

# 'Dark Organs' Feature Script Treatment

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## The Logline

' In 2011, a retiree surgeon drags along his ex - student to war torn Syria, seizing the moment to cash in on the gold rush that is the illegal organ trade, all the while trying to escape moral justice, gaining on them at an alarming speed.'

## The Overview

**Dark Organs** is a British, dramatised modern history feature film. A disturbing insight- take on real events that took place in Syria, during their civil war, in which surgeons and seedy businessmen took advantage of citizens and refugees by taking their organs for the opportunity to flee the country from ISIS to the safety of Europe and how a lot of the time, this was all a false deal, with no end result for the seller. This is the story of Dr. Andrew Benett, a retiree organ transplant surgeon and how he dragged his relieved ex- student ; William McCarthy, to what will be the perils of war torn Syria. Conflict starts to grow throughout the film, their ravaging decisions, leading them both through a treacherous path of fate.

## The Characters

- **DR. Andrew Benett** - (56) A British surgeon who embraces solitude, with no family or close friends left, naturally does not take life too seriously. This experienced doctor has not much to die or live for, except the excitement of new challenges and the riches they bring. Level headedness helps him survive and has kept him afloat. His consciousness fades away until enough is enough.
- **William McCarthy** - (25) The Irish/British, once surgical intern of Andrew; William is impulsive and emotional - two factors that got him fired from the NHS, after a child at the hospital couldn't achieve an organ, and sadly died - Williams response was unprofessional. Now working at a supermarket, this opportunity to follow Andrew is a chance to do some good or terribly wrong, whilst making some cash.

- **Faisal Abdalla** - (58) A Israeli businessman of the middle east. Money and a good time is everything to this boss. Taking control of the illegal organ trade in Syria is his game. Bringing citizens in with the promise to achieve escape towards the west of Europe from the perils of ISIS. With Andrew and William doing as he says, he keeps them comfortable and rich - 'a good guy'.
- **'Shredder'**- (Late 30's) The Romanian, personal bodyguard of Faisal, with mystery surrounding him, not much is known about his personal life. He doesn't ever say a word but seems to be happy with the job given from Faisal. Killing and torturing and destroying evidence does not faze this 80's nicknamed villain.
- **Jenny McCarthy** - (late 50's) The Irish Catholic mother of William. Mental, friendly but fed up of William living at home. Believes he's going off to Syria to help refugees with unicef.

## **The Story**

### **Act One**

#### **1. Dr. Andrew Benett gets back to it**

The motions begin in a house in Northampton, England. With the sound of a rowing machine, pictures on the wall telling the successful story of a man, a surgeon : Dr. Andrew Benett. His children grew up and out the nest. His wife - long gone and left him. It's clear from the photographs the medical field was the epicentre of this man's life and now hasn't much to live for relationship wise. We pan onto him, sweating, from a workout. The phone rings, it's Faisal calling from across continents, wanting to know if he'll do another job, explaining it by telling Andrew to switch on the T.V to the news channel. It's the beginning of a war in Syria and this time Andrew plans to make more profit with a helping hand - his ex surgical student; William MCarthy.

#### **2. Recruiting William**

Now, Andrew is pulling up at William's mother's house, where he also lives. William's mother answers and Andrew is pushed up the stairs alone to William's room. Andrew get's mesmerised by artwork resembling God's power. Entering William's bedroom, and seeing what became of his ex- student after he was let go; a let down 25 year old man, with a dead end job. After some difficult persuading (checking out Andrew's expensive car) William tags along for the organ gold rush. Just as Andrew is driving off down the avenue, William watching him do so :

DISSOLVE TO :

### **3. The title sequence in white and black**

**SUPER : 2011**

#### **SUPER: DARK ORGANS**

We see news clips from the Syrian conflict, men fighting, women mourning and children crying. A reminder of the times that flashed before our eyes not 10 years ago. The images of missiles, refugees, chaos keep showing under the track: '**Vilde - Warm Milk**'

The images get faster and cut to the next, and the next, until -

### **3. On The Way And In The Airport**

The images flash to cars falling behind on the motorway.

The song still plays in William's ears phones as he's driven to the airport by Andrew. Andrew gives William the talk through how it all goes down in the business, how he should do as told by Faisal. William takes it with a pinch of salt, at least looking like he does to keep his cool.

We get a shot of them walking through the airport. Boarding the plane.

### **4. On The Plane**

Boarded and ready to go, William drops his bag. His ego is lowered by what falls out, but Andrew already gets protective of him - realising he's just a kid, and hoping he's ready for what lays ahead.

### **5. The Airport In Damascus**

At arrivals in Damascus, William and Andrew are greeted by Faisal, the organ trade boss and overseer of the region. A money man, and forward thinker. He comes across banterish, despite Andrew's warnings to William. Led outside of a side exit, the three encounter rioters against the Assad regime which gets violent quickly. Escaping last second after a horrifying blast. Faisal drives them both to the hospital.

### **6. Faisal's Hospital, Meeting 'Shredder' and Making of Contracts**

Andrew and William are led into Faisal's makeshift hospital (down an elevator, into a basement complex) which they will be working from. William is left alone with Faisal's spine chilling bodyguard - 'Shredder' as Andrew discusses privately with Faisal, how William is new to this. From there, the two new surgeons - Andrew and William sign their - legally, illegal contracts - something meaningless but deadly serious to Faisal. Part of the contract is watching no T.V.

### **7. Getting Settled In, Getting Some Sleep**

After a scuffle with the surgeon being replaced with Andrew and William, and the old surgeon being dragged out by Shredder, Faisal shows off their luxury room (4 crumbling concrete walls, a bunk bed, a shitty oil lamp and a rack for briefcases, for cash they earn).

### **8. Selling prescription drugs to locals**

William wakes up without Andrew in the room. The locked door is jammed open and William finds Faisal and Andrew selling prescriptions to Syrian locals. A mother and child are too poor to buy some much needed anti inflammatories so William sneaks out to hand them to her for free. Faisal watches William's actions whilst spying on him. This is the start of distrust towards his junior surgeon employee. We later see the mother and son, again in the film.

### **9. Breakfast and an early start**

Now, acquainted to the hospital, Faisal, Andrew and William have breakfast - the fry up that was promised. While eating, William discovers the dark side to Faisal. But then reassured by Andrew - as long as he follows the rules of the contract, he's safe. They prepare for the first organ surgery.

### **10. Handing over a gun**

Faisal brings Andrew through to the kitchen. Handing over a gun to Andrew who at first is hesitant but then listens to logical reason - doubting he'll ever have to use it against William.

### **11. First surgery.**

William gets to grips with his old profession. Being tested by Andrew and then taking part in the surgery for a kidney transplant on a Syrian national. William manages to push through the surgery successfully. This in turn along with Andrew's encouragement brings him back much lost confidence. William's now ready to move forward.

### **12. William's pay-cheque**

William goes to Faisal's office, who apart from giving him a dramatic - intense talk on the once Great Britain, that decayed - gives him a briefcase full of £10,000. William looks ecstatic.

## **Act Two**

### **13. Montage of money making**

We get an inside view of how the illegal organ trade operates under Faisal's empire. Seriously, but with an essence of comedy.

### **14. Faisal's nasty side**

Celebrating with beers, Faisal drinks too much and becomes toxic against William, after he asks why 'not watching T.V' was included in his and Andrew's contracts they had to sign. Faisal also leaves behind a clue that will become helpful to William in the future.

### **15. Second surgery**

The second day. William starts to question Andrew - some of the strange rules about the place. But Andrew just wants to keep his head down and keep making money, advising William he should do the same.

### **16. William and Shredder 'Duke' it out**

Shredder disrupts William's game time by taking over the T.V to watch T.V channels. But William gets his revenge by snitching on Shredder to Faisal - who erupts with anger - destroying Shredder's aerial cable - it's in the contract - no T.V!

### **17. Curiosity kills William**

William sneaks out by learning the code - goes to the market streets of the Syrian town to buy his own aerial. When coming back in the middle of the night, William plugs in the aerial and discovers the horrifying news of what's happening in Syria, including the terrorist group - ISIS.

### **18. Waking up from a dream to an explosive nightmare**

William wakes in shock from his strange dream. Andrew wakes up freaking out. There's been an airstrike and William gets a phone call from the mother and son he gave the prescriptions to.

William's emotional and persuades Faisal and Andrew to help save the son of the Syrian mother. William tries his hardest to save the boy but it's not enough. After William gets dragged out the surgery room, along with the mother of the boy, Faisal tells Andrew to take the organs - who agrees and does as told.

### **19. Liquify quickly**

Faisal tells Andrew and William his new plan to operate on as many people including children as possible in a short amount of time. The airstrikes could ruin everything they've gained and their running out of time to pack up shop and leave with a profit. William is strongly against operating on kids - takes a stance against Faisal.

### **20. William's breakdown**

The next day, Andrew is all set up to operate on a child to take their organs when William finally snaps, having a psychotic breakdown - pissed at Andrew for operating on kids. William gets detained and taken away.

After the operation, Andrew tries to cheer up William by using the child, but this only sets in stone what William is to do.

### **21. Enough is enough**

William awakes from a nightmare, and goes to escape the hospital prison, only to be caught by Andrew - pointing a gun to William in the elevator - but unable to shoot.

William almost gets killed by Faisal and Shredder until Andrew calls it off.

The day after, Faisal helps William pack his bag - insisting to Andrew he'll let William go back to England.

William and Andrew say goodbye. But something feels off.

## **Act Three**

### **22. Dropping William off and the ambush**

In the SUV. Shredder drives and Faisal tags along to 'drop William off'. William slowly discovers that this is all a set up. With Faisal leaving the car to 'do some errands', William gets reassurance from Shredder that this will be the end for him.

### **23. Last moments for William**

Driven out to a rural deserted area in the Syrian country, William looks out to the landscape with one granted wish from Shredder; To call William's mother in England to say goodbye. It's a casual phone call, with William not telling her what will happen but rather that he just loves her. The phone call is cut short. William has completely transformed as a character. Once someone who didn't care much, to someone with a pure heart. This transformation doesn't help with his survival, this is real life. William is shot dead at the scene.

### **24. Back at the hospital, everything changes for Andrew**

When Faisal arrives back, he and Andrew have a drink. He reassures Andrew that William is safely on his flight back to England by now so there's nothing to worry about. The talk slowly transpires that William was not actually cut out for it in the first place and that the organ victims are not actually getting paid now or getting the chance to escape to Europe. It's all a scam now.

Andrew is finally disgusted with what has happened to this business, and what he and Faisal are doing but says nothing. His conscience has finally broken through but shows no sign of it to Faisal.

### **25. Faisal's mistrust of Andrew shows itself.**

Pondering at night, Andrew gets up to find the Glock gun that Faisal gave him, only to find out it's missing.

Andrew tries the security code on the locked door - 1.9.7.9 - LOCKED - Password changed.

It's clear that Faisal doesn't trust Andrew anymore, so Andrew hatches a plan. Writes an S.O.S note to help his escape.

### **26. The next morning and the last 'operation'**

Andrew starts the day with two children coming in to sell their organs in the hope that their family can get to Europe. Andrew doesn't operate on the kids, but gives them the S.O.S note to send for safety.

### **27. Andrew hears danger coming from above**

Still in the basement - after the kids have left Andrew can tell that his plan has failed. He hears a gun shot from above on the ground floor but also hears Faisal shouting to Shredder to shoot the other kid. In Faisal's angered voice, Andrew can tell Shredder couldn't get the other kid. Andrew prepares himself for what is to come. Getting ready with the gun Faisal gave him in the beginning.

### **28. Shootout in the hospital basement**

The dodgy wiring shuts off again, and the whole hospital has no light. Faisal and Shredder head down to the basement, where Andrew hides. Coming out of the elevator, it's pitch black. We see the fear on Andrew's face as he's nearly murdered. Andrew cunningly escapes through the elevator, as the doors are closing. Before the elevator doors close Andrew shoots Shredder, killing him but Faisal grabs the gun from Shredder and manages to shoot Andrew in the leg, wounding him.

### **29. Andrew's escape**

Bleeding acutely through his leg, Andrew manages to limp out of the hospital. The ruined street's outside have some Syrian citizens, they crowd around Andrew. The little boy Andrew sent for help is also on the streets, watching him bleed out from afar.

### **30. Andrew's lynching**

The citizens of the street are no longer a friendly face. Andrew realises he's in trouble, especially after they find out he was the surgeon. They've all heard from Andrew's S.O.S that he is evil, exploiting the Syrian people and their children for his and Faisal's gain. They gang up on Andrew, begin lynching and stoning him to death.

### **31. The last scene**

We get glimpses of the last moments of Andrew's life. How God managed to catch up with him and cut him down. The rocks keep coming, bludgeoning him to death. The child, Andrew, sent out to gather people to help him, now watching as he dies. The streets are alive with powerful Syrian citizens. The Syrian flag flies high on a ruined building. Ending the film, we hear an airstrike as everything;

FADE'S OUT.

*The last Image we see is of the Mosaic artwork that resembles - nobody can escape the grasp of God. Nobody.*

*The end.*