The Way of the Ninja: The Rescue Mission

by

Russell Lee

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About the Story: This is an unpublished screenplay and was written in hopes of getting made into a movie. The author is always open to offers from film production companies if they are interested in the story or the theme.

FADE IN:

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

CHYRON: SOMEWHERE IN AFGHANISTAN

This night's desert is quiet, tranquil. Something small scurrying across the sand...BAM, out of nowhere a serpent attacks the rodent and pulls it into the earth. Now the sand begins to move all around. It is 15 U.S. military SOLDIERS who have been hiding in the earth.

PAN BACK to reveal the soldiers are moving toward a terrorist camp and it's a fortress. From the leader's point of view, we see the terrorist camp ahead through night vision goggles. The leader speaks into a small microphone.

LEADER

Break free. Break free. Stay down and stay invisible.

Six soldiers move to each side as the leader and two other soldiers move forward. They edge their way to where we see two ENEMY SOLDIERS standing guard on the other side of the fence. One soldier on the right and one on the left pull small sniper rifles up into position.

Two quick and silent shots and the enemy soldiers are down. Small high-tech beams are shot toward the fence and neutralizes the fence's electrical charge.

LEADER (cont'd)

Cut.

The soldiers come together in the center and cut an opening in the fence. They all move into the camp.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - NIGHT

Two U.S. Soldiers quickly move to the dead enemy soldiers and prop them up to make it look as if they are still alive. The leader, MITCH, points to BRANDON, BOONE, TYLER and FRANKIE.

MITCH

You four stay with me. The rest of you set mines around the perimeter. When you're through, meet back at the opening.

The other ten soldiers move out along the perimeter wall as Mitch motions the other four to follow him.

The ten soldiers begin to spread out as we follow each of them. They quickly pull small dish-shaped objects from their vests and push small buttons located on top. A small red light begins to flash as they bury the disk in the dirt just a few inches down.

Each of the soldiers do the same thing in different parts of the camp.

BACK TO MITCH AND THE OTHER FOUR

Mitch and his four are also pulling out small disks and placing them a few inches down in the dirt.

BACK TO THE TEN SOLDIERS

They are suddenly besieged by horde of terrorists, firing their weapons over the soldiers' heads. With no time to even draw their weapons, the ten soldiers quickly surrender.

BACK TO MITCH AND THE OTHER FOUR

Mitch and the other four hear the commotion. They begin digging into the dirt more frantically now.

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Ten empty jars of Jalapeno peppers are strewn across the floor. SALVO, Arab, thick glasses, looks crazy, inspects the ten soldiers who are lined up in front of him and are sweating profusely. Clearly, the men have already been beaten. Two terrorist GUARDS stand by, guns ready.

Salvo pours himself a big glass of water. A lizard rests on his shoulder.

SALVO

(broken English)
I love water. Don't you love water? I think water is even better than sex sometimes.

Salvo takes a sip.

SALVO (cont'd)

So refreshing. So wet. Would you like some? I'd love to share this delicious water with you if you'll just share some things with me. Agreed?

Many of the men lick their dry crusty lips.

SALVO (cont'd)

Especially after eating a couple... or was it thirty of those very hot peppers? I can never keep track. So then. Your mouths must be burning. And your lips...they will blister.

Salvo paces the floor.

SALVO (cont'd)

I will only ask this question one more time and then I will start to become, what's the word? Irritated. You won't like me irritated.

Salvo pulls out a scalpel and touches the blade to his tongue... slight bleeding. He stands face to face with one of the soldiers.

SALVO (cont'd)

You see blood does not bother me at all, friend. In fact I rather enjoy the sight of it. How many peppers did you eat, thirty, forty? That's not the question though... here's the question.

(Speaking the words slowly)

Where are the others hiding? What were you doing in our camp? Answer these questions and I'll be more than happy to share my water with you...all of you.

Salvo holds the blade up to the man's throat.

SALVO (cont'd)

Speak the wrong words and they will be your last, my friend. You will have no more thirst to quench. And their will be more water for the others because I promise you, somebody will tell me what I want to know.

The soldier looks up, closes his eyes and begins mumbling a prayer in Hebrew. Salvo slits the man's throat -- he crashes to the ground. Salvo moves to the next man.

SALVO (cont'd)

I'm sorry. Did I not mention you can speak my language or English only, but not that language of pigs? Should we try this again. I hope we can resolve this quickly because as time goes on, I become even more irritated.

Salvo holds the blade up to the next man's throat.

SALVO (cont'd)

Same question and I expect the answer in a language I like. And the answer better be the one I'm looking for.

SOLDIER #2

I don't know...

Salvo slits the man's throat -- he drops to the ground.

SALVO

Now I'm very irritated. Strap them in.

Guards move toward the men.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - NIGHT

In a remote section of the fortress, we see a small thin tube just barely poking out from under the ground.

UNDER THE EARTH

Mitch breaths slowly and remains still.

FLASHBACK

EXT. MITCH'S HOUSE - DAY

Dressed in full military fatigues, Mitch says goodbye to his beautiful wife SARAH who holds their young daughter CHELSEA.

MITCH

Six months will fly by, I promise.

SARAH

Just be careful, okay?

Mitch nods, knowing that's not up to him.

SARAH (cont'd)

Don't do anything crazy. Think about us before you do.

MITCH

I always do.

He smiles.

SARAH

Yeah, and then you do it anyway.

Sarah smiles back, but in spite of this, a tear rolls down her cheek. Mitch leans in to kiss her.

**MTTCH** 

I love you.

SARAH

I love you too.

Mitch kisses Chelsea.

MITCH

I love you, kitten. Be good.

He goes to get into the military service vehicle.

SARAH

(through the tears)

You too!

EXT. CAMP - SAME

Terrorists roam the camp searching for our heros. Every so often one thinks he sees something and shoots blindly.

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

The eight remaining soldiers are naked and strapped face down on gurneys. Salvo puts on gloves and takes a large needle and thread and walks behind one of the men.

SALVO

Last chance. Tell me where they are now and you die quickly. Otherwise, your death will be as slow and painful as my skill will allow...and I am very skillful at what I do. I'll give you all 10 seconds to decide.

(MORE)

SALVO (cont'd)

I would not want to go through what you men are about to go through. Speak now and save yourselves.

Salvo grins. He waits for anybody to speak... nothing but silence. He walks around watching and grinning as he stops at times and almost laughs.

SALVO (cont'd)

Good. Because I am very skillful. I'm happy you choose to die badly. I want the answers, no, I need the answers, but I'm very happy to just kill you all and be done with it.

Salvo jams the needle through one of the man's buttocks and begins sewing them closed. The man screams in pain.

Salvo laughs and seems to be taking great pleasure in all the pain he's inflicting.

SALVO (cont'd)

In a few hours, just before your ass explodes, each of you will tell me everything I want to know. Either that or you die a death not fit for dogs.

Salvo laughs a crazy laugh.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - NIGHT

A group of TERRORISTS move through the camp searching hard for the intruders. They yell and scream in their own language as they shoot anything that moves.

EXT. GROUND - SAME

Terrorists move around where our heros are hiding. The dirt moves slightly where Mitch is hidden just below the ground's surface.

TERRORIST #1

(Speaking broken English) Don't kill them. We need them alive.

TERRORIST #2

How can we kill them, they are not even here?

(MORE)

TERRORIST #2 (cont'd)

I think they have left the camp. I think we should be searching outside the camp.

TERRORIST #1

Don't think. They are here. They didn't have time to escape. Keep searching and watch where you shoot.

TERRORIST #2

No, we've been all through the camp. They escaped I tell you.

TERRORIST #1

Not without their comrades. Keep searching. Shoot them, but don't kill them.

The terrorists continue their search.

INT. BUILDING - DAY

All the men have been sewn up. The two terrorists guards look at each other and grimace.

SALVO

(to guards)

Call me when they're ready to talk. Pepe's hungry.

Salvo leaves the building.

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT

Terrorists still search the area. No luck as they turn over boxes and search everything.

EXT. BUILDING - SAME

As Salvo locks the door, BOSH, tall, lean, business like, appears from behind.

BOSH

Thought I'd make sure you have everything you need, Doctor. How's it going in there? Have they said anything yet?

Salvo grins.

SALVO

Yes, my friend. I'm fine. It will take more time, but they will tell us everything we want to know. They are very well trained men, but they are still just men.

BOSH

Do you need any more of those hot peppers? I have a shit-load full. Or, we could just start cutting off limbs. That has always seemed to work well for me.

Salvo smiles.

SALVO

No, I think what we have will do. Sometimes the body goes into shock if we start removing arms and legs. Let me do this. I'll get the answers you need.

BOSH

Do we know where they are hiding yet? Do we know how many more their are? Do we know anything yet?

SALVO

We'll know soon. That I can guarantee. A man can handle much torture, but when the body's natural functions are stopped...well, no man can handle much of that. I will get the information for you.

Bosh nods.

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT

Mitch lifts his head and looks around. He speaks softly into his mic.

MITCH

Stay put. Don't move until I give the signal. I heard them talking...they want us alive. That can work to our advantage here. Just don't move...none of you. Out. INT. BUILDING - DAY

Bosh and Salvo are enjoying drinks when one of the guards hurries in.

**GUARD** 

(Arabic - English subtitle)

I think they will talk now, sir. I think they will talk or they will die, sir.

Salvo looks down at his watch.

SALVO

Can't believe they lasted this long. Yes, they should have lots to tell us.

The three men exit the building.

INT. BUILDING - DAY

Salvo, Bosh and the guard enter the building. The men are screaming in pain. Some are vomiting, others are unconscious. Bosh smiles.

SALVO

Who will tell me what I want to know first? The first to talk is the first to feel relief. Imagine, no more blockage. I can make that happen for you. Who will be the first to speak?

SOLDIER #3

(screaming)

I will! Please, I will! I can't take this! Please.

Salvo smiles. Bosh grins as Salvo walks over to the man's buttocks, pulls out his blade and cuts down the center... it's messy. The captive huffs and puffs with relief. Salvo hurries to face the man.

SALVO

Now tell me where they are or my next procedure won't be as pleasant. I've done my part; now you do yours.

SOLDIER #3

Cut them all loose and I will talk!

Salvo shakes his head "no"

SALVO

Talk.

SOLDIER #3

Cut them all loose or kill them! Then I will tell you what you want to know.

Salvo nods to the guards. They open fire on the other captives killing them. Salvo's attention is once again on the lone captive.

SALVO

Where are they?

SOLDIER #3

Go to hell you bastard!

Salvo is enraged. He begins cutting at the man's back with his blade.

SALVO

(to soldiers)

Hang him by his balls until he talks, then bury him with the rest. We don't need them; we'll find the others.

An angry Salvo and Bosh leave the building as the soldiers take the lone captive away.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - NIGHT

The dirt begins to move. First Mitch emerges from the ground, then the four other soldiers emerge from not too far away. They huddle up in a dark corner.

MITCH

Any damage? Anybody hit?

Brandon, dark hair, 20's, muscular, holds up his hand revealing a cut finger.

BRANDON

Does this count, sir?

MITCH

Not tonight, Brandon. So we're all good. They don't want us dead...not yet.

(MORE)

MITCH (cont'd)

We need to find the others and get the hell out of here. All the plates down?

The other three nod "yes."

MITCH (cont'd)

We need to...

Out of nowhere, ten enemy terrorists appear holding guns.

TERRORIST #1

(broken English -

shouting)

On the ground! Now! On the ground!

Do it now!

The five soldiers hit the dirt. Terrorist #1 walks over to Mitch.

МТТСН

You the boss man? You the one giving orders?

Mitch remains silent. Terrorist #1 kicks him hard in the back.

TERRORIST #1

I asked you a question, pig! It would serve you well to talk when asked a question.

The terrorist kicks him again.

TERRORIST #1 (cont'd)

You the boss man?

(beat)

Didn't think so. Take 'em.

The terrorists retrieve the soldiers and take them away.

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

One of the terrorists is taking movies. The tortured dead bodies of 10 U.S. Soldiers are piled up on top of each other. Bosh enters and walks around. He looks at the bodies and grins.

BOSH

After this I want you to film the captives we just caught. I want you to film each of their faces. Understood?

TERRORIST #2

Yes sir.

BOSH

And in here make sure you film some faces. I want the Americans to know these are their soldiers. Understood?

TERRORIST #2

Yes, sir, understood.

INT. SMALL DARK ROOM - NIGHT

Mitch, Brandon, Tyler, Boone and Frankie are all tied up and hanging from ropes with their arms outstretched overhead.

TYLER

Think the others are dead, captain? Think there's any chance they made it?

MITCH

Who knows. Right now we're not dead and we need to stay that way. So stay alive, that's an order.

BOONE

So, Brandon, can't you use some of that mystical Ninja stuff your dad taught you and get us out of here? I heard he can do impossible things...move through walls and disappear...stuff like

Brandon chuckles.

BRANDON

I could, but I left my bag of magic Ninja dust at camp. Gotta have that or it just doesn't work.

BOONE

I see. Then we're dead men, right, sir?

Terrorist #2 enters with his movie camera and begins taking movies. He puts the camera right up in each of the men's faces and shoots the film.

FRANKIE

Smile everybody; we're gonna be in a movie.

BOONE

No, don't look happy. They're gonna think we like it here and won't come get us.

Boone snarls like a dog at the cameraman who just ignores him and keeps filming.

FRANKIE

So why the movies, Cap? Ransom? Or maybe they're going to kills us and just want to keep track of who we are.

MITCH

Don't know. Negotiating tool maybe...might be used to ransom us. Hard to tell.

BOONE

How much we worth? I mean, how much would the U.S. pay for our butts?

MITCH

Less then nothing. We don't exist, remember? Can't save somebody who doesn't exist anyway.

BOONE

Oh that's right. We're just figments of our own imagination. So if we don't exist, why they filming us?

Bosh, TWO TERRORIST GUARDS and Salvo enter.

BOSH

Who's the leader here and I won't ask a second time.

Bosh waits for his answer.

MITCH

That would be me. Call me Mitch. And you would be?

Bosh walks up and gets into Mitch's face.

BOSH

Your worst nightmare if you don't answer my questions truthfully. Why are you here? And I better believe every word you say.

MITCH

On vacation, looking to open a new business, sightseeing...take your pick. We're here, and that's all that matters.

Guard #1 rams the butt of his gun into Mitch's stomach. Bosh grins.

BOSH

But you need reservations for that. Can I see them please? Can I see the reservations for your vacation getaway?

(beat)

No, you don't have any? Could you be lying to me?

Bosh moves over to Boone.

BOSH (cont'd)

How bout you? You here on vacation too? You sightseeing? Do you have reservations? I hope you do or this could get very bad for you...for all of you.

Boone shakes his head "no."

BOONE

Nope, I'm here to kill terrorists. Pure and simple. Kill terrorists. Kill them.

Bosh appears shocked by the answer but slowly his frown turns into a slow chuckle.

BOSH

Good...so am I. So then, we are in agreement. We are all here to kill terrorists. Problem is, you're in my country. You are the terrorists here.

Salvo grins. Bosh takes the camera from the cameraman. Bosh and Salvo leave.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

GENERAL JT AUSTIN, tall, 50ish, rough looking, enters the office. The PRESIDENT, sits behind his desk. He stands and the two men shake hands.

PRESIDENT

Have a seat, General; you'll need it. How's the family?

JT

Doing well, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT

Little Brian still having trouble talking?

JT

Little bit. He's been seeing a doctor for it.

PRESIDENT

Good. He's a smart boy. Lot's of potential.

JT sits down.

ידד

Mr. President. I'm afraid we have a problem. A big problem.

PRESIDENT

Nothing new about that. So, what's our catastrophe for today?

JΤ

This one is bad, Mr. President. Take a look at this. We got it today.

The president picks up a clicker and clicks. On a T.V. Screen not too far away, the images of some foreign country appear on screen. U.S. SOLDIERS take the enemy away in trucks. More images of U.S. Soldiers shooting and fighting.

Tape goes black, but then Bosh appears on screen.

BOSH

(on screen)

To the terrorist leader of the United States of America. I demand you withdraw your troops from my country immediately.

(MORE)

BOSH (cont'd)

Failure to do so will result in many more U.S. casualties. I know you have sent soldiers here to assassinate us, well, we have and we will protect ourselves at all costs.

Screen goes black but then we see the dead bodies of soldiers piled up on top of each other...it's horrific.

The screen goes black again and then Bosh.

BOSH (cont'd)

This is only a taste of what you can expect. Those are the ones I couldn't save. The ones that just didn't want to live anymore. But their are others. Men who want to live. Men who deserve to live. The big question is; what will you have me do with those men. The decision is yours and I suggest you make it quickly. You've seen the faces of death...the ones you didn't save.

Bosh grins.

BOSH (cont'd)

Or should I say, the ones you couldn't save. Here are the ones you can save. I am a man of my word, so if you do as we ask, your men will be returned to you. Take this seriously or plenty will die a horrible death.

The screen goes black then we see Mitch, Boone, Frankie, Tyler and Brandon on screen as they were during the filming.

Screen goes black and then Bosh.

BOSH (cont'd)

Begin withdrawing your troops within 48 hours and pay to me 100 Billion American dollars for the death and destruction you have committed in my country, and these men you can save. 48 hours or this is what will happen to the ones who are alive. Take this seriously...very seriously.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

The dead soldiers being tortured.

The dead soldiers being killed.

The faces of dead soldiers.

BACK TO:

TELEVISION SCREEN

The screen goes black and then Bosh.

BOSH

48 hours and then they all die. I will make sure the whole world sees them die, also. The whole world will see their faces and know that you could have saved them. This will not be good for re-election, Mr. President.

The screen goes blank.

PRESIDENT

I don't need to tell you how delicate this situation is, JT. How long ago did you say we received this tape?

JT

No, sir, you don't. An hour ago, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT

This special teams unit isn't even supposed to be there. We need to go in. We need to go in and extract these men or we need to wipe this terrorist camp off the face of the earth.

JT

Yes, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT

We either rescue the soldiers with faces or we kill them all.

ידיד.

I think there's something I should point out, sir.

JT takes the remote and rewinds back to where the live soldiers are being shown. He stops on Brandon.

JT (cont'd)

That soldier, sir, he's Raven's son. We kill that man, well, I know Raven and it's just not something we want to do. Besides, we don't know that they haven't already put this tape into protective hands... we blow them to hell and the tape still gets out and we're even worse off for the effort.

The President appears shocked, but nods his head in agreement. He stands and paces the room for a moment as he considers all options.

PRESTDENT

Raven. You mean, Raven's son? I've heard about this Raven. How good is he?

JT

None better...ever.

PRESIDENT

Then we need to go in.

JT

Yes, sir.

The president sits back down. He seems shocked by the news.

PRESIDENT

We can use that, right?

JT

My thoughts exactly, sir. It will motivate Raven to go active...at least for this mission.

PRESIDENT

Doesn't he hate you?

JT

Hate is a strong word, Mr. President. I prefer dislike.

PRESIDENT

I see. Should I send somebody else?

JT

Negative. This needs to come from me.

PRESIDENT

Alright then. Make it happen and make it happen fast.

JT

Yes sir.

FLASHBACK

INT. INN - NIGHT

The ENEMY SOLDIERS are all over the place now. RAVEN REESE, exudes military precision and expertise, looks down at his watch... 9:00 P.M. The first explosion goes off. Ten seconds later the next, then the next. The enemy soldiers are confused and begin shooting wildly.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

In all the smoke and confusion, Raven and BRADSHAW, tall, dark hair, lead the FAMILIES out of the Inn and along the buildings.

RAVEN

Stay close!

They travel swiftly away from the soldiers and down the street until it ends and becomes a dirt road of sorts.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The enemy COMMANDER gives the command for the tanks to move forward. They slowly rumble down the street.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Through the smoke and chaos, Raven spots the first tank moving toward them fast.

RAVEN

We got more trouble coming!

Bradshaw sees the tank.

BRADSHAW

In here!

Bradshaw leads the group into a small closed up building.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The tank fires. It fires again. And again.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

The small shop next to the one our group is in explodes.

INT. BUILDING - SAME

BRADSHAW

That was too close. That damn JT. I'll have his balls for this.

RAVEN

He has none.

BACK TO:

EXT. THE WOODS - DAY

20 STUDENTS, male, all wearing black tight Ninja Gi, stand in a large circle with their arms and legs interlocked Nothing is in the center, but they look on as though their is.

Suddenly, one of the students drops to his knees, then from the other side of the circle another student falls to the ground. They both regain their composer quickly and continue their stance.

From behind the circle, another STUDENT does a series of impressive flips and catapults himself over the circle and into the center.

The instant this student hits the ground, he is subdued by RAVEN, 40ish, muscular, who comes up from under the ground and with lightning speed, brings the student down and forces him to tap out. Raven and the student stand and bow to each other.

RAVEN

It's what you don't see that will kill you. I entered the circle by distracting you all...breaking your concentration. Since you expected to see nothing in the circle, there was nothing in the circle. You can't lose focus.

(MORE)

RAVEN (cont'd)

Speed and knowledge are important, but without focus they mean nothing. What good is a gun without bullets? Focus is the bullet.

(beat)

Now let's try this again.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

JT, along with five highly skilled SPECIAL OPS, move into position. They can see a small cabin off in the distance.

OP #1

That the target?

JT grins.

JΤ

That's it. Or you're it...not sure which yet.

OP #1

Should we move on it?

JΤ

Never make it.

JT grins again.

OP #1

Sir, we will. We will make it. I've heard of this Raven, but we're very good at what we do.

JT laughs.

JT

Okay, you and you're men give it your best shot. Like to make a wager you never make the front door?

OP #1

You're on, sir. One hundred dollars says we do.

JT

Good. I could use the money. Good luck.

Op #1 motions for the other four to follow him as they move effortlessly through the dark woods.

JT looks around.

JT (cont'd)

I know you're here, Raven. Just don't hurt them too bad. They don't know what they're up against here.

Just a blur as something moves at lightning speed just behind JT.

IN THE WOODS

The special ops team has branched out as they move closer to the cabin. Op #1 speaks softly into his headset.

OP #1

Cabin boy 3 take position.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - SAME

Special ops #3 replies:

OP #3

Yes, sir.

Out of nowhere a dark form comes up from behind op #3 and op #3 goes down.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

Using different forms and martial arts techniques, special op #2, #4 and #5 are taken down.

Op #1 is moving in closer to the cabin.

OP #1

Okay, I'm in position. Cabin 4 and 5 respond.

Silence.

OP #1 (cont'd)

Repeat. Cabin 4 and 5 respond.

Two arms come up from under the ground and grab op #1. After a short struggle, op #1 has been knocked out.

BACK TO:

EXT. WOODS - SAME

JT watches and waits. From behind.

RAVEN

That's the best you got, JT? Tax payer money isn't going to far these days.

JT turns and then looks down at his watch.

TT

That took you all of what, two minutes to disarm the best the U.S. has to offer? You must be getting old, Raven.

RAVEN

What are you doing here, JT? I'm impressed you even found this place. You've been doing your homework.

JT stands to his feet.

JT

Wasn't easy. We can still do a few things right. So, where're my men? Where did you leave them?

RAVEN

Safe, sound and asleep in the two trucks you drove up here in. By the way, very sloppy. You should have known better.

JT

Who says I didn't want to get caught? So I guess you're not going to invite me into your cabin.

RAVEN

Correct. Tell you what though, JT, if you can make it too my cabin, you can come in and have a cup of coffee.

JT grins.

JΤ

I know better. Listen, I'm here for a very good reason. You know it would have to be for me to make this trip.

I hope so.

JT

It's your son, Raven. He's in trouble.

RAVEN

Brandon! What about Brandon?

JT

There's been a...

RAVEN

What? Is Brandon okay? Is he dead?

JT

He is, he is okay... at least for 48 more hours.

Raven looks down at the ground.

RAVEN

Let's go have that coffee.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

Raven and JT are drinking coffee.

JΊ

So that's the deal. We'll get you there but you have to agree to bring all five out with you.

RAVEN

What makes you think I need you at all?

JΤ

Well, of course you'll find him eventually, but you only got 48 hours. Do you really want to risk it?

Raven nods.

RAVEN

Good point. Five of yours and five of mine.

JТ

I don't know if we...

That's not a request. Five and five or I take my chances with the 48 hours.

JT

Okay. Pick you up in the morning.

RAVEN

We'll meet you at the plane...same place.

JT

Yeah, same place.

JT leaves the cabin. Five STUDENTS appear...they were standing there all the time, they just blended in so well with the walls, tables, etc. They pull off their face masks.

RAVEN

Very dangerous. I understand if any of you want to bow out.

The five look at each other. They all stand at attention.

NINJA #1

It would be an honor, Master.

NINJA #2

Was JT part of your team, Master?

RAVEN

He was, but he and the U.S. Government didn't do what they said they'd do.

NINJA #3

So you left...

RAVEN

For good.

NINJA #4

Do you think they really have Brandon?

RAVEN

Yes. I knew he was going on a mission. JT knows better than to lie to me about that.

NINJA #5

Do you trust him?

No, but right now I need him. Meet me in the green room...30 minutes.

FLASHBACK

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The tank that has Raven and his men pinned down fires again.

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

BRADSHAW

So all these people gotta die cause some prick can't keep time.

RAVEN

It's more than that, Shaw...they just don't care.

BRADSHAW

That's not right! Not gonna put up with it this time.

BACK TO:

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Tank fires. Another building is pulverized.

INT. SMALL BUILDING - NIGHT

The earth shakes and the walls crumble as the tanks continue firing.

RAVEN

We can't stay in here!

BRADSHAW

The church isn't much further. It's bigger. I think we can make it. Might lose a few.

RAVEN

We gotta try. Let's go!

Raven and the group make a mad dash for the church as the enemy and tanks continue firing. They reach the church and hurry inside.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

A SOLDIER runs up to the commander. He's pointing toward the Church.

SOLDIER

(speaking Arabic)

They're in the church, sir. I saw them run in.

The commander grins.

COMMANDER

How fitting. Hold the tanks. I'm going to enjoy this.

The soldier leaves. The commander moves forward in his Jeep.

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Everyone is huddled up in the church. Babies are screaming, children are crying.

BRADSHAW

What now?

RAVEN

Look for a back door.

A PALE WOMAN hears the conversation.

PALE WOMAN

No back door.

RAVEN

You sure about that?

PALE WOMAN

I'm sure. Been coming to this church for 50 years. I'm sure.

Raven leans back.

BRADSHAW

We could surrender.

RAVEN

Not an option.

BRADSHAW

What about Barker?

Not sure he made it.

**BRADSHAW** 

Turk?

RAVEN

With Barker. They went to find Maria.

**BRADSHAW** 

We're dead.

RAVEN

That's the spirit.

PALE WOMAN

We will not surrender either. We'd rather die here.

RAVEN

I like the way you think. Surrender is not an option.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

BARKER'S tank stops. Barker pops his head up and sees the soldiers bearing down on the old church. He drops down and the tank moves forward.

EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT

The commander pulls up in his Jeep and gets out.

COMMANDER

(yells)

Come out now and no one will be harmed. I give you my word. The word of an officer.

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Raven looks back at the families who all shake their heads "no." ZEB, one of the men, speaks out.

ZEB

He is a devil. We will fight! I thought help was coming.

Raven frowns.

It was supposed to.

**BRADSHAW** 

Turk will find us.

RAVEN

Your freedom fighter? Don't count on it.

BRADSHAW

He's good. They've got a good resistance force here.

ZEB

We will fight to the death. No matter what it takes, we will not give up.

RAVEN

Good.

BACK TO:

EXT. MOUNTIAN ROAD - NIGHT

JT finally makes it to the trucks. He looks inside and sees all his men sleeping like babies. He grins and shakes his head.

JΤ

(mumbles)

Our best.

JT opens the door to one of the trucks and pulls out a special phone.

JT (cont'd)

(speaking into phone)

He's in. We leave in the morning. Like we thought, he wanted five of his own.

(Listening)

I understand.

JT hangs up the phone and gets inside the truck. He drives away leaving half his men in the other truck.

INT. GREEN ROOM - NIGHT

Raven is working on some moves. He moves around in the room like the master he is.

A number of different weapons are sitting all over the room along with kick bags, dark wooden forms and a few empty tables.

Raven moves around the room very skillfully using fighting techniques as well as gymnastics to attack, pick up weapons and strike bags. After a few more moments of amazing feats of skill, the five students enter the room and form a circle. They sit down.

Raven enters the circle and sits down.

## RAVEN

This mission will be more about staying out of sight than it will be about fighting. But there will be fighting. We won't use any guns, but everything else is acceptable. Keep in mind the more weapons you carry, the more prepared you'll be. But also keep in mind the size and weight of those weapons. Anything over 12 ounces begins to throw your timing off. Make sure the weapons are balanced on you and always retrieve your weapons when possible. I want you to spend an hour working with your weapons of choice. We will sleep on the plane.

Raven stands. The students stand. Raven exits the green room as his students begin training with their weapons.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - SAME

Raven enters the room. He walks over to a large wall mirror and stares in to it for a moment.

RAVEN

Be careful, son.

Raven pushes on the mirror and it opens. He walks inside.

INT. SECRET ROOM - SAME

This room is amazing. As big as his master bedroom. There's a white rock fireplace in the center with three swords hanging over it.

Special black uniforms hang from the walls. Their are swords, lots of them, along with a number of other weapons in different cases around the room.

Raven reaches up and pulls one of the swords from over the fireplace. Cold hard shiny steel with a magnificent hand-carved ivory handle. Raven stands and gazes into the steel as we:

FLASHBACK

INT. DOJO - DAY

A much younger Raven stands motionless. A GRANDMASTER, 60ish, Japanese, long hair, long beard, enters the room. Raven drops down to his knees and bows. The Grandmaster is carrying a sword that looks just like the one Raven had just removed from over his fireplace.

Without warning, the Grandmaster lunges at Raven with the sword...out of nowhere, Raven pulls a sword from under his clothing and bocks an attack. Now the two men begin fighting with swords showing amazing skill.

The fight goes on for over a minute and it looks as though Raven is winning when suddenly the Grandmaster does a double round house kick to Raven's face and then flips over Raven placing the edge of his sword to Raven's neck. The match is over. The Grandmaster grins.

## GRANDMASTER

Very good, Raven. But you were so focused on my sword, you never saw my foot. My foot is a more important weapon because you don't see it. When you beat me, the sword I hold at your neck will be yours.

The Grandmaster stands down. Raven turns and bows.

BACK TO:

INT. SECRET ROOM - NIGHT

Raven smiles warmly and slides the sword into its case.

INT. SMALL DARK ROOM - NIGHT

Salvo enters the room as the five men hang...half asleep.

SALVO

Sleeping...very good. You've been trained well. Get rest when you can so you're fighting will be at it's strongest.

Salvo walks over to Mitch and stands in front of him.

SALVO (cont'd)

I am curious though. How many of your men will you watch die before you tell me why you are here?

MITCH

All of them.

Salvo grins.

SALVO

Really. All of them. I wonder if that is true or if it is, how do you say in America, a bluff. I play American poker. Texas Hold em I think you call it. I understand the bluff.

Salvo walks over and looks Brandon in the eyes.

SALVO (cont'd)

You have a fighter's eyes.

Brandon doesn't even twitch. Salvo steps back to address the group.

SALVO (cont'd)

But will you go all-in on a bluff? That's the question. Well, we'll know in...

Salvo looks down at his watch.

SALVO (cont'd)

About 40 hours.

Salvo grins and leaves the room

FRANKIE

What was that all about?

MITCH

Playing with our heads.

TYLER

They gonna kill us, boss?

MITCH

Most likely.

TYLER

Good. Just wanted to make sure I understood what was in the pot before I matched it.

BOONE

Well, I'm folding. Can I go home now?

The others laugh.

EXT. OUTSIDE - NIGHT

Flood lights illuminate the area. SOLDIERS form a large circle around six other SOLDIERS in the center along with Raven.

SOLDIER #1

So we can attack you at will?

RAVEN

Correct.

SOLDIER #1

Doesn't seem fair...six of us against one of you?

Raven grins.

RAVEN

You're right, it's not fair. You - you and you.

Raven points to three other soldiers who are part of the large circle.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Come in here.

(Beat)

Now there's nine of you. Feel better?

Soldier #1 chuckles.

SOLDIER #1

We're all trained, sir. We know how to fight.

I'm counting on it. Show me what you've got.

Soldier #1 is the first to attack. He is quickly knocked to the ground.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Discipline and focus...

Now the others join in. Raven is able to knock them one after the other, while expounding wisdom.

RAVEN (cont'd)

That is the key.

More fighting knocks another one out.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Never get out of yourself.

Another one bites the dust.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Always remember your training.

Another one.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Part of winning is being able to pace yourself.

Finally, only one is left standing. He attacks and Raven avoids his strikes, moving like a cat around the solider...Raven is never hit.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Know your limits and never exceed them willingly.

The solider wears himself out and now Raven attacks. It's over very quickly.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Now get some rest, we have a busy day of training tomorrow.

INT. MILITARY PLANE - NIGHT

JT, five SPECIAL OPS, Raven and his five students, are all resting...some are sleeping. Raven is staring out the window.

FLASHBACK

EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT

The commander looks around.

COMMANDER

Last chance for surrender. You have thirty seconds to decide.

A whistling sound is heard in the distance. Suddenly an explosion knocks the commander to the ground. He hurries into his Jeep and speeds away.

Another explosion reveals that one of the enemy tanks is hit. Barker's tank pulls up in front of the church and stops. It fires again, and again. A large truck pulls up behind Barker's tank. TURK and MARIA, good guys, jump out and head for the church.

The church doors open and everyone runs for the truck. Bradshaw continues firing at the enemy soldiers as they fire back. Barker exits the tank.

RAVEN

What took you so long?

Barker grins. Raven places an explosive under the tank and they all speed away in the truck. The enemy soldiers continue firing at the tank... they don't see the truck.

The enemy close in on the tank and finally reach it. They inspect the church, it's empty. Barker's tank explodes killing a number of enemy soldiers. The commander spots the truck driving up a hill in the distance and commands everyone to destroy it.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Turk is driving wildly with Maria and Barker in the front seat. Bradshaw and Raven are in the back with the families, but there's no rear window so they can see and speak with each other.

BARKER

What happen to JT?

RAVEN

Don't know, but it will never happen again.

Bradshaw smirks.

BRADSHAW

Do I need to kill JT next time I see him?

BARKER

Would you please!

RAVEN

Stand in line. These families should have already been extracted. I don't know how we missed them the first time. Poor Intel maybe.

BARKER

Or no Intel.

TURK

We need to make it to the river. I got men close to the river.

RAVEN

How equipped is your team?

TURK

Well equipped. Guns, grenades.

RAVEN

Tanks.

TURK

Maybe. We've been trying to get some.

RAVEN

Hope they succeeded.

EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

The truck speeds toward the river. An explosion just to the right of the truck; the truck swerves. Another one just behind the truck. The enemy is in heavy pursuit.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

RAVEN

I'm so glad to see you, Maria. I thought...

MARIA

I would have been if it weren't for Barker.

BARKER

Yeah, yeah. I'm a hero. You're the best secret agent we have...had to save you...

Barker laughs.

BARKER (cont'd)

Not to mention the prettiest.

BRADSHAW

Okay, is this gonna get mushy?

BARKER

Maybe. But we're all gonna die, so who cares.

Raven grins and shakes his head.

RAVEN

Barker the hero...amazing...

BARKER

I'm no hero.

MARIA

You are. At least tonight you are...

EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

The truck barrels forward. A tank fires. The explosion causes the truck to swerve hitting a large boulder. The front wheel explodes and Turk loses control. The truck goes over an embankment and finally flips over onto its side in a ditch.

BACK TO:

INT. PLANE

JT walks up behind Raven and sits down beside him.

JT

It's too bad you can't see anything down there because it's really a beautiful sight.

RAVEN

Oh, but I can see everything. And you're wrong -- it's not that beautiful.

JT soaks in Raven's wisdom for a beat.

JT

You'll have six hours from the time we drop you.

RAVEN

That long...?

JT

Pick up 12 clicks to the West.

RAVEN

Really. So you will actually be picking us up this time?

JT shakes his head.

JΤ

You know that was unavoidable, Raven.

RAVEN

Cost me 15 of the best men I'd ever trained.

JΤ

I know.

RAVEN

And my best friend.

JΤ

I know that too. Like I said -- it was unavoidable.

RAVEN

Well, anything happens like that again, JT, you won't live long enough to explain.

ידע

Are you threatening me?

RAVEN

Damn right I am. You get any more of my men or my son killed, there's nowhere on this planet you'll be safe.

JΤ

Don't worry, Raven. That's not the plan.

RAVEN

That's good, JT. For your sake.

JT frowns and gets up. One of the Ops wearing a red sash, takes JT's seat next to Raven.

RED SASH

It's an honor to work with you sir. You're a legend.

Raven grins.

RAVEN

Don't think so, son, but thank you.

RED SASH

I couldn't help but overhear. You lost 15 men?

RAVEN

That's right.

RED SASH

JT was responsible?

RAVEN

In a roundabout sort of way.

Red Sash leans back in his seat.

RED SASH

Any chance of that happening this time?

RAVEN

There's always a chance. You count on what's in front of you. Don't wait for anybody and always plan for the worst.

RED SASH

Wow! Yeah, makes sense. I just want you to know you don't have to worry about us...me especially. I've got your back.

Raven looks at Red Sash and grins.

RAVEN

Good. Good.

Raven leans back into his seat to get some rest. Red Sash does the same. Raven falls asleep.

FLASHBACK

INT. DOJO - NIGHT

Raven as a teenager working on his moves. The Grandmaster shows up behind Raven without a sound, but Raven knows it and does a back kick, missing badly.

GRANDMASTER

Very good, Raven. How did you know I was there?

RAVEN

Smelled you.

The Grandmaster smiles.

GRANDMASTER

Very good. But what good did that do you when you missed? Reasoning and deduction are only as good as the subsequent execution.

RAVEN

Yes, Master.

GRANDMASTER

You feel the wind, but you must learn how to ride it to truly appreciate it.

BACK TO:

AIRPLANE - LATER

All the men stand ready to parachute out. One by one they begin jumping from the plane. Raven is the last.

RAVEN

Remember, JT, 12 clicks to the West.

JT frowns.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Why's that one wearing the red sash?

JT

It was his father's. Good luck or something.

RAVEN

Really. Makes him more visible... a better target, wouldn't you say?

JΤ

Yeah, he knows that. Still thinks the sash will save his bacon.

RAVEN

Yeah.

JT

Good luck, Raven.

Raven exits the plane.

FLASHBACK

EXT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Everyone hurries out of the truck and takes cover. Raven Bradshaw, Barker and Turk pull out their guns and begin firing back at the enemy.

RAVEN

How much further to the river?

TURK

Too far. We need to fight here I think.

MARIA

Maybe we can retreat.

Turk shakes his head "no'

TURK

We'd be wide open. This is the only cover around here. They get down to us it's over.

RAVEN

We can't stay here! They've got us pinned down.

TURK

We have no choice. No other way out of this gorge.

The tank fires and the ground explodes close by.

**BRADSHAW** 

Just a matter of time before that tank zeros in on us.

RAVEN

Yeah, I see that.

EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

One of the tanks pulls closer and adjusts its gun. The commander and soldiers take position on the ridge looking down at the overturned truck.

EXT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Raven jumps up and pulls out two sticks of dynamite.

RAVEN

Can't let Barker have all the glory today.

Before anyone can say a word, Raven is running up the embankment toward the tank.

TURK

What's he doing?

BRADSHAW

Saving our asses as usual.

TURK

Is he crazy?

BRADSHAW

No, he's Raven. The only man I know who can pull this off.

Maria watches as Raven races up the hill. She makes the sign of the cross.

EXT. DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

One of the soldiers sees Raven and points.

SOLDIER

(speaking Arabic)

Look! A crazy man is coming for us...

The commander spots Raven. He grins and shakes his head. All the enemy soldiers begin to laugh and point.

COMMANDER

Wait! Don't fire. This is very entertaining. Doesn't he know he's already dead? Let him get closer and then shoot out his legs. I want to keep this on for information.

A number of the soldiers laugh as they point. Raven continues his approach.

COMMANDER (cont'd)

Everyone take aim at the hero.

The soldiers point their guns at Raven. The commander lifts his arm. Suddenly, the commander and his men are under attack from behind. The commander and his soldiers take cover and return fire. The tank maneuvers to point it's big gun in another direction.

Raven reaches the ridge, lights the dynamite and tosses it under the tank. He runs for cover. BAM! The tank is dead.

Raven hurries back down for his comrades.

EXT. TRUCK - NIGHT

RAVEN

Who was that up there?

TURK

Those would be my friends. The cavalry.

**BRADSHAW** 

My friends too, now.

TURK

Yeah, with friends like JT, you people need new friends.

BARKER

Let's take a look.

They all hurry up the embankment towards the gunfire. They peek over the ridge to see five tanks, lots of trucks and troops bombing the hell out of the enemy.

They now see that JT has arrived and is helping out. The enemy soldiers are losing badly and are retreating. They hurry back to the group.

**BRADSHAW** 

Didn't know your people had tanks.

TURK

(surprised)

They got tanks?

Bradshaw laughs.

**BRADSHAW** 

They do now.

Just then two enemy choppers appear out of nowhere. In seconds everybody but Raven is killed. Raven makes it up the hill just in time to see Turk's men and JT finish off the enemy soldiers.

BACK TO:

EXT. SKY - SAME

Free falling for a while. Then the chutes open one by one. Closer to the trees below. Closer...closer. Suddenly, gunfire erupts and one Special Ops is killed.

Next one of Raven's students is killed. Another Op is shot down...then another student. Raven maneuvers his chute away from the gunfire, the others follow but not before one more student and one more Special Op is killed.

They are coming down fast with four TERRORISTS heading right for the five that are left. Raven pulls out four Ninja stars and flings them at the terrorists.

SLOW-MOTION

THE STAR SPINS, ALMOST MAGICAL, UNTIL IT FINDS IT'S TARGET -- RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES OF ONE OF THE TERRORISTS.

THE SECOND STAR SPINS AND SLICES THE NECK OF A TERRORIST.

THE THIRD STAR PIERCES THE CHEST OF A TERRORIST RIGHT OVER THE HEART. HE GOES DOWN.

AS THE FOURTH STAR SPINS, THE LAST TERRORIST, WHO SAW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS, BEGINS RUNNING. THE STAR CHASES HIM AND CATCHES HIM, LODGING IN THE BACK OF HIS HEAD.

The two Special Ops see this amazing feat of skill and look at each other amazed...

EXT. WOODS - SAME

Two students and two Special Ops and Raven make it to the ground. The terrorists are still shooting into the woods and coming after them. The men quickly lose their shots.

RAVEN

Guess that sash worked for you, huh?

RED SASH

Looks like.

RAVEN

Follow me and stay low.

The four men follow Raven into the woods.

EXT. WOODS - SAME

Thirty TERRORISTS comb the area for Raven and his men.

BACK TO:

RAVEN AND HIS MEN

RAVEN

Bad start, men. Almost like they were waiting for us. Mike, Todd, you two come with me.

Red Sash frowns.

RED SASH

What about us?

RAVEN

You two dig in and stay quiet.

Red Sash appears unhappy with the order.

RED SASH

Hank and I can fight.

RAVEN

You'll die.

RED SASH

Don't be so sure.

Red Sash grins as he says it.

RAVEN

Fine. We'll use you two as distractions. Stay low, shoot at their feet...they can't kill you if they don't see you. They can't see you if they can't walk.

Red Sash glances at his comrade and grins again. He turns back towards Raven, but Raven, Mike and Todd have vanished.

RED SASH

He's good. Okay, I'll move to the right flank and you come up the left side. That was a good idea, stay low and shoot their legs out.

The two men disappear into the woods.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

Raven moves through the woods like an invisible phantom. We just catch glimpses of him as terrorists are killed one by one without shooting.

Other Terrorists scream in pain as bullets shatter their legs.

Mike, one on one, kills a terrorist.

Now Todd, one on one, kills another.

Red Sash and his partner shooting at terrorists.

Raven taking down terrorists like they were small children.

Mike and Todd fighting very well.

More shooting and fighting. Seemingly the terrorists have been defeated. Red Sash and his partner stand and look for Raven and the others.

PARTNER

We did it...

RED SASH

Yes we did.

Red Sash pulls out a dagger and stabs his partner in the throat. The partner falls to the ground.

ELSEWHERE

Raven, Mike and Todd re-group.

RAVEN

Lets find the rookies.

Raven and his students see Red Sash as he walks toward them.

RED SASH

You made...good.

RAVEN

Where's your friend?

RED SASH

Didn't make it.

RAVEN

Guess you all needed that Red Sash, huh?

RED SASH

Never failed me yet.

RAVEN

Okay, let's find the fortress. This way.

The four men head into the woods.

INT. SMALL DARK ROOM - NIGHT

Bosh and Salvo enter the room where the five men have clearly been beaten badly.

BOSH

Ready to talk, or do we need some serious dying here?

MITCH

Can't hear you.

SALVO

Good, a sense of humor. But my patience is wearing thin.

Raven pulls out a gun and shoots Frankie. The other men yell and scream.

SALVO (cont'd)

Do I have your attention. Did you think I was joking about the dying thing?

BRANDON

You bastard!

SALVO

From now on, no more smart ass remarks. I ask a question and you answer it. If not, then more dying.

TYLER

Can't shoot us all.

Salvo points the gun at Tyler and shoots, Tyler slumps over.

SALVO

No, but I can shoot you. Okay, still three of you left to answer questions. Let's go to my place where we can be more comfortable.

Bosh and Salvo grin. The terrorist guards cut the three down and escort them from the room.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - NIGHT

Raven, Mike, Todd and Red Sash find the opening in the fence.

RAVEN

Time to split up.

RED SASH

I think we should go in together.

RAVEN

That's fine, but we split up.
Mike, you head to the East and Todd
to the West. Find the buildings
that are guarded; that's where the
prisoners are. Sash, if you wanna
come along, you head up the center,
but stay invisible.

RED SASH

Invisible, okay, and just how do I
do -- ?

Suddenly, they are all gone again.

RED SASH (cont'd) How the hell does he do that?

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Mitch is laid out on one table. Next to him is Brandon and then Boone. Salvo is busy laying out some cutting tools.

SALVO

Glad you could all make it. Let me explain our new game. We've sent your government a tape. On that tape is all your dead comrades along with some highlights on how badly they died. You'll remember that you are also in that movie.

Salvo picks up a hammer and chisel as he walks towards the men.

SALVO (cont'd)

Hammer and chisel... a very crude but effective way of gathering information. It's actually one of the ways your Hitler used during the war. You remember that guy, don't you?

Salvo places the chisel on Brandon's knee and holds up the hammer.

SALVO (cont'd)

So tell me, soldier, what are you doing here? More importantly, how did you manage to get into our camp undetected? Do I have spies and traitors among my men?

**BRANDON** 

Just following orders.

Salvo removes the chisel.

SALVO

Finally, a truthful answer. Not the one I was looking for, but truthful nonetheless. This is a good beginning.

Salvo holds the chisel over Boone's forehead.

SALVO (cont'd)

Let's see how truthful this one is. Why are you here?

BOONE

Just following orders...

Salvo grins.

SALVO

Nice try, but that was his answer. You'll need to come up with a different one to save your skull.

Salvo holds up the hammer.

BOONE

It doesn't matter, sir. They're gonna kill us anyway.

MITCH

Keep your mouth shut, Boone!

SALVO

If you do that, Boone, I'm afraid you're going to have a splitting headache in the morning.

Salvo lifts the hammer up higher and looks as though he's ready to drop it when:

BOONE

Put you down! We're here to put you down.

SALVO

Put us down. To kill us, right?

BOONE

Blow this camp to hell.

SALVO

With what? We found no explosives.

BOONE

That's the idea. They're buried and hidden all over the camp. On a timer. Once that time goes off...boom!

MITCH

Not another word!

BOONE

Pardon me, sir, but it's not you over there with a spike in your forehead, sir.

SALVO

Very wise, son. Tell me more. I especially want to know about these bombs and where they're hidden.

Salvo puts the hammer and chisel down.

SALVO (cont'd)

So where are these explosives?

BOONE

All over the place. I can't tell you exactly, I'd need to show you. It was dark and we moved fast. Once the timers go off, boom!

SALVO

Yeah, boom! I heard that part.

Salvo appears concerned. He and the guards hurry out of the building. Mitch, Boone, and Brandon catch their breath.

BOONE

Sorry, sir.

MITCH

It's okay, Boone. It could be worse.

BRANDON

Oh really? How could it be worse than compromising the entire mission?

MITCH

He could have told them the truth.

BRANDON

Uh, isn't that what he did?

BOONE

Sir --

MITCH

Not exactly. Good job, Boone. I think they bought it.

BRANDON

What are you talking about?

BOONE

Sir, do you think it's wise? To tell Brandon, I mean.

MITCH

I think we're at something of a point of no return right now.

**BRANDON** 

What the hell's going on? Isn't our mission to blow this place up?

MITCH

Not quite. But Boone bought us some time by making those scum think it is.

**BRANDON** 

Jesus Christ! Then what is our mission?!

MITCH

Relax, Brandon. Getting excited is only gonna make the restraints feel tighter.

Brandon takes a deep breath to calm down.

**BRANDON** 

Sir -- if I may -- I would appreciate being in the loop as to what our actual mission is, considering there's ONLY THREE OF US TO CARRY IT OUT!

Mitch can't help but chuckle at Brandon's indignance.

BRANDON (cont'd)

What the fuck is so funny?

MITCH

The truth is what the fuck is so funny. You're right -- there's only three of us left.

(MORE)

MITCH (cont'd)

And I wouldn't say we're in a very good position to carry out a mission right now, would you, Boone?

BOONE

No, sir. Not too conducive to mission success, sir.

BRANDON

And what -- would -- that mission -- be -- Sir!

MITCH

Our mission is to capture and remove Bosh. The explosives are just a diversion.

BRANDON

Remaining calm here. Why wasn't I told?

MITCH

No one was told. Except Boone.

BRANDON

And why was Boone told?

MITCH

You got someone better in mind to tell?

**BRANDON** 

Me!

MITCH

Chain of command, Private.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - NIGHT

Sash is sneaking around, but a Terrorist has spotted him and is ready to shoot when Raven comes up behind the terrorist and snaps his neck. Sash sees what happened and gives Raven a thumbs up.

OTHER SIDE OF THE CAMP

Mike disarms a terrorist but another comes up from behind and is just about to ram a knife into him when Raven comes out of nowhere and kills the terrorist.

MTKE

Thanks, Master.

## ANOTHER AREA OF THE CAMP

Todd sneaks around, finds two more terrorists and using great skill, kills them both. He's made it to one of the buildings where two guards stand watch.

Behind him, a Terrorist is sneaking up and takes aim at Todd's head with his pistol. Raven swoops down from the roof and takes the terrorist out.

RAVEN

Stay alert, Todd.

TODD

It's a little different here than in a gym, Master.

Raven smiles.

TODD (cont'd)

I think they might be in there.

RAVEN

Me too. You take the one on the left, I'll take the other. You stay outside and stand guard.

The two GUARDS are talking. Suddenly, the one on the left is gone, then the one on the right. Quick, stealth like, impressive. Raven enters the building.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - SAME

Sash is waiting by a tree. From behind, Mike sneaks up and holds a finger to his back. Sash freaks. Mike laughs.

MIKE

Too focused on what's going on in front of you...don't forget about behind.

Mike moves forward. Sash sees his chance and sticks a knife into his back.

SASH

I could give you the same advice, friend.

Sash moves forward.

## INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Two GUARDS stand outside a door. Raven throws two ninja stars, hits each in the forehead and they drop to the ground dead. Raven moves up to the door. He pulls a wire from his wrist and jimmies the lock. He's in.

# INT. SMALL DARK ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Raven pushes open the door that leads to the same room Mitch and his guys were first restrained. Raven inspects the carnage that has taken place. Blood and splatters of chunks of flesh. Raven is sickened and saddened. Some of this blood may be is son's. He walks the room slowly.

#### INT. BUILDING - HALLWAY

Two terrorists walk slowly toward the small dark room, acting is if they heard something.

As they near the room, they see the door has been pushed open. They move quietly, shushing and signalling each other.

#### INT. SMALL DARK ROOM

The two terrorists push the door open and burst in, weapons drawn. But they see nothing, no one. The room is as they left it.

PAN UP to see that Raven has suspended himself above the door, out of sight. In a flash, he pounces on one terrorist, knocking him down.

The other terrorist spins toward Raven ready to fire, but Raven whirls the first terrorist toward the second and knocks his weapon free. It discharges.

# INT. ROOM - SAME

Mitch, Brandon, and Boone react to the gunfire.

## INT. ANOTHER ROOM - SAME

Salvo and Bosh react to the gunfire.

INT. SMALL DARK ROOM

Raven quickly subdues the first terrorist then sets at the second. It's a mismatch. Raven disposes of the second then quickly moves from the room.

INT. BUILDING - HALLWAY

A terrorist carefully patrols the hallway, slowly moving toward the sound of the gunfire he heard earlier. Seemingly out of nowhere, a hand reaches around him and pulls his rifle up to his throat, choking him. It's Raven.

RAVEN

Where is my son?

The petrified guard shakes his head "I don't know." Raven pulls back on the rifle, choking the terrorist harder.

RAVEN (cont'd)

I said where is my son?

Only able to respond with his eyes, the terrorist motions to a room down the hallway.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Thank you.

Raven releases his grip on the rifle. It falls to the ground, as does the terrorist. Raven starts to move off.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Oh -- almost forgot.

Raven returns to the guard, lifts his head, then delivers one intense blow under the terrorist's adam's apple, instantly killing him.

INT. ROOM - SAME

Raven enters the room cautiously, expecting resistance. He gets none. He sees the three men.

RAVEN

Brandon!

BRANDON

Dad!

MITCH

Dad?

Raven hurries over and cuts all three men loose in seconds. Brandon and Raven hug each other.

BOONE

You're Raven?

RAVEN

Raven.

BOONE

It's an honor, sir.

RAVEN

We'll do that later, son. Right now let's get out of here.

The four men exit the room.

INT. BUILDING - SAME

The four men make their way down a hall heading for the exit door.

EXT. OUTSIDE BUILDING - SAME

Sash is standing over the body of Todd. He motions for a number of terrorists to move out of sight...there's an ambush waiting. Raven and the three others emerge. Raven sees Todd down. Sash appears to be helping him.

Out of nowhere, the hiding terrorists emerge and the fight is on. Raven shows amazing skill as he takes on one terrorist after another in hand-to-hand combat.

The other three also fight well, but they are quickly overwhelmed. Raven continues to fight and beat the terrorists as Sash jumps in to help Raven.

Here we see that Sash is a very good fighter. Once Sash is close enough to Raven, he pulls out a tranquilizer gun and shoots Raven in the back. Raven drops to the ground. Bosh appears out of nowhere.

BOSH

Very good! Very good.

Bosh walks over and looks at Raven.

BOSH (cont'd)

So that's Raven. Don't look so dangerous now, does he?

BRANDON

You bastard! When he wakes up he'll have your heart.

Bosh chuckles.

BOSH

Perhaps, if I don't get his first. Take them to the infirmary.

Sash walks up and shakes the hand of Bosh.

BOSH (cont'd)

Good work, Tobar...good work.

TOBAR (SASH)

Thank you, sir.

Raven is out cold.

FLASHBACK

EXT. DOJO - DAY

Raven in his 20's all dressed in black. He's standing perfectly still as the wind rustles through the trees. He's motionless. Out of nowhere, the Grandmaster appears and lunges at Raven, but Raven isn't there anymore. The Grandmaster grins. The grandmaster is startled, he turns quickly just in time to block a punch by Raven.

GRANDMASTER

You have become invisible, Raven. I am very impressed.

The two men continue to fight as they talk.

RAVEN

Thank you, Master.

Raven throws a series of lightning speed punches, all are blocked.

GRANDMASTER

You've gotten faster.

The Grandmaster uses his feet to try and stumble Raven.

RAVEN

You've made me fast, Master.

The two men show an amazing fight until finally, Raven is able to strike the Grandmaster in the chest.

Raven stops...he's stunned. He bows and keeps his head down. The Grandmaster appears shocked at first, but then grins.

GRANDMASTER

Lift your head, Master Raven.

Raven stands up.

GRANDMASTER (cont'd)

That's right. From this day forward, you are now a Master. You're strike to my chest proves it so. Only a great warrior can strike a Grandmaster. From this day forward you are now a true ninja. You will make me proud.

RAVEN

I will, my Master. I won't let you down.

The Grandmaster bows to Raven. Raven smiles.

INT. SMALL DARK ROOM - NIGHT

Brandon, Mitch and Boone are tied up by the guards.

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Dr. Salvo pulls out a black shiny case. He fingers it as though it's his prize possession. Raven is stretched out on a table and tied down. He begins to awake...he's groggy.

SALVO

Haven't used this in years.

Salvo smiles.

SALVO (cont'd)

But there's no getting around it. Use the right tools for the right job and the job gets done right.

Salvo opens up the case. We see very shiny surgical instruments and small vials. Salvo pulls out a vial and holds it up to Ravens face.

SALVO (cont'd)

Know what this is?

Raven remains silent. Salvo grins.

SALVO (cont'd)

Sulfuric acid. A few drops of this and...

Salvo lowers the vial slowly to Raven's lower stomach.

SALVO (cont'd)

Let's just say it won't be the most pleasant experience of your life.

Salvo returns to the case. He puts on gloves and begins pulling the contents from the case and lays them out.

SALVO (cont'd)

You're a hard man to find, Raven.

RAVEN

Who wants to find me?

SALVO

Everybody.

Bosh enters the room.

BOSH

Is our guest awake?

SALVO

Awake and talking.

BOSH

So, the famous Raven, or should I call you Raven.

SALVO

Call me whatever you wish.

Tobar enters the room and walks over to Raven. Tobar grins.

TOBAR

Not so bad now, are you Raven?

Tobar laughs.

RAVEN

That red sash gave you away a long time ago, punk.

TOBAR

Oh, really. Then why didn't you stop me?

RAVEN

Because I knew you'd lead me right to Bosh.

Tobar appears uneasy with that answer.

RAVEN (cont'd)

You think it was hard to figure out that the red sash is what kept you from getting shot at the first night.

Raven grins.

BOSH

Enough of this. Here's how this is going to go tonight, Raven. You tell us what we want to know and we don't kill your son.

RAVEN

What do you want to know?

Bosh smiles.

BOSH

You know.

RAVEN

No, really, I don't.

Bosh paces the room.

BOSH

Always playing games, huh, Raven? Okay, I'll play along for the moment.

Salvo begins to lay out more torture devices on a small tray next to where Raven is lying. He takes his time to make sure everything is just perfect.

BOSH (cont'd)

Two years ago a very special agent did the impossible. Against what we thought were impossible odds, an agent slipped in right under our noses and snatched Bin Laden away.

RAVEN

Really...?

BOSH

Yes. The two just vanished. It was truly an amazing feat.

RAVEN

Wish I could take credit. But I thought Bin Laden was still alive and well and hiding out somewhere here in the Middle East?

BOSH

Yes, that is what your government pretends. In fact they even release fake tapes of our leader speaking. Very ingenious. Keep him under control and let the Arabs believe he's just hiding out someplace as he always has so as not to create an even bigger holy war. Very smart you Americans are.

RAVEN

That's a nice story, Bosh, but I have no idea what you're talking about.

BOSH

Really.

Mitch, Brandon and Boone are brought in. Salvo walks over to Mitch and holds a revolver to his head.

BOSH (cont'd)

We can do this the hard way. So, where is our leader, Raven?

RAVEN

I wish I knew.

Salvo pulls the trigger. Mitch drops to the ground. Boone struggles to get free. Salvo walks over to Boone and holds the revolver up to his head. He plays with the trigger a little bit.

BOSH

Such low regard for human life you Americans have. I'll ask you again. Where is Bin Laden?

Raven is clearly shaken.

RAVEN

Don't do it, Bosh. We can work something out here.

Salvo pulls the trigger and down goes Boone. Salvo holds the gun up to Brandon's head.

BOSH

Once we kill your son, we'll torture you until you pray for death. But the Professor here is a master at keeping you alive. We'll put you on life support if needed, just to prolong your agony. Tell us what we want to know.

Salvo cocks the trigger back on the gun.

BRANDON

Don't tell this pig anything, Dad. Don't worry about me.

BOSH

I'm waiting.

Tense moments. Salvo appears ready to pull that trigger. We see Salvo's finger twitch.

RAVEN

Okay! Okay, put the gun down. I'll tell you what you want to know.

Bosh nods to Salvo who lowers the gun.

BOSH

You understand, Raven, you'll both die, but I promise you, give you my word in fact, it will be quick and painless.

RAVEN

Your leader is being held in a secure hidden room below the White House. There's no way into that room.

BOSH

I see. Just like that. He's in a secret room below the White House and of course, this cannot be confirmed. Do you think I'm a fool, Raven? There's always a way in...you've proven that.

RAVEN

You wanted the truth and I just gave it to you.

Bosh looks over at Tobar.

BOSH

Is there such a room, Tobar?

TOBAR

I have heard of such a place. Nobody knows for sure, but there are supposed to be a number of secret rooms and passages under the White House.

Bosh frowns.

BOSH

I see. So, how would one go about getting into one of these rooms, Raven?

Raven shakes his head.

RAVEN

Impossible.

BOSH

Oh, I disagree. What you did was impossible. This is very possible. In fact, perhaps you would do to your own government what you did to us with the proper motivation.

Bosh grins a wicked grin.

RAVEN

Can't be done, Bosh. Getting into the White House undetected is much different than searching out some tall Arab hidden away in the hills. Can't be done.

Raven glances over at Brandon.

BOSH

Here's what I'm going to do, Raven. I'll leave for say, 10 minutes. When I come back you will explain to me exactly how it can be done. Then we will make plans for you to do it.

(MORE)

BOSH (cont'd)

If you don't, Salvo will inflict much pain on you before you watch your son die. See you soon.

Bosh and Salvo leave. Tobar grins.

TOBAR

You need to think hard about your next words, Raven.

RAVEN

JT in on this?

TOBAR

No. You two are the only ones who know about me. This was all done to capture your son. It was the only way to lure you here, Raven. We need you, so we got him.

Tobar motions toward Brandon.

RAVEN

It worked.

Raven grins.

TOBAR

Well, I wish I could stay and see how the sage ends, but I got a plane to catch.

Raven laughs and shakes his head.

RAVEN

Not gonna happen, Tobar. Not gonna happen.

Tobar appears stunned by the comment.

TOBAR

Really. You gonna stop me, Raven? How you gonna do that when you're all tied up at the moment? Even you can't do magic.

Tobar chuckles.

RAVEN

Don't worry about the how, Tobar, worry about the when.

Tobar's chuckle slowly turns to slight concern.

TOBAR

And how is that going to happen? Another bluff. That's what you're really all about, isn't it, Raven? The big bluff. Well, I got a chopper to catch.

Tobar appears nervous.

RAVEN

Can't let you in on all my secrets. But after I take care of Bosh here and the professor, I'm coming for you. You can count on that, Tobar.

Tobar grins a nervous grin. Tobar leaves.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Stay strong, Brandon. When I move I want you to fall to the ground. Spinning cobra on the guards and by that time I should be free.

BRANDON

Okay. When does the cavalry come?

RAVEN

The pick up is in two hours.

**BRANDON** 

Will they show?

RAVEN

Now that's the million dollar question.

Raven leans back and closes his eyes.

FLASHBACK

EXT. DIRT ROAD - DAY

The choppers head off in the opposite direction. Raven walks up to JT and grabs him by the shirt.

RAVEN

Where were you, JT?

יייד.

We got held up.

RAVEN

What's that mean, you got held up?

JΤ

New directive. We almost didn't come.

RAVEN

You didn't come. Now they're dead...

JΤ

All of them?

RAVEN

All of them.

JТ

The families?

RAVEN

Them too. My men are dead...

Raven glances over at a large burly MAN who seems to be leading the resistance force.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Your man is dead too.

BURLY MAN

Turk is dead?

RAVEN

Yes. They're all dead thanks to this man!

JΤ

Couldn't be helped, Raven. You gotta believe me.

RAVEN

It's your job to make sure it can be helped, JT.

Raven jumps into the waiting chopper. JT follows.

JT

The President said no. It took an extra hour to convince him.

RAVEN

That extra hour cost me the lives of my men and the families we were supposed to extract. JΤ

I know, and for that I am truly sorry.

RAVEN

Doesn't matter anymore, JT. There's been other incidents.

JТ

You mean Bosnia?

RAVEN

Bosnia, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, pick one. I'm through.

TT.

What's that mean, you're through?

RAVEN

Just that; I'm through. This was my last mission. I won't be part of this anymore.

ידד.

You can't just quit! That's not the way it's done. Our government won't let you just quit.

RAVEN

Watch me. And you send anybody looking for me, I'll kill them. Understood?

JT frowns.

JΤ

Understood. Just think about what you're doing. You save lives.

RAVEN

No I don't. And the ones I almost manage to save, you and whatever President is running the day, kills. I'm finished.

Raven leans back in his seat and closes his eyes. JT shakes his head in frustration.

BACK TO:

RAVEN AS HE OPENS HIS EYES.

Salvo, Bosh and two guards enter the room.

BOSH

Time's up, Raven. Tell me what I want to know.

RAVEN

Still thinking, Bosh.

Bosh nods for Salvo to take over. Salvo picks up a pair of pliers opens them up on one of Raven's fingers.

BOSH

Anything to say?

RAVEN

Not yet.

Salvo squeezes cracking one of Raven's fingers. Raven grins.

RAVEN (cont'd)

It's just not coming to me.

Salvo moves to another finger. He opens the pliers and then CRUNCH, another finger is broken. Raven grins, not even a flinch.

BOSH

I'm very impressed, Raven. You're control is amazing.

Salvo puts the pliers down and grabs the hammer and chisel. He places the chisel on Raven's knee and raises the hammer.

BOSH (cont'd)

This is senseless, Raven.

Raven appears to be thinking.

RAVEN

I'm drawing a blank.

The hammer comes down and the knee is shattered. A slight wince from Raven.

RAVEN (cont'd)

That all you got?

Bosh grins. He walks over to a set of electrical clips. He moves back towards Raven and grins.

BOSH

Last chance. You won't survive too many of these.

Raven shakes his head in agreement.

RAVEN

Then you'll never find out what you need to know, will you...

Bosh places the clips on Raven's arm and leg. He walks over to a switch.

BOSH

Anything to say before I cook you a little bit?

Raven licks his lips.

RAVEN

I'm a little hungry. Could we maybe bring in some pizza?

Bosh grins.

BOSH

Silly man.

Bosh flips the switch and sends jolts of electricity through Raven's body. It's bad.

BRANDON

Stop it! You're killing him!

BOSH

Do you have the information I require?

BRANDON

No!

BOSH

Too bad.

Bleeding and seemingly badly hurt, it appears that Raven has lost consciousness. Bosh flips the switch off.

BOSH (cont'd)

Take him to the box and revive him. We'll start again tomorrow.

Bosh leaves. Salvo begins to untie Raven as the guards stand ready.

FLASHBACK

INT. TEMPLE - DAY

Raven is being held under the water by his Grandmaster. Raven finally comes up and appears to be in a daze.

GRANDMASTER

Very good! When your body has given up. When you have no more strength to give; it must be your mind that overcomes.

Raven opens his eyes and takes a deep breath.

RAVEN

How long?

GRANDMASTER

Six minutes.

RAVEN

I don't remember.

GRANDMASTER

I know. The body was out after four minutes. But the mind...

RAVEN

Yes...

GRANDMASTER

The body will always fail you, my son, but you control your mind...your thoughts...that's where your real strength is. Never forget that.

BACK TO:

SALVO

Raven seems to be completely out. Slowly, he opens his eyes. Once the ties are off, Raven moves like lightning, spins Salvo around and breaks his neck.

At the same time, Brandon drops down and does a spinning cobra on the two guards knocking one down and distracting the other.

Raven grabs two small surgical blades and flings them at the two guards hitting them each in the eyes.

Then Raven flies at the guards and kills them both. He unties Brandon and the two leave the room.

INT. BUILDING - HALLWAY

Raven and Brandon peer down and see several guards milling about.

RAVEN

(whispering)

I don't suppose you've got a few more of those mines in your pocket.

INT. BOSH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Bosh shakes Tobar's hand.

BOSH

Good work. I'll let you know when and where the money has already been transferred.

TOBAR

Always great doing business with you, Bosh.

Tobar leaves. Bosh walks over to a liquor cabinet and pours himself a drink.

RAVEN

Better make that a double.

Bosh goes for a gun, Raven disarms him. Bosh takes a swing, not smart. Raven breaks Bosh's arm.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Want to die tonight, Bosh?

BOSH

No.

RAVEN

Then do as I say.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - MORNING

Bosh exits the building holding a gun on a tied up Raven and Brandon. Guards swarm them.

BOSE

I got it. Stand back. These two need some personal attention.

The guards stand down. The three men head into the woods.

RAVEN

Very good, Bosh.

BRANDON

This far enough?

RAVEN

Yes.

Brandon flips open his belt buckle and we see a small flashing red light. He pushes the light and we hear and see explosions all over the terrorist camp.

Raven and Brandon quickly free themselves and hurry deeper into the woods.

## ELSEWHERE

Tobar hears the explosions and sees smoke in the distance. He quickens his pace.

EXT. TERRORIST CAMP - MORNING

Many of the terrorists survive and head out after Raven.

EXT. WOODS - SAME

Raven stops.

RAVEN

You stay on this path, son. When you catch up to Tobar don't let him see you. If Bosh makes a sound, shoot him.

BRANDON

Where are you going?

RAVEN

I need to kill me some terrorists.

BRANDON

We can outrun em.

RAVEN

No, we can't. Meet you at the chopper.

Raven hugs Brandon and leaves. Brandon marches Bosh into the woods.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

Raven taking out terrorists.

Raven using his sword and other weapons showing his amazing ability.  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right$ 

Two terrorists are moving up behind Raven. They're ready to shoot when Raven drops to the ground and flings two Ninja Stars at them...

SLOW-MOTION

THE TWO NINJA STARS STREAK THROUGH THE AIR AND FIND THEIR TARGETS...BOTH RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES.

Raven swooping down from trees and killing terrorists.

Raven being shot at. He gets hit in the arm, but it's just a graze.

Raven causing terrorists to shoot themselves.

BACK TO:

EXT. WOODS - SAME

Brandon and Bosh move forward.

BOSH

Your father is an amazing man.

BRANDON

I know.

BOSH

But you will both die.

BRANDON

Someday, maybe. Probably, actually. I'd even go so far as to say definitely. But don't count on it being today.

BOSH

You still don't understand, do you? Many more than must Tobar have crossed over to our side.

BRANDON

Just keep walking.

Bosh laughs.

BOSH

Do you really think we could have pulled off 911 without your help?

Bosh laughs again as the two men walk. Out of nowhere a single shot hits Brandon in the chest. He goes down. Tobar arrives and unties Bosh.

BOSH (cont'd)

There will be a bonus for this.

TOBAR

Better be big. C'mon.

The two men head toward the pick-up spot. Now we can hear the chopper off in the distance. Raven finally comes upon Brandon who is badly injured.

RAVEN

Son!

Raven hurries over and kneels down next to him.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Brandon!

BRANDON

Don't have to yell, Pops.

Raven examines the wound.

BRANDON (cont'd)

You've been hit.

RAVEN

Forget about me. You've been hit.

BRANDON

I've never seen you hit before. Hell, I've never seen you injured.

RAVEN

What did I tell you about swearing? We need to get you to that chopper.

BRANDON

Don't think I can walk.

RAVEN

I'll carry you. Gonna hurt a little.

BRANDON

You're not the only one with tough genes.

Raven picks Brandon up and Brandon yelps.

BRANDON (cont'd)

Okay, maybe you are.

Raven carries him into the woods.

EXT. CHOPPER PICK-UP - DAY

The chopper is in the distance as Tobar and Bosh arrive.

TOBAR

Stay hidden until I leave.

BOSH

We will talk soon.

From out of nowhere, Raven appears and kicks Bosh hard sending him flying into a tree. Tobar grins.

TOBAR

Something I never told you, Raven.

RAVEN

Really, what's that?

TOBAR

I've had some training myself.

RAVEN

Really.

TOBAR

Yes, I'm actually considered a Master in my art.

RAVEN

Is that so? Should be interesting.

Raven walks over behind a bush and pulls out two swords. One with the ivory handle. He tosses the other sword to Tobar who catches it and does a quick kata that is very impressive.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Very nice. Haven't seen that done in the States. Who was your teacher?

TOBAR

I tell you that and you'll know my style. Nice try, Raven.

Tobar lunges at Raven with his sword and the two men begin fighting. During the exchange:

RAVEN

Very good! For a dead man, you fight rather well.

TOBAR

Don't be so sure.

Tobar goes on the offensive. He's actually beating Raven at one point and we see that Raven is badly injured. Brandon is propped up against a tree as he watches the two men fight. The chopper is trying to land.

RAVEN

But I have some bad news for you, Tobar.

TOBAR

Really, what's that?

As the two men continue their swordplay.

RAVEN

I don't even need this sword to beat you, son.

Tobar laughs.

TOBAR

Prove it.

Raven stands back and tosses his sword into a tree...perfect shot. Tobar is shocked.

TOBAR (cont'd)

I'm keeping mine.

RAVEN

Of course.

Tobar comes at Raven with everything he's got. Now for the first time we really get to see how great Raven really is. He moves, kicks and punches with amazing accuracy and speed. Tobar can't believe what's happening.

Raven seems to be everywhere. First in front, then in back, then to the side, then below him. But Raven is hurting bad now. Raven manages to knock the sword from Tobar's hand.

The fight goes on for another minute and even Brandon has never seen his father fight like this, but after a while we see that Raven is just too badly injured to keep up the pace.

Tobar begins to strike at Raven with amazing accuracy again. Tobar knocks Raven to the ground over and over again. Finally, Tobar does a spinning back kick and catches Raven in the chest sending him slamming into a crashed truck.

The helicopter finally lands.

CUT TO:

SHOT OF LEAKING GASOLINE FROM THE TRUCK.

TOBAR

Not so bad now, are you Raven? Think you should have kept the sword.

Raven notices a grenade strapped to Tobar's chest. Tobar picks up his sword and while he does, Raven pulls out a Ninja star and dips it into the leaking gasoline. Out of nowhere, Brandon attacks Tobar from behind...Tobar sends the sword right through him.

RAVEN

No!

TOBAR

Yes!

Brandon falls to the ground injured and bleeding. Tobar pulls a hand grenade from Brandon's vest. Raven sees his opportunity.

Raven sends the Ninja star streaking towards Tobar. It hits the grenade which explodes. The two soldiers from the helicopter hurry over to help Brandon. Raven rushes to his son's side and picks up his head.

BRANDON

Sorry, Dad. I wasn't quick enough.

RAVEN

You did just fine, son. You did just fine.

Brandon smiles and then closes his eyes. Raven holds him close. One of the soldiers pick up Bosh and leads him to the chopper.

INT. CHOPPER - SAME

Bosh is tied up as a MEDIC tends to Raven.

MEDIC

Never seen anything like that. Where did you learn to fight like that, sir?

RAVEN

Japan.

SOLDIER

That's the kind of training we need in the States. Quiet and lethal. And the way you move...almost unreal.

RAVEN

Yeah, training saves lives. But not always.

Raven glances over at his son's body.

RAVEN (cont'd)

Not always.

EXT. CHOPPER - SAME

Flies away.

INT. FBI HALL - DAY

JT is standing at a podium with a full house looking on.

JT

Today we honor a great American that I've had the privilege of knowing for many many years. We haven't always agreed on everything, but I've always had the greatest respect for this man.

A shot of Raven bandaged up in the audience.

JT (cont'd)

I can't even tell you how many impossible missions this man has lead and if I gave up just three of his greatest achievements for America, I'd be thrown into prison for leaking very sensitive information. He's the best of the best and this country owes him a debt that can never be paid. Please, accepting this country's highest honor let me present to you, Raven Reese.

The audience claps as Raven makes his way on stage. JT pulls out the Medal of Valor and the Medal of Honor. The crowd stands.

JT (cont'd)

If there were more medals we could give this man, we would.

JT places the medals around Raven's neck.

JT (cont'd)

(whispers)

The President wants to see you after the ceremony.

Raven smiles and moves over to the mic.

RAVEN

Thank you, General and thank you fellow Americans. But I really don't deserve these medals. The real heros are all those who have laid down their lives for this great Nation. I respectfully dedicate these medals to them and their families and especially my son, Brandon. Thank you.

The crowd claps and keeps standing. Raven returns to his seat.

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

The President is sitting at his desk reading when Raven walks in. The President stands and hurries over to greet him.

PRESIDENT

Raven, it's an honor to finally meet you.

(MORE)

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

Our country owes you a debt they can never pay. I'm so sorry to hear about your son, Brandon.

The two men shake hands.

RAVEN

Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT

Please, sit down.

The President pulls out a chair for Raven then sits down himself.

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

You are an amazing man. An amazing soldier.

RAVEN

Not really, sir. I've just been trained well.

The President grins.

PRESIDENT

Yes, training. It's everything isn't it?

(Beat)

I have a proposition for you. And just hear me out before you refuse, fair enough?

Raven nods.

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

We live in a new world today,
Raven. A world where terrorists
and the like really call the shots.
It's getting so we never really
know who are enemies are. Today
it's some third world country;
tomorrow, how knows. It's getting
to the point where we don't always
even know who the enemy is. Does
that make sense?

Raven nods "yes."

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

We need your skills, Raven. Our country needs them and our men need them. We need to be sharper...better.

(MORE)

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

(Beat)

I want you to consider training elite special forces teams who can do what you do; well, almost. We need to be better and we need to be better fast.

Raven grins.

PRESIDENT (cont'd)

I know this is asking a lot of you and I understand that our country hasn't always kept its word to you, but I'm prepared to correct that.

RAVEN

How, sir?

PRESIDENT

Men like JT will report to you. We will make full restitution to the families of those killed during top secret missions and I give you my word that from this day forward we will no longer send poorly trained soldiers into the field... we cannot just except collateral damage of our own. We will also no longer use the ghost program...when a solider goes into battle undercover, so to speak, and is killed, we will make restitution.

RAVEN

You'll put that in writing, Mr. President? All due respect, I've heard this song before...

The President grins and shakes his head. Now he appears very serious.

PRESIDENT

I understand and I already have it in writing.

The President pulls out a document and slides it across his desk into Raven's hand. Raven picks it up and grins. Raven stands, the President stands.

RAVEN

You've got a deal, Mr. President. Our men do need different training now. They need to be the best they can be.

(MORE)

RAVEN (cont'd)

The art of ninjitsu has made me the best and I will work hard to make our soldiers the best.

The two men shake hands.

EXT. WHITE HOUSE - SAME TIME

Looking into the Oval Office from the Rose Garden, we see the President and Raven shaking hands. PAN DOWN to ground level, we keep going, under ground. Through the dirt and soil until we're in a secret underground room.

A tall, thin man in Arab garb with a long grey beard sits in the darkened room with another man dressed in Arab garb. They are surrounded in a semi-circle by more Arab-looking men.

BIN LADEN

(in Arabic)

We are finally in proper position for our next attack. Praise Allah!

The other men thrust their arms into the air and shout "Allah!"

BIN LADEN (cont'd)

We must treat the Americans like the dirt they are and drive them into the same dwellings we have occupied for over 20 years! Praise the jihad!

Again, the men thrust a hand in the air and should "jihad!"

INT. HELICOPTER - DAY

JT, along with two TRAINEES, approach a large field where dozens of SOLDIERS are training with different levels of expertise.

JТ

You'll have three days to prove yourselves, men.

The men look at each other.

TRAINEE #1

Prove ourselves?

JT grins.

JT

Raven has to accept you.

TRAINEE #2

So what does that mean exactly, prove ourselves?

JT chuckles.

JT

You'll find out. You just do what you're told.

The chopper lands and the two trainees exit. One of the students waves them over to him as the chopper rises into the sky.

JT (cont'd)

Good luck, men.

EXT. HELICOPTER - SAME

From the copter's POV, we move further and further away from the training facility. As we do, the two new trainees drop to the ground for push-ups.

As the helicopter pulls back, we move in close on the students in training. Different groups of students practice different disciplines.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

GROUP OF STUDENTS DOING HAND TO HAND

GROUP OF STUDENTS USING SWORDS

GROUP OF STUDENTS USING BOWS

GROUP OF STUDENTS THROWING THE NINJA STARS

Fade back to the sky.

FADE OUT.

THE END