

WHITE LIGHT

an original story by
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WHITE LIGHT

SOUND: VIOLENT EXPLOSION and AUTOMATIC GUNFIRE.

1 INT. ARMOURED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC). - DAY 1

PICTURE: TOTAL DARKNESS

SOUND: EXAGGERATED WHINE OF VIDEO CAMERA WARMING UP.

PETER'S POV THROUGH VIDEO CAMERA:

Slowly, grainy, high contrast, near infrared images of FOUR SOLDIERS inside the cramped interior of the APC start to appear.

The vehicle stops abruptly and the rear doors burst open.

The IMAGE bleaches out and then become correctly exposed as the auto meter function of the video camera kicks in.

BACK TO SCENE:

Total chaos.

AUTOMATIC GUNFIRE spewing in all direction.

BACKGROUND: SOLDIERS from the TRUCK behind are running for cover to nearby buildings. Again a wall a SOLDIER with a transmitter, radios for help.

FOREGROUND: THREE SOLDIERS, jump out of the APC, and provide them with covering fire.

CUT TO:

2 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. - DAY 2

HANDHELD CAMERA:

PETER McMULLEN, a FREELANCE TV CAMERAMAN in his early forties, jumps down from the APC filming with a battered IKEGAMI VIDEO CAMERA on his shoulder.

On autopilot with adrenaline, PETER documents everything.

A SOLDIER signals a run for cover. Peter nods.

While another SOLDIER lays down COVERING GUNFIRE from the APC, the THREE SOLDIERS and PETER sprint across the void.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. - DAY 3

PETER'S POV HANDHELD:

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

The lead APC is ablaze. TWO SOLDIERS lie dead, one of the bodies is burning, filling the air with black, acrid smoke.

CUT TO:

4 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. HANDHELD. - DAY

4

The SOLDIERS lay down covering fire for the LAST SOLDIER.

CUT TO:

5 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. - DAY

5

PETER'S POV THROUGH VIDEO CAMERA:

The SOLDIER sprints from the APC, but once in the open, bullets rip into his body and head. He drops like a stone, blood spurting everywhere.

CUT TO:

6 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. - DAY

6

HANDHELD CAMERA:

Covered in blood, PETER tries to stop himself from hyperventilating.

The remaining SOLDIERS quickly make their way up the street. PETER follows, as if back on auto pilot, filming them as they sprint and crouch, laying covering fire for each other. Finally, PETER catches his breath as they all reach a street corner.

A distinctive howl is becoming louder. PETER looks back and sees a T-62 BATTLE TANK moving up the street.

From the another direction, we HEAR the sound of an ANTITANK GRENADE being fired and PETER throws himself to the ground.

SOUND: ANOTHER EXPLOSION.

Covered in dust and blood, PETER stands up and looks around the corner of the building.

PETER'S POV:

Total carnage. A nearby truck is a burning inferno.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. - DAY

7

PETER'S POV THROUGH VIDEO CAMERA:

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

A SOLDIER, hit by flying shrapnel, with his arms hanging off, stands upright for a second before collapsing to the ground.

Another SOLDIER lies shaking in a pool of blood and matted tissue.

We HEAR the screams of SOLDIERS in agony all around.

CUT TO:

8 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. - DAY

8

Unable to get a clear shot at the where the antitank grenade came from, the T-62 BATTLE TANK maneuvers to the right, pushing the burning truck out of its way and crushing an abandoned car completely flat.

It then stops abruptly, momentarily rocking backwards and forwards, before firing.

We HEAR a deafening explosion as massive fireball leaves the gun-barrel of the tank.

At the other end of the street a building disintegrates, showering debris everywhere.

For a few seconds there is silence.

As the dust clears, PETER follows TWO SOLDIERS as they work their way behind the TANK towards the demolished building.

Another group of SOLDIERS further up the street are trying to flush out the remaining resistance.

A SOLDIERS stand in the middle of the debris kicking two partially covered bodies; A YOUNG GIRL, aged thirteen, and a THIRTY YEAR OLD MAN. Beside them is a rocket-launching APG-7 rifle.

PETER instinctively films blind from the hip, trying not to draw attention to himself.

CUT TO:

9 EXT. NARROW URBAN STREET. - DAY

9

POV THROUGH VIDEO CAMERA:

The YOUNG GIRL moans. One of the SOLDIERS quickly stamps his foot on her neck and, holding her head still, shoots her through the head. Her eyes bore into the CAMERA.

CUT TO: