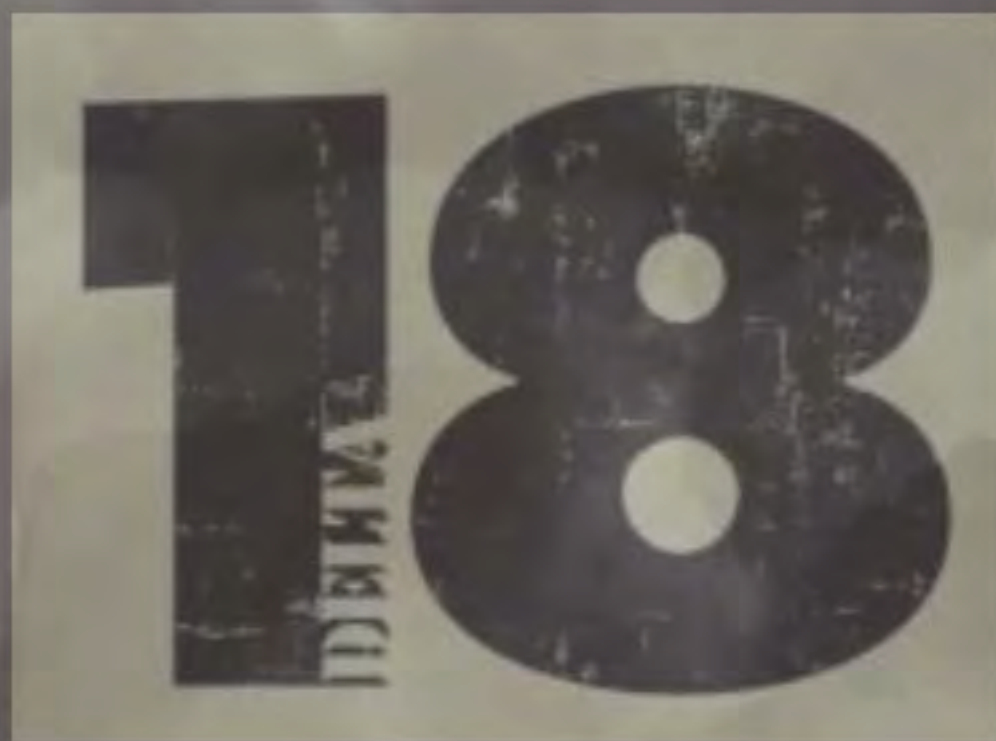




Drama Feature
by
BELLEM ENTERTAINMENT

LOGLINE

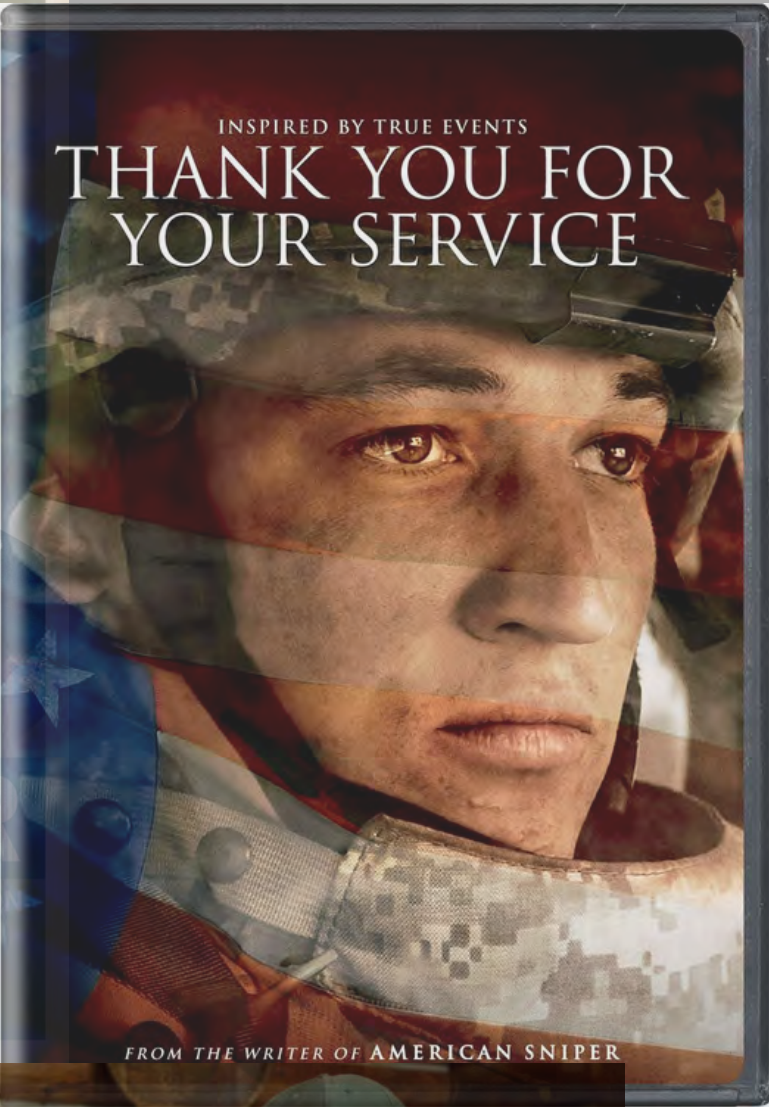
A war veteran facing challenges transitioning back to civilian life finds redemption when he is faced with saving a teen who is injured by one of his weapons.

AUDIENCE COMPS

Super Dark Times & Leave No Trace

meets

The Messenger &
Thank You For Your Service



ADDITIONAL MOOD/TONAL/REFERENCE COMPS

Film	Comp	Budget	Opening Weekend	Domestic	International	Worldwide	Awards
Hacksaw Ridge	War Reference	\$40,000,000.00	\$15,190,758.00	\$67,209,615.00	\$113,353,961.00	\$180,563,636.00	
Hurt Locker	War Reference	\$15,000,000.00	\$145,352.00	\$17,017,811.00	\$32,241,955.00	\$49,259,766.00	6 Oscar wins
The Tree of Life	Mood/Tonal Comp	\$32,000,000.00	\$372,920.00	\$13,303,319.00	\$45,083,468.00	\$58,386,787.00	Nominated 3 Oscars, 116 wins, 126 nominations
Gran Torino	Story Comp	\$33,000,000.00	\$271,720.00	\$148,095,302.00		\$269,958,228.00	21 wins, 22 nominations
Mending the Line	Comp for what can get produced on a 200K budget	\$219,050.00		\$379,890.00		\$379,890.00	1 win

SYNOPSIS

Kam is a war veteran seeking solitude away from civilian life. Troubled teens break into Kam's cabin. As they rifle through Kam's belongings, they find a WWI sword Kam found in the woods. As they mess around, one of the teens, Elijah, gets stabbed in the chest with the sword. His friends, terrified and in shock over the fact they think they killed their friend, run away, leaving Elijah behind.

Kam finds Elijah unconscious with his sword in his chest. Kam's army medic instincts and training kick in as he takes in the severity of the wound. Realizing there is no time to take Elijah to the hospital and with no way to call the police, Kam, without hesitation, takes action, addressing the injury.

Now, he has to nurture Elijah back to health and hopefully clear his name of the incident, if he can. Throughout this journey, Kam learns that Elijah's grandfather was a war veteran as well. They exchange stories, share moments, and grow an understanding of each other by putting their differences aside.

Kam's mission to get Elijah back to physical health allows him to heal his emotional scars.



BACKSTORY

Kam, having difficulty transitioning back into civilian life and still suffering from PTSD, went back home to stay at his friend Dean's cabin in rural Vermont. Dean and Kam are childhood friends who served together, and Dean feels he owes Kam his life. Kam, being a medic, saved Dean's life in the war, and there isn't anything Dean wouldn't do for his friend, even when it goes against his wife Lindsey's better judgment.

Kam's anger landed him in trouble with local law enforcement after he almost beat a drunk driver to death who hit and killed his girlfriend, Ellie, while the two were out cycling.

There are only three things Kam cares about that keep him going: his battle buddy/childhood friend Dean, his dog Archie, and Ellie, whom he lost to a drunk driver.

Kam's only possession that means anything to him is Ellie's bicycle, which has become his only mode of transportation.



What the Industry is Saying...

There's a great sense of tone and emotional consistency throughout, particularly in how well the writers mine atmosphere via a quiet, meditative style of storytelling—in this way, it draws parallels to fan-favorite films like *Leave No Trace* or even *Mystic River*. This is largely thanks to how effectively the setting is used. From the start, through tracking Kam's routine, we get a clear sense of the Appalachian landscape and his literal isolation—searching through the wilderness with Archie feels both peaceful and, at times, oppressively lonely. It beautifully mirrors Kam's emotional state and, by extension, the broader story. Similar moments emerge around Kam's "shrine," and how his home contrasts with Dean and Lindsey's—those environmental differences shift as their relationships evolve, culminating in the Memorial Day Fair, where the atmosphere becomes warmer and more inclusive. This tracks with another big win: Kam's arc from suicidal loner to a paternal, stabilizing presence in the community. As a result, the final scenes with Damian land with real emotional weight. The writers also have a strong grasp of how to convey backstory through action and organic moments, rather than relying on exposition.

-Blacklist

It's rare to read a script that uses visual storytelling this effectively. Not only is the geographical setting fully a character in the film, it grows and evolves in ways that bolster the emotional and thematic spine of the piece. This script also exemplifies how powerful restraint can be—favoring action over explicit exposition at nearly every turn. Given this, the writers should feel proud of what they've accomplished with their craft. Given the genre and scope, this is well-positioned for indie financiers or prestige studios like Neon, FilmNation, or A24. Since those buyers are heavily talent-driven, a logical next step would be partnering with a producer who can help attach a marketable actor and/or filmmaker.

-Academy Nicholl

Similar voice to Taylor Sheridan and Debra Granik. In terms of selling it, the budget has been cleverly managed.

-Blacklist

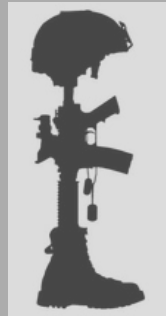
WHY THIS STORY...

Our goal is to help bridge the gap between the younger generations and our war veterans, and to promote awareness as to the struggles (from suicide to drug addiction) veterans live through daily.

This is our way of serving others and allows us to make a meaningful impact through a story based on truth.

Co-Producer/Writer/Director/Actor Bulent Gurcan is a war veteran who, at one point, found himself at the bottom of a bottle with a shotgun in his mouth. He was able to get out of that bottle, leaving the shotgun behind. 40 of our veterans lose that battle every day. His aim is to help the general public understand and empathize with the darkness our veterans navigate daily.

We intend to foster public perception and awareness, particularly among the younger generation. We hope to shine some light into this darkness and show through our film that silence and solitude, as so many veterans seek out, are not negative but rather coping, if not survival, mechanisms.



*“You can't really understand another person's experience until you've walked a mile in their shoes”
-- Indigenous Proverb*



Through understanding the turmoil others face, we can approach situations with kindness and compassion.

Our objective is to produce and distribute a fictional film that will be able to reach a broader audience than the typical documentary.

We are going to support organizations like the Defenders of Freedom, The PTSD Foundation of American, and more with a portion of the proceeds from 18 Delta.

THEMES EXPLORED

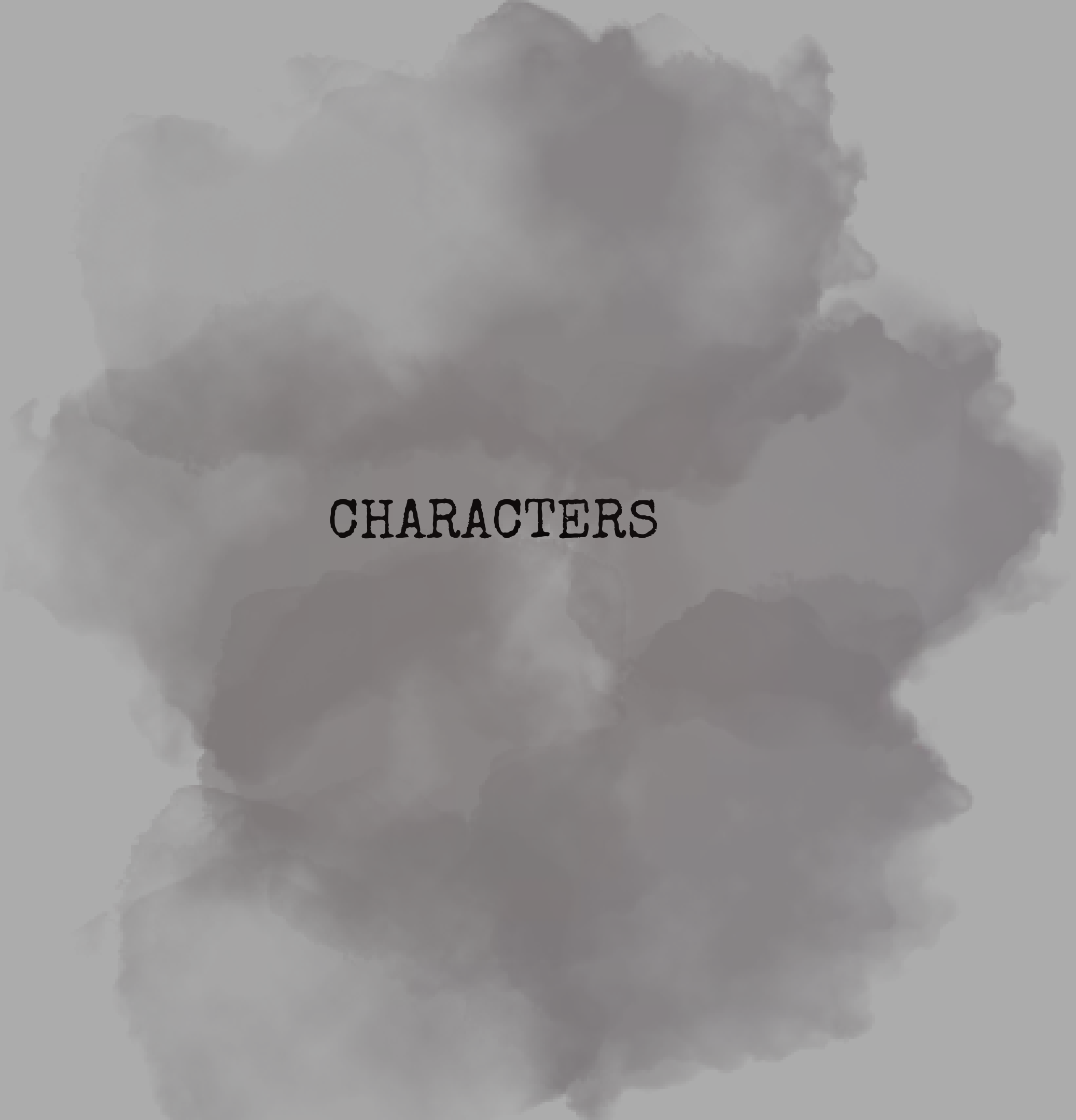
18 Delta delves deep into the intricacies of vulnerability, the therapeutic power of friendship, and allowing others to truly see us. Central to the film is the exploration of how societal pressures and personal traumas can silence us with labels, forcing us into a world where we remain misunderstood. The film shines a light on the paths we are sometimes forced to take in order to remain hidden and how difficult it truly is sometimes to ask for help, especially when we are afraid.

Set against the serene backdrop of the Green Mountains of Vermont, the narrative underscores the juxtaposition between external calm and internal nightmares.

It showcases the power camaraderie holds as a medium for introspection, growth, redemption, and the tranquility that comes from trusting one's instincts, even when faced with fear.

Through Kam's friendship with Dean, Kam's decision to heal Elijah, and the bond that grows as a result, the film touches on themes of loyalty, integrity, honesty, faithfulness, the healing capacity of shared experiences, and the importance of honoring one's instincts.





CHARACTERS

KAM

Not knowing how to cope with losing Ellie, let alone how to live with what he left behind in the war, Kam isolates himself from society, friends, and family.

His friend Dean offers him his cabin, even though it puts Dean at odds with his wife.

Without much to his name, Kam roams the Appalachian Trail with his metal detector and his only companion, his dog, Archie.

He gets through each day with the same ritualistic, mundane tasks -- the events of his day are scheduled, garnering the unwanted attention of the town's local troublemakers.



DAMIAN

Typical teen in a small town, bored and trying to survive a latchkey kid lifestyle. He manages okay, even though he's one step away from juvenile, that is until he sees his mom flirt with what he considers the town weirdo, Kam.



ABIGAIL

Is the voice of reason between her two friends, Damian and Elijah. She has a crush on Elijah and ignores Damian's efforts to get her attention.



ELIJAH

He is not as emotionally mature as his friends. In fact, he is clueless that Abigail likes him. He is the good kid whose choice of friends gets him in trouble on occasion. Though ultimately he always does the right thing.



DEAN & LINDSEY

Dean overlooks everything Kam does and makes excuses for his friend's anger management issues. Dean has known Kam since childhood and knows him better than anyone.

Dean has yet to open up to Lindsey about his war days. To the outside world, Dean seems to have it all under control -- a great job, a great wife, a great life. In reality, Dean leans into the feeling of being grateful. He has found a home, a place to belong, and a good woman that would do anything for him. It's enough. It's his solace and his saving grace.

Lindsey has no idea about the history between Kam and Dean. As a result, she is not fond of Kam and the trouble he brings. She believes Kam can and should go through life just like everybody else. After all, her husband did. It's not until Dean explains his own inner struggles and tells her the truth behind the scar that wraps around his side that she truly understands and accepts both Kam and their friendship.



HELEN

Runs the local country store Kam visits. Damian works for her during summer break. She does her best to curb his offensive behavior, but with a mother like Kirsta, she has little chance of success.



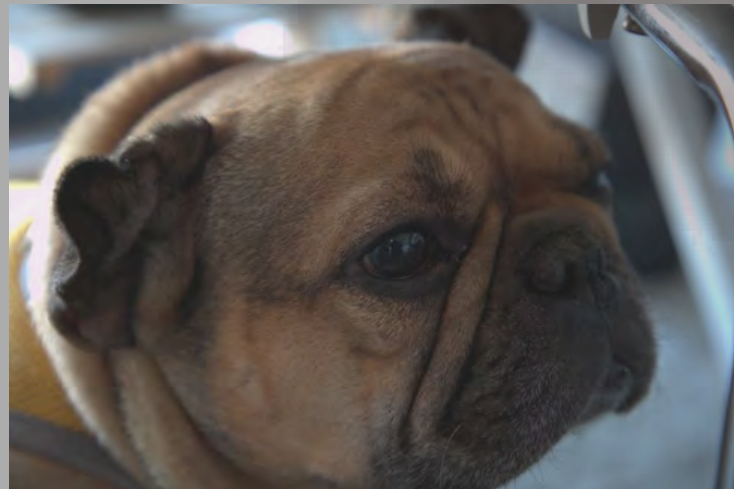
KIRSTA

Kirsta has a thing for men, and Kam is no exception. In fact, his aloof, unapproachable behavior has only heightened her interest. She is deadset on breaking through his defenses one way or another. Kam does his best to avoid her, though he does his best to avoid conflict in general. Our story launches when Kirsta hits on Kam in front of Damian. His mother's lack of a moral compass is more than the boy can handle.



ARCHIE

Kam's partner in crime.





THE STORY

THE STORY

Damian, just like everyone in town, cannot make sense of Kam's odd behavior. He is bothered by Kam's habits—the habits that get Kam through each day.

Kam's day starts and ends the same way every single day, filled with identical small tasks that keep his mind off his troubles. After breakfast, he takes his metal detector out to search for anything that might make a difference in the mundane cycle that has become his life. He then cycles into town on Ellie's broken bicycle to buy a single can of soup and one can of dog food, along with a pack of hotdogs. Dinner is always at 6 pm, not a minute earlier or later. He has dinner outside by a campfire. Before bed, he cleans his guns and heavily medicates himself in order to stop his mind so he can hopefully fall asleep -- and, if he's lucky, sleep throughout the night, which never happens.

Damian's disobedient nature has landed him in the backseat of a cop car more times than he can remember. Kam's oddness gets under his skin and he just can't seem to let it go. So when his mother hits on Kam right in front of him, Damian targets Kam to be "punked." Now, his focus is on Kam, and this time, he is fueled with resentment, anger, and confusion about all Kam represents.

What follows is a series of unfortunate events.



Damian convinces Abigail and Elijah to go with him to the cabin and spy on Kam. Damian knows his routine; he experiences it daily. Elijah isn't gungho about messing with Kam and only goes along with the plan because Abigail is accidentally hurt in a fight between him and Damian over the idea.

The teens watch Kam and Archie from the woods. Neither Abigail nor Elijah are aware of Damian's plan. They both watch, confused, as he snatches Archie and puts the dog in the outhouse. Elijah takes off in a disheartened state after he witnesses Kam's reaction to what Damian did to Archie. He left the poor dog bound with his snout duct-taped for Kam to find. The joy Kam's reaction rouses in Damian upsets both his friends.

To calm his friends down after the fact, he convinces them to go back so he can prove to them that Archie is not harmed. When they voice concerns over being caught, he appeases their fears by reminding them that he knows Kam's schedule and assures them he never breaks it.

At the cabin, they find Kam's military uniform and a WWI sword that Kam found with his metal detector. Elijah gets mad at Damian for disrespecting Kam's uniform and for messing with the sword. In a scuffle, Damian accidentally launches the sword into Elijah's chest. Elijah goes into shock, and Damian assumes he is dead. Abigail, frozen, is dragged by Damian out of the cabin.



A freaked out, heartbroken Abigail, at the insistence of Damian to buy time while they figure out what to do, calls Elijah's parents and tells them that he is invited to spend the Memorial Day weekend with her.

Kam finds Elijah unconscious with his sword in his chest. Kam's instincts and training kick in as soon as he realizes Elijah is still alive. Due to Elijah's significant blood loss, without hesitation, Kam takes action, addressing the injury. Now, he has to nurture Elijah back to health and hopefully clear his name.

When Damian notices Kam buying more food than usual, he and Abigail return to the cabin in hopes of finding Elijah still alive. To their dismay, they spy Kam digging a hole and assume the worst. They are unaware he is just out with his metal detector. They flee to the cabin and see an unmoving Elijah through the window, wrapped head to foot in a white sheet.





A freaked-out Damian, terrified of going to juvenile, or worse, hatches a plan to take Kam down for the crime. A grieving, terrified Abigail, unable to come to terms with the entire situation, reluctantly agrees. Damian snatches Archie and, in a fit of rage, Ellie's bike.

Damian and Abigail take Archie to the cops with a half-baked story accusing Archie of biting Damian. With his hand tightly wrapped, it appears they pull off the lie. It was their hope that the cops would head out to the cabin and catch Kam burying a dead Elijah. Their teen minds couldn't comprehend all the ways this could go awry. It felt to them like a solid plan.

The cops, however, could care less and call animal control as soon as the teens leave. The police have had it out for Kam the entire time after the incident of Kam beating the guy who hit and killed Ellie. It's a small town, and the man was friends with everyone. The cops have been waiting for a chance to screw with Kam; they've even tried to instigate it a few times, so sending Archie to the pound is entertainment for them at best.

As soon as Elijah is coherent enough to speak, Kam reaches out to Dean to help get the teen home. He decides he'll take whatever is coming his way. Elijah and Kam bond when Elijah tells Kam his grandfather was in the war. They talk about how the events transpired, and Kam finds a sense of comfort with Elijah and begins to open up about a few of his own demons.

Dean argues with Lindsey over leaving the house to aid Kam. She is worried about the trouble it will bring to their doorstep. Dean explains that Kam is the reason he is alive and tells her about their time at war together.

Kam, with Dean's help, takes Elijah home. Kam is unaware of what has happened to Archie or Ellie's bike.

On Memorial Day, Lindsey finds Kam in a shrine he has built dedicated to men and women he could not save. She makes peace with him.

Abigail, still believing Elijah is dead and unable to live with their decisions, goes to the cops to tell the true account of what happened. Kam returns to the cabin to find Elijah waiting for him with Archie and Ellie's bike.





NEXT STEPS

PRELIMINARY BUDGET

\$450,000.00 (Production Budget)

\$50,000.00 (Development Funds -- immediate need)

Additional Funds:

\$25,000.00 (Festival Run)

\$50,000.00 (Marketing/PR Funds to be secured after Principal Photography has been completed)

INVESTOR RETURN “WATERFALL”

Proceeds received from the exploitation of the film – e.g., proceeds from a sale to Apple, Netflix, etc., net of any agent fees associated with the sale and administrative expenses – would be distributed in the following order:

- Return of investment to investors
- Preferred return of 20% to investors
- Payment of production expenses that are deferred, if any – e.g., principal cast compensation
- Payment of remaining proceeds to investors (50%) and producers (50%) on a pari passu basis

MARKETING/DISTRIBUTION

- Seek a distributor like A24 that employs a targeted release strategy, focusing on film festivals and limited releases to build buzz before wider distribution.
- Grass Roots
- Social Media Influencers (90+ million collective, vetted followers)
- Fellow Veterans who have offered support through their networks, whether personal or social media outreach
- Local Screenings in Target Markets, with a heavy focus on states with large veteran populations (California, New York, Texas, Georgia, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Florida, etc.)
- Festival Circuit (SXSW, TriBeCa Film Festival, Sundance, etc.)
- Schools (Middle/High Schools, Universities) through The Human Diversity Project
- Military Bases

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS (so far...)

- Defenders of Freedom
- PTSD Foundation of America

10 GREAT MOVIES FOR UNDER 500K ([link](#))

- Blair Witch (Budget initially was \$60,000 -- additional funds brought the budget to \$1,000,000/Grossed over \$248,639,099/Franchise grossed over an additional \$100,000,000 with sequels)
- Paranormal Activity (Budget \$15,000/Grossed \$193,355,933/Franchise grossed over \$700,000,000 with sequels)
- Napoleon Dynamite (Budget \$400,000/Grossed \$46,138,887 and became a cultural phenomenon)
- Pi (Budget \$60,000/Grossed \$3,221,152 and proved low-budget films can stand the test of time and can prosper with cinematic creativity)
- Clerks (Budget \$27,000/Grossed \$3,152,360 and went on to have a sequels that grossed over \$30,000,000 and a TV series)
- Primer (Budget \$7,000/Grossed \$545,436 and has become a classic among Science Fiction enthusiasts)
- Eraserhead (Budget \$100,000 reached cult status and is considered a masterpiece of independent cinema)
- She's Gotta Have It (Budget \$175,000/Grossed \$7,137,502)
- El Mariachi (Budget \$7,000.00/Grossed \$2,040,920 and led to the Desperado Franchise)
- Little Shop of Horrors (Original Budget \$30,000/Remake Grossed over \$39,063,291/Franchise became an immensely popular cult classic/a rite-of-passage for generations)

WHY ME, WHY NOW...

My name is Bulent Gurcan, I am the Co-Producer/Writer/Director/Actor of 18 Delta. As a filmmaker, it is my desire and responsibility to take the audience on a thought-provoking impact-driven journey.

I am a war veteran who at one point found himself at the bottom of a bottle with a shotgun in his mouth. I was able to get out of that bottle, leaving the shotgun behind. I know firsthand how life can sometimes cripple and suffocate - the isolation, depression, hopelessness, alcohol and drug abuse that can sometimes lead to suicide.

Our protagonist's struggles mirror those of many war veterans suffering with PTSD. Using this lens, we aim to educate others and broaden empathy and understanding for our Country's veterans.

Our goal is to help bridge the gap between the younger generations and our war veterans, and to promote awareness as to the struggles (from suicide to drug addiction/abuse) veterans live through daily. We intend to foster public perception and awareness, particularly among the younger generations. Through understanding the turmoil others face, we can approach situations with kindness and compassion.



CREATIVE VISION...

The number of veterans who commit suicide has not been below 6000/year since the war, and, yes, that is every year. Our aim to help the general public understand and empathize with the darkness our veterans navigate through every day. This has become our passion project.

Our objective is to produce and distribute a fictional film that will be able to reach a broad audience, to achieve greater impact.

Artistically, we delve into dark subject matter with poetic grace. The film's center tatters on the edge of dysfunctional collapse. It displays a delicate balance of emotional upheaval, retaining a constant subtle mood, grounded in a beautiful atmosphere that investigates inner chaos, charged by external factors.

Music choices elevate the audience's emotional resonance with the subject matter. Moments of complete silence capture the claustrophobic state that binds our lead, Kam, who is an 18 Delta. Camera angles and distortion heighten moments of despair. While the bond of friendship and sacrifice lead the audience out of the darkness with Kam.





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