

AMERICAN SOLDIER

Screenplay by

Moh Salim and Steven Shenck

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LOGLINE

American GI, Jack Forester is back in Tora Bora Afghanistan to revenge his friends killed by Taliban. Instead of hate and revenge, he finds friendship and love.

SYNOPSIS

In 1992, when Mujaheddin fighters took the control of Kabul city, they killed many minority Hindu families.

RITA KAPOOR's father was in currency exchange business in Kabul. He was wealthy, Mujaheddin came and asked him for money, he paid, then they asked for more money, he paid. One night he had no money so they shoot him and his wife, threw acid in Rita's face.

During fall 2008, American GI, JACK FORESTER and his team are fighting Taliban in the Tora Bora Mountains. The Al-Qaeda leader BEN YEZID and Taliban leader, MULLAH RABBANI's men kill two best friends of Jack.

After his loss, Jack ask his friend GORDO SORANO to join him to go to Tora Bora mountains and to take revenge on the Taliban leader Mullah Rabbani for killing his friends.

Gordo agrees in one condition, if first Jack chases with him a treasure hidden in a Tora Bora cave, then he would help him afterward. Jack agrees. They are heading now to Tora Bora.

In Tora Bora mountain trails, while Jack and Gordo are searching the treasure cave, they are followed by two Taliban operatives, SALAAM KHAN and JAANGUL SAAFI.

After they all walk inside a dark cave, an explosion takes place, Gordo and the Talib fighter Jaangul dies, two survivors, Jack and Salaam, are both badly hurt. Jack loses his sight and Salaam gets a two foot rod through his leg.

With the help of his German Shepard dog, Jack encounters Salaam Khan who has serious injuries on his legs. Though they are sworn enemies, but the situation forces them to help each other in order to survive.

After a long reflection, Jack makes the right decision. He helps Salaam.

Salaam leads Jack to a nurse, Rita Kapoor. Rita is a Hindu-Afghan lady. Jack falls in love with her from the first moment he meets her. Rita was a victim of Afghan Mujaheddin, after they killed her family, sprayed acid on her face, injuring her deeply. However there is no way for Jack to know of the burns and scars on Rita's face as he is blinded after the explosion in the cave. Jack falls in love with Rita because of who she is, not what she looks like.

Taliban leader MULLAH RABBANI and his followers are informed that Salaam and Rita Kapoor are helping a wounded American soldier. Mullah Rabbani's men go after them. Bad guys succeed in finding them while they were trying to run to Pakistan.

Jack, Salaam and Rita get arrested. They are transported to an old castle in the mountains near the Afghan and Pakistani border.

All seems to be lost, separation, torture and more adventures near the city of Jalalabad. They succeed to escape but they are captured again.

At the end Taliban leader ask Jack to kill Salaam, he refuses. they shot and kill Jack. Salaam escapes with Madina. Rita and children are imprisoned.

Mullah Rabbani forces Rita to convert to Islam and get married with him. Rita refuses and burns herself in a self emulation act.

BEAT SHEET

ACT I - TREASURE AND REVENGE

In 1992, when Mujaheddin fighters took the control of Kabul city, they killed many minority Hindu families. RITA KAPOOR's father was in currency exchange business in Kabul. He was wealthy, Mujaheddin came and asked him for money, he paid, then they asked for more money, he paid. One night he had no money so they shoot him and his wife, threw acid in Rita's face.

During summer 2008, American GI, JACK FORESTER, is fighting Taliban in the Tora Bora Mountains. The Al-Qaeda leader BEN YEZID and Taliban leader, MULLAH RABBANI's men kill two best friends of Jack.

After his loss, Jack ask his friend GORDO SORANO go with him to Tora Bora mountains and to take revenge on the Taliban for killing his friends.

Gordo asks him if he would chase with him first a treasure hidden in a cave in Tora Bora mountains, then he would help him afterward. After some hesitation, Jack agrees. They are heading now to Tora Bora.

Set-up : Page 1-10 - Jack is back in Tora Bora Afghanistan.

Jack is back in Tora Bora Afghanistan. Through rugged hills in oppressive heat, two Taliban fighters, SALAAM KHAN and JANGUL SAFI. Jack, Gordo and Boomer, crawl into a cave while Salaam and Jangul follow them .

Theme Stated : Page 5 - Tolerance.

The theme of the film is stated by a citation of Tennessee Williams in a portion of the dialog between Gordo and Jack.

"There are no "good" or "bad" people. Some are a little better or a little worse, but all are activated more by misunderstanding than malice."

Catalyst : Page 12 - Something profound happens that changes the world of the Main Character.

When best friend of Jack are killed by Mullah Rabbani, Jack is internally struggling with himself. He knows that Tora Bora is a dangerous place, on the other hand, helping a friend is a duty, death is at hand but he has no other choice.

In two weeks, Jack is back in Tora Bora to chase the treasure with his friend Gordo and avenge Mullah Rabbani.

Debate: From Page 12 to 25 - Working together with an enemy or not ?

Inside the cave, Jangul fires at Gordo, the bullet hits Taliban's small ammunition storage. An explosion goes off. The explosion kills Gordo and Jangul. Jack lost his sight and Salaam gets a two foot rod through his leg.

Jack and Salaam are sworn enemies, now they need to help each other to survive. Jack is blind, his best friend Gordo is dead, he is stuck in a cave behind enemy lines, with just his rifle and his dog. Jack knows, that the moment he leaves the cave blind and lonely, death will be at hand. His enemies are close, he will be slaughtered.

On the other side, Afghan Talib, Salaam Khan knows that if the rock on his leg is removed by a miracle, and the metal pipe is removed from his leg or loosened, when walking he will die from bleeding or by a snake bite. He can't have a family or have the Taliban help him because there is no

other survivor inside the dark cave to get a message out. Salaam has resolved himself to a horrible death.

Working together with an enemy is not an option. Soon it becomes clear to Jack and Salaam that they must work together or die. Jack knows there are many things that could and would kill him in the Tora Bora mountains. He is on an unauthorized mission so no helicopter is coming to rescue him.

Finally Jack makes the right decision; he works through the rocks with the help of his dog, Boomer to see what he can do for Salaam. Jack asks Boomer to point his gun for him in a moment of futility, since he has no other way out walks blindly to the voice of Salaam and starts helping him.

Jack removes the rock from Salaam's leg. Anticipating the pain of a hot metal rod rammed through his leg took great trust to accept that Jack would not just kill him.

Jack and Salaam determine a way to work together, each dependent on the other, no room for mistrust or both men will die.

Jack realized that he lost the map of the treasure. There is no friend and no hope for the treasure.

ACT II - FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE - B STORY

The B story is the story of an Afghan-Hindu young nurse named, RITA KAPOOR. Rita comes from a Hindu-Afghan minority family. Her parents were killed by Mujaheddin, when Mujaheddin took power in Afghanistan. Mujaheddin leader Mullah Rabbani, sprayed acid in Rita's face, injuring her deeply with physical and emotional scars.

Later the rest of her family were killed in Jalal Abbad by the Taliban. Rita escapes from the Taliban and has been waiting for six months in a small village in Tora Bora for a human smuggler to help her go to Pakistan.

In this small village, Rita Kapoor is helping mainly women who need medical help. Because there is no Medical Doctor in this village, she is forced to help anybody as a certified nurse in Tora Bora now. Fiance of Salaam, Madina is helping Rita as an assistant and learning from Rita.

Fun and Games: Page 25 to 55- Discovering a new world.

For Jack and Salaam, the journey begins. They walk out of the cave with difficulty. Boomer helps them out. They stumble onto a main trail. Jack walks with the help of a stick to find his way, Salaam walks using his gun as a

crutch, the trail is very rough, Boomer walks out front sniffing for mines. The journey is difficult and slow.

Salaam and Jack meet two farmers, Taher and Aziz. The farmers have three donkeys. They trade Jack's American rifle for two donkeys. Jack helps Salaam up onto one of the donkeys, Boomer leads the way, they walk down the trail out of valley. Finally, they arrive at Madina's house.

Midpoint: Page 55 - Jack meets somebody who changes his life.

On the next day, Jack meets Rita. Salaam takes Jack to Rita's house for treatment of both of their injuries. Jack can't see Rita's scars on her face. Jack falls in love with Rita, because of who she is, not what she looks like. Jack explores and discovers a new world with an Afghan family of humor, kindness and joy of living. (Revise: Jack discovers a new world of humor, kindness and joy with an Afghan family).

Madina joins them, she is Salaam's fiancée fiancée, she tries to talk him into marrying her now and not waiting any longer.

Rita grows fond of Jack, but distrusts him because he is an American with shallow thoughts and no moral compass. Rita is kind and Jack responds, we know she is hiding something, a bad secret that is never to be spoken of. Jack can feel that her fear pulls her away from him.

The Bad Guys Close In: Page 55 to 65 - Journey toward Afghanistan-Pakistan border.

Mullah Rabbani and his men are closing in fast. To escape from the Taliban, Jack, Salaam, Medina and Rita start another journey, a much longer and much more difficult journey as they go to Pakistan together.

Salaam and his fiancée Madina, rescue two children YASAMIN and ABDULLAH from the village. They also take two donkeys. They are not able to get as many explosives or much ammunition. Without an intervention from God, Jack, Salaam, Rita and Medina will be overrun quickly. Salaam, Jack, Yasmin and Abdullah will all be beheaded if they are caught. Rita, Madina and Yasmin will be buried up to their necks and stones will be thrown at their heads until they are dead.

The unforgiving mountain gets steeper and there is no way out except for a cable from an old mine that Abdullah knows to be very old and unreliable. They finally escape down the cable to freedom. Soon enough they will be in Pakistan, there they will be able to contact the American embassy and head to freedom and the American Dream.

ACT III - ADVENTURES IN JALALABAD

All is Lost : Page 65 - 75 - Separation and Torture.

The caravan passes through the frontier of Afghanistan and Pakistan. They are inside the territory of Pakistan close to the US embassy, but Mullah Rabbani and the jihad Martyrs are closing in.

Mullah Rabbani's men go after Jack, Salaam and other members of Salaam's family while they were running to Pakistan. Mullah Rabbani's men finds them and arrest them. They are transported to an old castle on the mountains near the Afghan and Pakistani border. Mullah Rabbani, separates, Jack and Salaam from Rita, Medina and the kids.

Ben Yazid, the Al Qaeda leader and Mullah Rabbani's men torture Jack and Salaam in order to get the treasure map from them. Boomer is able to get in and help them all escape.

Dark Night of the Soul: Page 75 to 90. Attack on NATO BASE.

Mullah Rabbani's warriors wait for Salaam to come back from his hiding place. When Salaam arrives they arrest him as well as the others they already have been taken. Mullah Rabbani orders to kill them all.

Al-Qaeda and the Taliban, with the help of Pakistani Military Officers, plan to attack the NATO BASE, near Jalalabad airport. They force our heroes to wear small backpacks full of explosives and accompany a group of Taliban suicide bombers to explode together at the door of the military base.

Next day, Al Qaeda, Pakistani ISI agents and the Taliban attack the NATO military base. They are pushed back by NATO forces. Mullah Rabbani takes the hostages back to the castle on the mountain.

Inside the large living room of the castle, while our heroes are present, Karim Shah, seeking to humiliate Jack and demonstrat to Rita and Madina that the American is their fake friend, says to Jack, I would give you freedom to go back to America, if you kill Salaam.

Karim Shah, pushes Salaam in front of Jack. He hands Jack a spring-loaded pistol. Karim tells Jack if he wants to be free, he needs to fire and kill Salaam. Karim warns Jack not to be foolish and do something that would lead to the death of all of them. Jack does not succumb to Karim's threat and does not kill Salaam. Jack instead shoots towards the voice of Karim.

Karim Shah, falls over and dies. Mullah Rabbani, screams, "No!" and rushes to Karim Shah's side.

Rabbani's bodyguard turns around. Jack apologizes to Salaam for being unable to resist temptation.

The bodyguard of Rabbani fires his shot gun. The bullet hits Jack with enough force to throw him back. Jack dies.

Just as Jack's body hits the ground, hell breaks loose as Salaam grabs the distracted bodyguard's revolver and shoots Mullah Rabbani who was running and screaming for help. Rabbani gets shot multiple times as he tries to enter the next hall. Salaam then is thrown back into the next hall and a shootout ensues as he trades fire with numerous Taliban fighters.

The shootout ends when Salaam runs out of the house.

Two Taliban fighters capture Rita and Madina and threaten to kill them unless Salaam surrenders. Feeling that he has no other choice, Salaam surrenders and he is brutally beaten by the wounded Rabbani.

The Finale: Page 91 to 101

Rita, Madina, Yasmin and Abdullah all crouched in corner of their cell. Wounded Rabbani walks into the room angry. Rabbani sees Rita looking up at him defiantly. Rabbani slaps Rita hard. Rita lets out a scream which reverberates around the whole room, after which she bursts into tears. Rabbani says to Rita, now the time has come for you to get married to me. We will do this in one week close to this area in Badran.

Rabbani walks over to Rita, touches her cheek in a fond manner while Rita recoils. Rabbani tells he will prepare a special ceremony, where Rita will be converted to Islam.

Madina, Yasmin and Abdullah are forcefully evacuated from the cell. Rita is left alone into the cell. Rita screams in tears. She passes out. When she wakes up, it's dark. She has found a candle, matches and an old dirty Kerosene lamp. Rita takes a long look at the tank of Kerosene, bursts into tears, then she pours the kerosene on her head, empties the tank completely, and fires the match. We see the flames and the dark smoke, We see the flamed body of Rita moving, then we see the whole house in flame.

Salaam, Madina and Yasmin are looking for the wounded Mullah Rabbani. The spy of the Karzai regime, Shamsulldin, help Salaam to find where Rabbani is.

One day Salaam with the help of Madina and Yasmin surprised Rabbani with his two bodyguards near an abandoned warehouse. As Rabbani and his two bodyguards get out of the truck and walk to the warehouse door, Salaam, Madina and Yasmin attack them. Yasmin who is a martial arts champion helps Salaam very well. Rabanni's bodyguards are neutralized by Yasmin's punches. Salaam handcuffs Rabanni, Rabanni is forced to carry two suicide vest that Salaam had found in the back of Rabanni's truck.

Salaam Yasmin and Madina leave the warehouse. We hear Rabanni screaming, then the sound of an explosion, we see the warehouse in flames.

At the final scene, in Heaven, White Mist reveals, Rita without her acid scars in a traditional white dress. She is beautiful, she smiles.

Jack is in his clean uniform, shaved and clean, walks towards Rita. They look at each other, they smile. Jack caresses Rita's face and gives her a kiss on her forehead, they hold hands and walk towards the light in slow motion. The camera pulls back and back. The Hindi music starts and the heaven gardens come alive. Two hundred women and men in wedding party colorful Hindi dresses, dancing in and out, in front of them Gordo Sorano, an unbound celebration of wedding, hope and friendship between Afghans and Americans that has at its center, Jack and Rita.