.

SHOOT'EM Okay lads. It's now time to shine. Lets go.

The two guys jump into the Humvee -- drive at SPEED toward the abandoned air strip.

EXT. ABANDONED AIR STRIP - CONTINUOUS

67

The Humvee comes to a stop. The boys meet with the rest of the group on the runway -- load their equipment onto the aircraft. Tony rushes over to the decoy aircraft and analyzes it.

> TONY Good to go.

Tony runs to join up with the group -- picks up the radar system -- fidgets around with the controls.

HENRY Your radar system thing... is it working like it should?

TONY Yeah. Everything is in there and everything is sorted.

EXPLOSIONS and GUNFIRE (b.g) -- CLOSER and CLOSER.

SHOOT'EM Hurry up mates. This does not sound good.

A MISSILE flies overhead. Shoot'Em notices it last minute --

SHOOT'EM (CONT'D)

Watch it!

The boys DUCK for cover as the missile passes overhead --CRASHES into a broken-down aircraft -- EXPLOSION. They fall to the ground from impact.

> HENRY We really need to go now.

> > FARAI

I agree.

They get to their feet -- rush into the getaway aircraft -- ENGINE running. Tony presses buttons on the remote controller.

TONY The remote control. It's not working.

100% What do you mean it's not working?

SHOOT'EM Change the batteries or something. We have to get moving ASAP.

Tony changes the remote's batteries. Presses buttons -- no response.

QUIZ We're gonna die out here man.

Farai grabs the remote from Tony.

FARAI Let me see that. How are you gonna have toys that won't work when we really need them? Tony jumps out of the aircraft -- rushes to the decoy aircraft -- manually starts the ENGINE. He rushes back to the getaway aircraft. TONY The remote is dead. We need that plane in the air now if this plan is gonna work. We are running out of time. QUIZ So someone needs to fly the decoy manually then? Who wants to volunteer for that? 100% takes out some binoculars -- looks in the distance. 100% Something needs to happen right now. The fight is getting closer. The guys are struggling to contain this. Quiz grabs a helmet -- wears it -- take a deep breath. OUIZ I'll do it. All look at him surprised. HENRY No you won't. You are looking to get yourself killed. We can think of another plan. QUIZ There is no time for that. We are almost boxed in already. No one else wants to do it anyway. The only other person who can fly the damn thing is me or 100%. 100% I can do it. OUIZ You are just saying that. We both know you can't pull it off. I won't (MORE)

QUIZ (cont'd) allow it. Your parents were murdered but I won't risk the same thing happening to you. I'm the best bet if anyone can do it.

Quiz jumps out of the plane. He shakes 100%'s hand.

QUIZ (CONT'D) You are going home boys. It's been a privilege. Let's fly.

Quiz runs to the decoy plane -- jumps in. The boys watch on as he closes the door -- taxis off to the take-off mark. Quiz salutes the guys watching on. Another MISSILE flies over and hits the old hanger -- EXPLOSION.

# SHOOT'EM

Lets go now!

They all rush into the aircraft -- close the door. Shoot'Em cranks up the ENGINE. The plane turns around -- lines up behind Quiz's aircraft. Quiz salutes them -- his his aircraft SPEEDS on the runway -- TAKES OFF.

Farai does the sign of the cross. 100% kisses a pendant on his necklace for luck -- sweats heavily. Shoot'Em looks on anxiously at Tony checking his watch. Tony signals him the green light --

# TONY

GO! GO! GO!

Aircraft starts moving forward.

INT. GETAWAY AIRCRAFT. AIRBORNE. DESERT - CONTINUOUS 68

The aircraft SPEEDS on the runway -- LIFTS OFF. SILENCE and TENSION inside the plane. Tony takes out a picture of Bonnie -- gazes at it -- squeezes it in his palm.

TONY (to himself) I am coming home baby. (Henry stares at him) What?

HENRY How are we doing?

Tony looks at his radar system.

TONY It is stable. The decoy is appearing on the system and we're invisible. I can't see any threats. 100% Are we in the clear? TONY Too early to tell. FARAI (on the radio) Quiz can you read me? QUIZ (V.O.) Loud and clear. We have been flying a long time. It's looking good. It seems we are going to make it after all. (beat) Oh shit! The boys look out the window -- a homing MISSILE heads towards Quiz's aircraft. FARAI (on the radio) Get out of there now! OUIZ (V.O.) One second. I think I can make it if... TONY (on the radio) Out of there now! Eject your seat right now! CRACKLING SOUND and sound of STRUGGLE through the radio. Farai looks out the plane window --FARAI What's going on? QUIZ (V.O.)

I can't get out. The belt is jammed. The eject button is not working. Help me!

The aircraft VEERS from left to right. The MISSILE hits the back of the aircraft -- spirals downwards out of control in a FIREBALL -- CRASHES to ground in a large EXPLOSION.

The boys look through the window in shock. Tony looks at his radar system.

TONY We need to get out of here quick!

HENRY Why? What's wrong?

TONY The decoy is gone. We're a sitting target.

The boys lean forward -- have a look at the system.

TONY (CONT'D) We're still in the danger zone. We'll be clear when we hit international waters.

The guys look at the approach to the ocean in FEAR. A big THUD from behind rocks the aircraft -- the plane starts VIBRATING violently -- SMOKE fills the cockpit.

HENRY What's wrong?

Shoot'Em fights the controls.

SHOOT'EM We've been hit.

The aircraft LOSES ALTITUDE rapidly. The boys hold on to seats and the sides of the aircraft. Farai clings on to his seat belt. Shoot'Em struggles steering the plane.

> SHOOT'EM I have lost all engine power.

Tony lays his hands on the steering -- attempts pulling it up.

SHOOT'EM I have lost all control of this thing. We are going down!

SHOT: THE AIRCRAFT CRASHES INTO THE OCEAN -- KICKS UP A WALL OF WATER. AIRCRAFT WINGS AND VARIOUS PIECES BREAK OFF IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

## INT. NEWS DESK. UK NEWS CHANNEL HQ. LONDON

The Anchor straightens out her reading notes and faces the screen.

## ANCHOR

Breaking news. The latest report coming through is that there has been an aircraft carrier that has been shot down by insurgents. We have no word on if the Prime Minister's son was inside the getaway plane which crashed into the desert. It is not believed anyone could have survived the crash. Troops have been deployed to carry out a search. Though the news about the Prime Minister's son and his team looks grim... high hopes are being kept by the whole nation including the Cagney family. For the rest of the news... we will be back shortly... as we reflect on this critical moment in British recent times.

INT. MEETING ROOM. NO. 10 DOWNING STREET. LONDON - NIGHT 70

Mr. Cagney opens the door and walks into the meeting room. He walks up to the Adviser stood waiting in the middle of the room.

> MR. CAGNEY What happened?

Adviser steps forward dejectedly --

ADVISER I have been informed that there was a getaway attempt by your son's team. It seems it did not work out as expected.

# MR. CAGNEY

Of course it did not work out. Who authorized the risky assignment?

# ADVISER

It was not discussed. They were isolated from the troops when the violence escalated so they decided this on their own. 69

MR. CAGNEY There should be someone responsible for this. Someone has to be accountable for this.

ADVISER Yes your highness.

MR. CAGNEY Find out who. Now get out!

The Adviser leaves the room dejectedly -- closes the door behind him. Mr. Cagney remains stood in anger.

EXT. OCEAN. UNIDENTIFIED LOCATION. INTERNATIONAL WATERS --ESTABLISHING - DAY 71

SUPERIMPOSE: Somewhere in the Indian Ocean, Middle East.

Calm waters under the OCEAN sunlight. A body floats on the surface of the water. A motorized FISHING BOAT pulls up beside the body.

A scruffily dressed FISHERMAN, 70, walks out of the cabin -reaches overboard and drags the body onto deck. He stands over the PALE BODY in horror.

REVEAL HENRY

The Fisherman performs CPR on the unconscious Prime Minister's son for a few seconds -- no response.

FISHERMAN (in Arabic) Come on son.

Fisherman performs CPR again. Henry coughs up water -- rolls to his side. He opens his eyes squinted -- the sun in his eyes.

HENRY Did they make it?

FISHERMAN (in broken English) Who make it?

HENRY The other guys. The ones I was in the plane with?

Henry sits up slowly -- holds the back of his head -- struggles in discomfort. Fisherman helps Henry sit.

FISHERMAN Plane? You crash? Relax.

HENRY (shivers) It is all my fault. They all died because of me.

Fisherman covers Henry with a blanket -- waves his hand signaling Henry to follow him.

FISHERMAN (in Arabic, with signs) Come with me.

HENRY I don't understand.

Fisherman helps Henry get to his feet -- WINCES in pain -- follows him below the deck.

INT. SLEEPING COMPARTMENT. FISHING BOAT. INTERNATIONAL WATERS - CONTINUOUS

The Fisherman and Henry enter the room -- look around --100% and Tony resting on two neighboring beds recognize him. Henry stumbles in further -- rolls his eyes in joy. 100% jumps on him and hugs him.

> HENRY Take it easy there lad.

Henry looks around -- shows worry.

100% Am I glad to see you. You made it.

HENRY What happened to Shoot'Em and Farai?

Farai walks into the room -- wet -- a towel wrapped around his waist. Henry jumps to hug Farai.

FARAI (blushes and pushes him away) Okay. Great to see you too. A bit of space though.

HENRY So where is Shoot'Em? In the back?

The others look at him in dejection.

72

TONY Shoot didn't make it. His belt did not release. Farai was the last person to leave the plane. We tried looking for you and Shoot'Em but couldn't find you.

Henry walks slowly facing the other direction -- turns back to them.

HENRY So Shoot'Em is not alright?

100% We don't know. No one has seen him since the crash.

HENRY

They all went through all that effort for us... and they did not even make it. Life is unfair.

FARAI

It's not your fault. It's a war. Casualties are a probability. We just have to pray for them.

The Fisherman suddenly recognizes Henry -- takes out a handgun and points at him.

FISHERMAN I knew something wrong here. Get in corner.

The boys raise their hands in the air -- walk to the other end of the room. Farai takes a step forward.

> FISHERMAN (CONT'D) Get back! You are boys the insurgents looking for.

> > FARAI

Don't do this. What do you want? Money? We can get it for you.

FISHERMAN Believe me I shoot you. You know how much money I get for this from Al-Qaeda?

100% Don't be stupid. They wouldn't even pay you. You would probably be killed anyway. FISHERMAN Well... I try. My family poor. Now I become rich man.

## FARAI

Okay. Here is the deal. You either put that gun down... take us to the nearest navy ship... and you can get a reward and maybe a medal. Or... you fire that gun... the nearest guy jumps you... we beat you up... then throw you overboard. And you know the ocean is big. It's your choice. Remember... you are outnumbered.

A boat's ENGINE cranks in closer and closer from the deck above -- turns off. All look at the door in panic.

#### FISHERMAN

Who that?

TONY Don't know. So do we have a deal or not?

FISHERMAN

Okay. Deal.

Fisherman lowers his handgun -- hands it to Tony who holsters it around his waist.

COASTGUARD #1 (0.S.) (over a loudspeaker in Arabic) Coastguard!

HENRY Who is that?

FISHERMAN Coastguard. Militia. Go into freezer room in back. If they come in... they not look for you there. I talk to them away.

The boys SCAMPER to the back -- get into the freezer room -- close the door behind them. Fisherman walks out to deck.

Two uniformed COASTGUARD officers in military attire stand on the deck of a motorized COASTGUARD BOAT. Fisherman walks toward them -- stands on the edge of his boat.

> FISHERMAN (in Arabic) Can I help you officers?

COASTGUARD #1 (in Arabic) Are you fishing on your own Sir?

The Coastguard#2 watches the Fisherman suspiciously -- looks around into the boat.

FISHERMAN (in Arabic) No. I am going to pick up my partners right now at the port to go fishing.

COASTGUARD #2 (in Arabic) Do you know about any aircraft carrying some British or Americans? It crashed and we are looking for the survivors.

FISHERMAN (in Arabic) Americans? No Americans. I have not seen or heard anything. When did this happen?

The Coastguard officers look at each other. The Coastguard#2 takes one more stare at the Fisherman. Fisherman looks straight back at him.

COASTGUARD #1 (to Coastguard#2) Lets go.

The boat pulls away. The Fisherman waits until the boat is far away -- walks back down below deck.

73

74

75

INT. SLEEPING COMPARTMENT. FISHING BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Fisherman walks into the sleeping compartments and closes the door behind him. He sits on the bed in thought.

INT. FREEZER ROOM. FISHING BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Henry tries to pry open the door lock with no success. He joins with the group. All rub their hands and SHIVERING.

HENRY I knew we should not have come in here. Now he is going to let us freeze to death. He is not coming back.

100% Patience. He needs time to blow off the coastguards. Have faith... he will come through.

# FARAI

I hope so.

Henry shrugs his shoulders -- walks off to the other side of the room. The boys stand quietly in the FREEZING COLD -- look at each other nervously.

A CLICKING SOUND from the door -- entrance swings open. The boys rush out quickly into the sleeping quarters SHIVERING.

INT. SLEEPING COMPARTMENT. FISHING BOAT - CONTINUOUS 76

All stare down at the Fisherman. Tony grabs the Fisherman by the collar.

TONY Did you want us to die in there?

FISHERMAN I help you.

100% (to Fisherman) Are they gone? What took you so

long?

FISHERMAN I thinking... if I risking my life to save you. Here is deal. I want reward... medal... and I get (MORE) FISHERMAN (cont'd) British or American asylum and my family.

The boys look at each other confused.

FARAI

Why?

FISHERMAN When they find I do this... they kill me and my family. I not be safe here anymore.

HENRY I will make sure of that if you get us back home safe.

FARAI

(to Fisherman) And if you put us in that freezer room one more time for that long... the Al-Queda killing you will be least of your worries.

All laugh except Fisherman.

#### FISHERMAN

Sorry. Now we go. One more stop. We get supplies and fuel... then we go Kuwait and you tell your people to come Kuwait.

TONY

You need to call your fishing buddies because they may become suspicious if you don't show up. We don't wanna meet with the coastguard again.

FISHERMAN Okay. I do that now.

The boys slump onto the beds in relief. Fisherman walks to the door -- grabs the door knob.

HENRY (to Fisherman) Thank you.

FISHERMAN (in Arabic) Thank you. Fisherman walks out of the room -- closes the door behind him.

FARAI Time to go home boys.

All Cheer. The boat's ENGINE roars to life.

SHOT: BOAT MOTORS OFF INTO THE HORIZON.

EXT. SHORE. PORTSMOUTH HARBOR. UNITED KINGDOM -- ESTABLISHING - DAY

77

SUPERIMPOSE: Portsmouth Harbor, England.

A large crowd wait at the terminal -- POLICE, PRESS, REPORTERS, FAMILY MEMBERS, WELL WISHERS. Thousands SCREAMING and waving British flags. Reporter#1 stationed by the pier --

> REPORTER #1 We are anxiously waiting for the arrival of Henry and his colleagues... alive and well. Here they come now.

A large NAVY SHIP approaches the shore. The HORN sounds off -- louder SCREAMING, hands CLAPPING -- waiving flags. Navy ship docks in -- the stairs are let down.

The boys walk off the ship -- SMILING and CHEERED on by the public. They stand on the shore uniformly facing the British General in front of them. They SALUTE each other.

BRITISH GENERAL A heroes welcome gentlemen. Welcome home boys. You did it.

The General SHAKES hands and hugs with the boys and walks off. The boys are ushered on by an Attendant.

Family members of the soldiers appear from crowd -- HUGS and KISSES and flowers. 100%'s waits by himself on the side dejected. They all rush off with their families.

Henry is ushered into an ROYAL ROLLS ROYCE SEDAN by Police -- drives off into the distance. 100% walks off the picture disappointed.

Farai walks up to Jack's Mum -- whispers into her ear -- she starts CRYING. He hands her Jack's army badge -- hugs her.

INT. RECOVERY ROOM. A&E WARD. GOOD HOPE HOSPITAL. KUWAIT - DAY 78

SUPERIMPOSE: Good Hope Hospital, Kuwait.

A hospital HEART MONITOR machine BEEPS -- shows a stable heart-beat reading. A male patient lies on a bed covered in bandages. The patient struggles sitting up -- GROANS in pain.

An attractive female NURSE, 26, enters the room and pushes him on his back.

NURSE Relax. Get back to sleep you need to rest.

REVEAL SHOOT'EM

SHOOT'EM What is this place?

NURSE

You are in a hospital. A fisherman brought you in unconscious about two weeks ago. You had bruises all over your body.

## SHOOT'EM

(reminisces)

There was a plane crash. I blacked out. Where are the other guys I was with?

NURSE

The fisherman only found your body in the water. You don't sound like you are from around here. What happened?

#### SHOOT'EM

I'm British. We were flying in a plane on our way home. Our plane got hit. I remember seeing the water and a flashing light. I don't remember anything else.

#### NURSE

I saw it on the news. You were on the team to rescue the British Prime Minister's son right? SHOOT'EM

Yes.

NURSE You were lucky. Four of your friends made it as well.

SHOOT'EM Four? Are you sure? Not five?

NURSE I'm sorry... but one of your friends didn't make it.

SHOOT'EM Who died then?

NURSE

I don't know. Don't worry about that right now. Focus on getting better. You are far away from home but I have some good news. You will be fit to be discharged in two days. Have a rest for now.

The Nurse tucks Shoot'Em in bed -- stares at him a while -smiles. She walks out -- closes the door behind her. Shoot'Em smiles at the nurse. He turns to his side -- tears pour out as he CRIES quietly.

EXT. BUCKINGHAM PALACE. LONDON -- ESTABLISHING - DAY 79

Buckingham Palace in it's splendor with tourists wandering the premises.

SUPERIMPOSE: Buckingham Palace, London.

INT. CONFERENCE HALL. BUCKINGHAM PALACE. LONDON - CONTINUOUS 80

Music (b.g). THE QUEEN and Prime Minister Cagney stand on a podium in front of Farai, Henry, 100%, Tony and Shoot'Em in crutches. The boys are dressed in their army uniforms.

A crowd of DIGNITARIES, PRESS and FAMILY (b.g) packed in the room. The boys kneel in front of The Queen.

MR. CAGNEY (addresses the audience) Today we are here to honor these young men... for their courage.. (MORE) MR. CAGNEY (cont'd) determination... and their commitment to serve the people.

The British General walks up to The Queen with a sword in hand -- hands it over to her. She walks up to each one of the boys -- taps each shoulder with the sword blade -- hands back the sword to the British General.

The British General holds up a box with medals in it -- follows by the Queen's side.

The Queen walks up to each one of the soldiers -- pins a medal on their chest. The British General hands the Queen thee boxes opened with medals inside.

She walks to a wall where a shrine pictures of Jack, Sean and Quiz hang -- places a medal beneath each picture. The Queen walks to stand in front of the boys.

> QUEEN (CONT'D) It is our duty to recognize when people have done such good... not only for themselves. So join me in congratulating these young men... present physically and in spirit.

The boys stand and SALUTE the Queen and she acknowledges them. They turn to the audience -- audience CHEERS and CLAPS for them.

The spectators (b.g) stand -- CLAP, CHEER and WAVE flags as the boys walk towards the exit. Henry hands his hat to a young girl sitting in the crowd -- HUGS the mother. The boys exit the room -- APPLAUDED.

EXT. CEMETERY. LONDON -- ESTABLISHING - DAY 81

A typical British CLOUDY and OVERCAST day. 100% stands in front of a grave with flowers in hand. A classic JAGUAR SEDAN pulls up behind him (b.g).

Farai, Tony and Shoot'Em exit from Jaguar -- walk up to 100% and stand by his side. 100% hands some flowers to each of the other boys -- they lay flowers on top of the grave.

100% I hope my mum is proud.

Tony holds 100%'s shoulder.

TONY I know she is.

100% She would have been happy to meet you guys.

Tony pulls away 100% gently -- they walk towards the car park. 100% looks up.

A woman in an overcoat, MARY, 41, stands beside the Jaguar with two children in hand -- a BOY, 10, and a GIRL, 5. Marry smiles at 100%. The boys walk up to her and stand in front of her.

SHOOT'EM (to 100%) We all have lost beloved ones at one point... I know. This lady right her is Mary Helen Andrews.

100% looks closely at her -- TEARING up in his eyes.

TONY

She had a sister called Emily Andrews... who with her husband... were murdered on the same day and left a young baby boy behind. Mary knew her sister left a baby boy behind... but never got the chance to meet her nephew when he was moved to a childcare's home.

100% faces Tony. Mary starts SOBS and tries holding back the tears. At 100% --

MARY I never stopped believing that day would come.

100% Is this true? Quiz was right? I have a family?

MARY

Yes. Me and my sister... we were the only two siblings. I have here is Emily Jr. And this is George... my children.

100% (overcome with emotion) That's my mum's name. FARAI Shoot'Em and I tracked her down for you.

100% So you are my aunt? My real aunt? And my niece and nephew here? So I have a real family?

MARY

Welcome home baby.

Mary walks up to hug 100%. 100% starts crying. 100% picks up Emily Jr. They all huddle in a hug with George. Farai, Tony and Shoot'Em walk off (b.g). Farai, Tony and Shoot'Em shake hands (b.g) -- part ways.

INT. CLASSROOM. PRIMARY SCHOOL. LONDON - DAY

82

SUPERIMPOSE: Four Months Later.

Shoot'Em, in crutches still, and Farai stand in front of a class of YOUNG KIDS -- dressed in their army uniforms.

FARAI We fought hard out there and we managed to defeat the enemy. And that is how we became heroes.

YOUNG KID #1 (to Shoot'Em) So how did you hurt your leg?

Shoot'Em limps a few steps forward.

SHOOT'EM I got injured when a plane we were flying in crashed into the ocean. We did not even know where we were but we still managed to make it home and now we able to be here and talk to you.

YOUNG KID #2 You are lying.

SHOOT'EM What? Why would I lie?

YOUNG KID #1 I don't even think you are real soldiers. Where are your guns then? FARAI We left them somewhere safe. At home... so no one will get hurt.

YOUNG KID #1 Go get them then. You should always have them every time.

SHOOT'EM Who told you that?

YOUNG KID #1 My dad. He is a real soldier.

Shoot'Em and Farai laugh.

FARAI Is he? So you want to see real guns to believe we are soldiers?

ALL

Yes.

Farai laughs. Looks at Shoot'Em confused at how to react.

YOUNG KID #2 So what are you waiting for?

SHOOT'EM (whispers into Farai's ear) Next time... don't ask me to come to a kids' school. These kids are impossible.

They smile at each other SPEECHLESS -- the kids JEER and CLAP their hands.

INT. LOUNGE. BONNIE'S HOUSE. LOUISVILLE. USA - DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: Louisville, Kentucky.

Bonnie is sat watching the television. The DOORBELL rings unanswered.

BONNIE Alright. I'll get it then.

Bonnie gets up -- switches the television off -- walks to the door opens it slowly. No one there.

Bonnie steps outside and looks around. She notices Tony stood on the edge of porch -- in his army uniform -- flowers in hand. She runs to hug him and they kiss.

TONY This is why I always knew I would come back.

BONNIE Did you now? How?

TONY Only because there was a beautiful girl waiting for me back home.

BONNIE Who said I was waiting? (beat) Are you back for good now?

TONY Yep. I'm here aren't I? I couldn't face that again.

BONNIE So what is with the uniform?

TONY

Just wanted to show you how sharp I looked when I was handling my business. How does it look?

BONNIE You make it look good.

TONY Yeah... I know.

BONNIE (pushes Tony jokily) Yeah right. (elongated hug) I still cannot believe you are really here.

They both smile in joy.

TONY There's one other thing.

## BONNIE

What?

Tony gets down on one knee -- takes out a wedding ring -- holds it up to Bonnie.

BONNIE

Yes.

TONY

Yes?

# BONNIE Like you should even ask twice.

He slips the ring onto her ring finger. They embrace in celebration.

EXT. TRAINING RINK. MILITARY BASE. DARFUR. SOMALIA --ESTABLISHING - DAY

85

SUPERIMPOSE: Darfur, Somalia.

SOLDIERS go through routine TRAINING DRILLS -- cleaning RIFLES -- moving supplies and equipment.

SOLDIER#4 in a helmet, sunglasses and face paint runs to the Colonel who is reading from a clip board and taking notes. The Colonel looks up at him.

COLONEL I want to see you do this as quick as possible. Are you ready?

SOLDIER #4

Yes Sir.

COLONEL Okay soldier. We have identified the threat. Now... take out the target.

Soldier#4 runs to set up a missile launcher. Aims at target -- SHOOTS -- target is DESTROYED. The Colonel walks up to him CLAPPING his hands. Soldier#4 gets up on his feet -faces the Colonel.

> COLONEL Good job soldier. That wasn't bad at all.

REVEAL HENRY

HENRY Thanks chief.

COLONEL Go on. We'll call it a day.

Henry gets off his position walks off with his helmet and gloves in hand.

# THE END