

# CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS

The background of the entire image is a dramatic sunset or sunrise scene. The sky is a deep, fiery orange and red, with dark, silhouetted clouds. In the foreground, several military helicopters are flying across the sky, their rotors blurred. To the left, a tall, dark watchtower stands on a hill, with a small figure visible on its platform. The overall mood is somber and evocative, reflecting the themes of the film.

AMID THE UNSPEAKABLE HORRORS OF THE VIETNAM WAR, ONE HERO'S ODYSSEY  
SPARKS A REVOLUTION OF HEALING FOR THOSE HAUNTED BY INVISIBLE SCARS.

BASED ON THE BOOK BY SHAD MESHAD STORY BY SCOTT MCCULLOUGH AND NANCY FROESCHLE  
SCREENPLAY BY NANCY FROESCHLE DIRECTOR/PRODUCER SCOTT MCCULLOUGH

# CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS

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GENRE: War/drama book adaptation based on a true story

FORMAT: 120-minute feature film, \$19MM estimated budget

COMPARABLE FEATURES: Platoon, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest,

COMPARABLE SERIES: Band of Brothers, Homecoming

A 7-part limited series that further expands this story is available upon request.

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Throughout history, the brutal scars of war have been laid bare before us, while the silent turmoil of a soldier's mind has remained hidden in the shadows. But in the chaos of Vietnam, in 1970, a young visionary made a daring pledge to bring that inner suffering to light. Captain Shad Meshad, the youngest officer in the US military at the time, embarked on a groundbreaking odyssey: to give a voice to those haunted by what would later be known as PTSD. With unmatched courage, he plunged into the heart of battle - not just on the frontlines, but within the very souls of the soldiers, determined to expose and confront the pain lurking deep inside.

A portion of the proceeds pledged to the National Veterans Foundation [NFV.org](https://www.nfv.org)



A black and white photograph of a man in military uniform, sitting in a jungle. He is holding his head in his right hand, looking down with a distressed expression. The background is filled with dense foliage. A semi-transparent dark band across the middle of the image contains the text "UNDENIABLE. UNFORGETTABLE. UNTOLD." in a gold-colored serif font.

UNDENIABLE. UNFORGETTABLE. UNTOLD.



## SYNOPSIS

**CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS** is Psych Officer Captain Shad Meshad, the youngest Captain to return from the Vietnam War, is haunted by the horrors he witnessed. He searches for purpose among the burned-out encampments at Venice Beach, where homeless veterans cling to survival. Each has deep wounds and their agony thrusts Shad back in time to remember that harrowing year and confront the devastating reality of PTSD as he searches for a new way to treat the troops.

Reeling from a suicide bombing that nearly claimed his life, Shad arrives at the 95th Evac Hospital in Da Nang Vietnam. Unprepared for the horrors, he is plunged into chaos on his first night. As heroic doctors and nurses triage the waves of broken and bloodied soldiers, Shad, in sweltering heat, must do the unthinkable - sort the living from the dead. With shaking hands, he places dog tags in the mouths of fallen boys and zips their shattered bodies into bags. Each gesture pulls him deeper into the nightmarish reality that will change him forever.

The relentless tide of trauma leaves Shad obsessed to help. He becomes a confidant to soldiers consumed by fear and guilt, including Bobby Timmons, a young farm boy on the brink of mental collapse. Shad fights to save him, but Colonel Bratmann, the hospital's commander, dismisses the boy's suffering and forces him back to the frontlines like so many other grunts. Pushed past his breaking point, Timmons kills Bratmann with a grenade, and maims himself in the process. Timmons begs Shad to help him die, but Shad can't play God. After Shad leaves, Timmons takes his own life, leaving Shad tormented by his inability to save the boy.

Embittered by the absurdity of command and the senseless horrors inflicted upon the soldiers, Shad returns home. When the men are greeted by protests and labeled 'murderers' and 'baby killers', Shad is outraged by the callous indifference and vows to fight for his fellow veterans. His experience at Venice Beach fueling his resolve, Shad vows to bring hope to those lost in the shadows and shatter the people's ignorance of the unseen wounds of war.

*Based on the acclaimed true story and adapted from the popular book, Captain for Dark Mornings is a visceral, unflinching portrait of resilience, redemption, and the relentless pursuit to heal the invisible scars of combat.*

# PAX MENTIS

## *Peace of Mind*

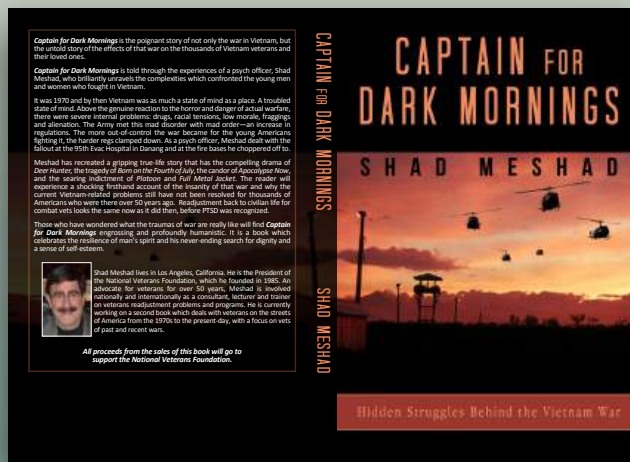
Meet Shad - Floyd "Shad" Meshad's journey began in the quagmire of 1970's Vietnam. The youngest Captain in the military at that time, he served as a Psych Officer to the wounded and embattled.

Shad wore many hats - therapist, Chaplain, friend, soldier, mortician, and body bagger. With dignity and respect, he stood up for the battered, wounded and dying.

Shad also playfully seized moments for relief from the war. From raucous adventures at the 95th Evacuation Hospital, to saving babies he bought in Saigon for a dollar, Shad was a vigorous instigator and source of support. Though war can bring out the worst in people, Shad offered his best and gave Peace of Mind to so many.

## BASED ON THE BOOK

Audio narrated by DAN LAURIA  
and in print - Rated 5 STARS



"AN ABSOLUTELY SMASHING REAL-LIFE STORY..."

S.L. Stebel, Two-Time Bestselling Author

"FANTASTIC..."

Ron Kovic, Bestselling Author

"Born On The Fourth of July"

"ENORMOUSLY EXCITING..."

Jon Voight, Academy Award Winner

"THE BEST BOOK ON VIETNAM..."

Max Cleland, Former Administrator of The VA

"CANDID AND ENGAGING..."

Walter H. Capps, Author "The Unfinished War"

"POWERFUL AND COMPASSIONATE..."

Al Santoni, Bestselling Author "Everything We Had"

★★★★★

VALUABLE LESSONS ABOUT DUTY, HONOR AND  
COMMITMENT TO WORK."

Professor Figley - Amazon

SHAD CAPTURES THE ESSENCE OF OUR SHARED  
EXPERIENCES WITH RAW AUTHENTICITY  
Eliz - Amazon

## ORIGINS and DISCOVERY of PTSD HEALING

The contested and unpopular Vietnam War fueled extreme incidence of crime, racism, rape, desertion, and fragging (killing of commanding officers) exposed in CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS. From a boots-on-the-ground perspective, this film offers a raw and unflinching look at the trauma endured by soldiers, medical personnel, and civilians alike.

But this film digs deeper. Raw and unflinching, yet peppered with gallows humor, it tells its tale through the eyes of one dedicated man - Captain Shad Meshad - as he scours for solutions to the psychological problems he and others faced during his tour and beyond.

Not yet labeled PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) - now "PTS," Shad pioneered methods to help treat what was then known as "shell shock" and advocated for ailing soldiers and personnel in the midst of inept command and unreasonable leadership demands. Shad's character, humor and positive attitude challenged the harsh realities of war head on. Even threat of an absurd Court-Martial for his mustache, Shad's personified his ability to navigate unreal circumstances with humor and respect. And his evolving understanding of PTSD helped him aid soldiers both on and off the battlefield.

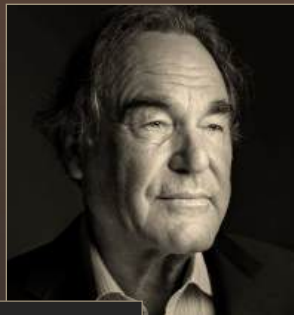
With dignity, Shad fought then and fights to this day with passion and determination - because every man and every woman counts.





## KEY DIFFERENTIATORS FROM VIETNAM NARRATIVES OF THE PAST

- A gripping, psychological exploration of one of history's most misinterpreted conflicts: the Vietnam War.
- Adapted from the acclaimed true story of Shad Meshad, a Psychological Officer in the trenches, this narrative delves into the roots of PTSD and the groundbreaking treatments pioneered in the field.
- A female screenwriter brings a fresh voice to the tale, emphasizing the often-overlooked experiences of nurses who served in Vietnam.
- The film exposes the rigid, war-driven commanders and their crippling impact on soldier morale.
- Since the war, Meshad and the National Veterans Foundation have supported over 500,000 veterans and their families from all conflicts.
- Relevant now and likely forever, Captain For Dark Mornings confronts the deep-seated traumas warriors carry and poses a haunting question: Will we ever learn?
- Racism, drug addiction, and "fragging"—the killing of commanding officers—took place in silence, but their implications resonate loudly.



**OLIVER STONE**

SCREENPLAY REVIEW

**“‘CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS’ IS GREAT. WOULD BE GREAT FOR HBO OR NETFLIX.”**

film director, producer, and screenwriter  
Platoon, Wall Street, JFK,  
Winner of 4 Academy Awards  
Winner of 5 Golden Globes, and more

**“‘CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS’ IS AN IMPORTANT, POWERFUL AND  
BRILLIANT STORY. IT DESERVES TO GET MADE. I WOULD BE HONORED TO BE  
A PART OF IT. THE SCRIPT’S SPIELBERG LEVEL MATERIAL.”**

Emmy and Golden Globe winning Actor and Veteran’s Advocate  
Pledged attachment to the picture.



**MARTIN SHEEN**

SCREENPLAY REVIEW

**DAN RATHER**

BOOK REVIEW



**‘CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS’ IS SUPERB. THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT,  
INCLUDING RE READING SOME REACTIONS, THE MORE IT STAYS WITH ME...  
ALWAYS A SIGN OF A WORTHWHILE BOOK.**

Anchorman and Managing Editor - CBS Evening News '81-'06  
Seven-time Peabody Award Winner, Emmy Lifetime Award



THE WORLD





CINEMATIC STYLE / TONE





CINEMATIC STYLE / TONE



## MAJOR CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS - PART ONE

### **CAPTAIN FLOYD "SHAD" MESHAD**

Shad enlists when he could have had a much safer job due to his education. Assigned to the 95th Evac Hospital as a Psychological Officer, Shad, at 24, is the youngest officer in Vietnam and develops his own methods to help Soldiers with what will later be called PTSD. Shad is exhausted by the never-ending line of Soldiers who talk with him about their unimaginable experiences. Wanting to help them all, he's overcome by his inability to help and ends up experiencing his own PTSD. But the experience will set Shad on his lifelong path to help those affected by the horrors of war.



### **CORPORAL BOBBY TIMMONS**

A farm boy from Iowa, Timmons, 19, is an animal lover and mellow soul. The boy represents every man suffering from the unseen wounds of war. Unable to fathom the loss of his entire platoon, he tries to grit through it, but denied rest and help from Colonel Plummer, becomes a casualty that Shad does everything for, but can't save. It's the Bobbys' of the world that put Shad on a course that will ultimately help hundreds of thousands of Veterans from all wars.



### **COLONEL BANKS**

A fair man and father figure for Shad, Banks believes in Shad's methods and gives him the latitude he needs to help soldiers with PTSD. Banks is Head of Medical Services for One and Two Corps. When Banks is discharged and sent home, Shad is left without a mentor and advocate and will be forced to fight with all he's got for his patients' rights.



## MAJOR CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS - PART TWO

### COLONEL PLUMMER

In charge of a large military base, Plummer is an advocate of war and drives his men too far in an effort to achieve his personal goals. Hearing rampant complaints about the base, Banks sends Shad to interview people and learns the problem is Plummer. Here Shad meets Bobby Timmons after the decimation of Timmons' platoon. Shad pleads for Plummer to send Timmons home or at least allow him R and R. But Plummer sees it as Shad 'coddling' the boy. This pits Shad and Plummer against each other and starts a rivalry that will follow Shad through his tour.

### MAJOR ELAINE SWANSON

A combat nurse who is calm in the face of chaos, Elaine helps Shad stay grounded. Shad falls for her immediately and she for him, but Elaine is married and the relationship can never be. Shad would give anything to be with her, but he's a gentleman and won't go there. Elaine helps Shad see that he's fighting the good fight.

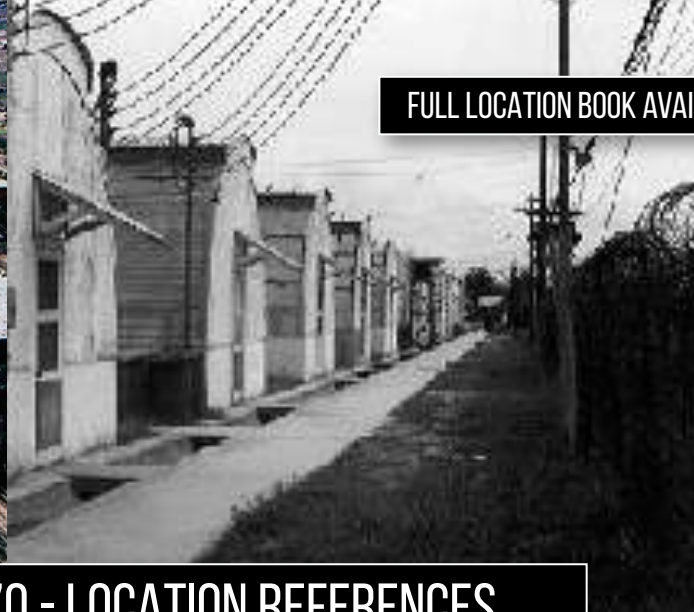
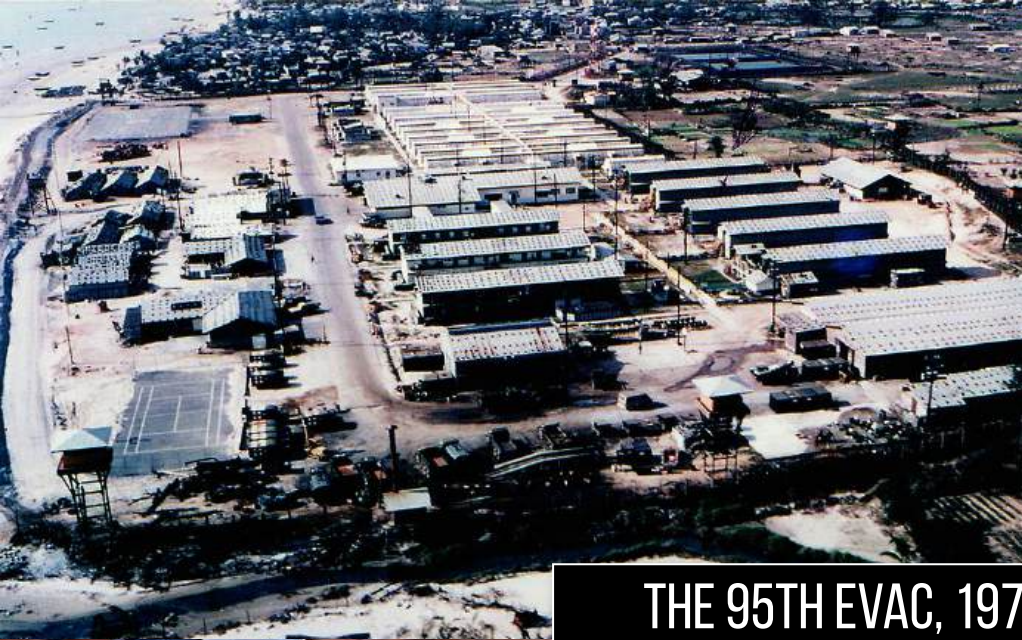
### JIM WILTON

A rebel from Missouri, Wilton is a JAG Officer at Camp Horn, who's in charge of hearing fragging cases and other serious crimes. He and Shad become fast friends when Shad visits him to file patient reports, including one for a fragging. Down the road, Wilton will defend Shad in a case that will eventually cost Shad his position at the 95th.

### LIEUTENANT BOB FRANCO

A New York Italian with a heavy Brooklyn accent, Franco is the kind of leader everyone wants. Always looking out for his men, Franco would never ask them to do anything he wouldn't do himself. He too is a little bit in love with Elaine, but is indebted to her for the introduction to Shad and being the catalyst for their lifelong friendship.





FULL LOCATION BOOK AVAILABLE



## THE 95TH EVAC, 1970 - LOCATION REFERENCES



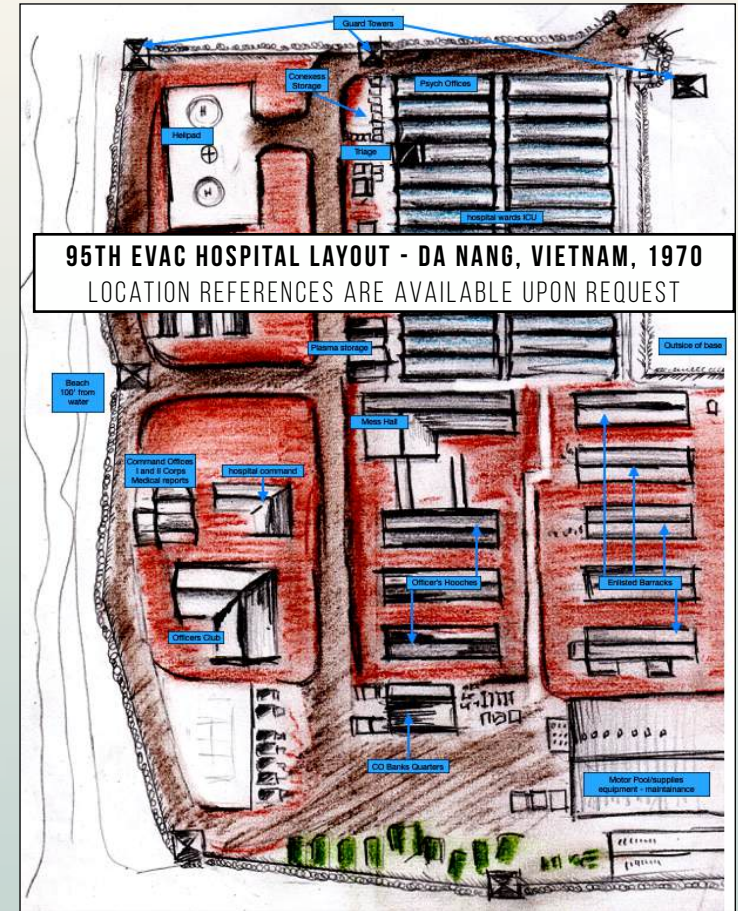
# INCENTIVES AND SHOOT LOCATIONS (Thailand/Los Angeles)

Attractive cost incentives in Thailand make it the ideal location for this film. Our set design focuses on creating detailed, partial sets authentic to China Beach aided by CGI set extensions - such as mountains, atmospheric elements, and helicopters—used to authentically recreate the 95th Evac Hospital. This approach prioritizes realism, allowing us to capture raw, visceral moments through minimal stage shooting and strong military support. Bangkok offers street architecture that still reflects the look of 1970s Saigon, while Los Angeles will host key scenes, including Helicopter crash, 1973 burnt-down POP Pier (with partial sets with LED Unreal Engine technology), Oakland processing and riots, courtroom and JAG office scenes.

## THAILAND INCENTIVES

Current exchange rate: 1 USD = 33.98 THB (as of 02/02/25). A cash rebate of up to 20% is available. Although not the only option, Benetone Films is well-equipped to assist qualified productions in securing funding for global shoots and provided a detail budget for Below the Line costs. Our international reach allows us to offer multi-jurisdictional advice to major studios, television production companies, and financiers on project structuring. We work closely with clients to identify opportunities across various territories, helping maximize available incentives, as demonstrated in productions like The Beach, The Impossible, and Air America.

The initial estimate for 33 days of filming—including 30% partial set builds and all in-country location shoots—is \$5.7 million USD. Production services will be provided by an experienced Thailand-based production company with decades of expertise and full support pledged.





## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Shad Meshad has entrusted his extraordinary journey to the award-winning director Scott McCullough, who envisions Captain for Dark Mornings (CFDM) as an intense, unflinching biopic of an unwavering American hero during one of our nation's most tumultuous and misunderstood wars.

CFDM promises to be a visceral, authentic experience—raw and full of pathos. It captures those rare, heartbreaking moments of heroism emerging from the ashes of conflict. The story is intricately crafted around the protagonist's struggles, illuminating his steadfast commitment, personal trials, and fierce advocacy for the common soldier. Drawing from the book's vivid accounts, the script weaves together themes that emerge organically from the character's environment—depicting the stark divisions within the military hierarchy against the backdrop of battle-scarred landscapes and the relentless horrors of war.

Against all odds and a system stacked against him, Shad's relentless dedication and grace will resonate with even the hardest of hearts. This series is a heartfelt exploration of the human spirit amid the chaos of war, breaking free from clichéd narratives and familiar tropes. We delve deep into the psyche of the soldier, seeking ways to alleviate their suffering.

The intense, high-octane experience of war is balanced by the brilliance of one heroic man who dared to demand change, reshaping our understanding of these heroes through his eyes. CFDM is a cinematically rich, vital true story that must be told—an essential testament to courage and resilience in the face of adversity.



## DIRECTOR SELECTED ENDORSEMENTS

"Scott McCullough has shown that he's an exceptional filmmaker. He can make a film that drags the audience into a new world, a bleak world filled with tired, beaten-down characters who are stuck in a meaningless circle, and he narrates a thrilling story that keeps you on your feet....McCullough is a filmmaker with a future to look forward to, as he has shown what he can do in this limited format and hints that he will be even more successful with his upcoming feature films."

**FullShot Cine Mag review**

"Suspenseful, thrilling and equally intriguing, Three Days Gone is not your usual run-of-the-mill film. It combines a spectacular plot with the directing expertise of Scott McCullough to deliver a powerfully evocative director's cut that keeps you on the edge of your seat...McCullough expertly delivers the plot-line in morsels and crumbs, strategically leaving the viewer to piece together the complex web of murder, violence and betrayal in the film."

**Indie Film Critics review**

"As a colleague with whom I've had one of the best, most professional and creative collaborations of my filmmaking career, Scott McCullough, always devoted and prepared, made himself invaluable in every aspect of the production and postproduction periods. His command of both the big picture and the smallest detail gave him the ability to bring out the very best at any given moment. He is brilliant. He's passionate. He's personable. He gets things done right."

**Howard E. Smith ACE, Editor - Glengarry Glen Ross, Strange Days, The Abyss**

"I see in Scott McCullough what top directors implement and practice. He has commitment to professionalism and respects our business and his colleagues with true collaborative flair...I am excited and confident in working with Scott and have all the faith he will deliver on any project he chooses to take on."

**Ralph Winter, Producer - X2: X-Men United, Altered Carbon, Planet of the Apes**





## SCOTT MCCULLOUGH DGA, VES - DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

A proven, multi-award winner Scott McCullough hails from Minnesota. Scott's portfolio amassed over 207 filmmaking honors/awards so far initiated from his collaborations with music icon Prince during the peak of the artist's career. Scott elevated his mentor's iconic compilation videos like "Gett Off," "Diamonds and Pearls," "3 Chains o' Gold," and "Sexy M.F." to stunning visual excellence. Recently, Sony and Warner Bros. will release the highly anticipated concert film Prince Live at Glam Slam, directed and shot by Scott as part of the "Super Deluxe Edition Box Set - Diamonds and Pearls."

Building on his past, Scott has now turned his focus to major motion pictures, exploring compelling narratives that shed light on untold stories of PTSD during the Vietnam War era in Captain for Dark Mornings, based on the critically acclaimed book by Shad Meshad, as well as an effects-driven action/horror feature, INFERNAL. This evolution allows him to tackle profound themes and pressing societal issues with his characteristic passion and artistic vision while elevating projects with kinetic cinematic style.

Scott's expertise also extends to directing high-impact commercials for prestigious brands such as Warner Bros. Records, NBC/Universal, NASCAR, Ford, Budweiser, Pepsi, Target, and many more. He has been repeatedly sought after for high-budget projects across Fortune 500 companies, collectively valued at over \$582 billion. A defining moment in Scott's career occurred when screen legend Paul Newman personally requested him to direct his final on-screen appearance over Michael Bay, a heartfelt tribute to the Champ Car racing team. Additionally, Scott showcased his multifaceted abilities by creating, writing, directing, and cinematography for Thunder Theater's groundbreaking 70mm NASCAR experience films, "100%" and "No Bull." These pioneering productions, featured in the world's largest mobile theatre, introduced cutting-edge effects that paved the way for today's immersive 4-D experiences.

Scott is committed to directing motion pictures as well as TV shows and series that blend drama, action, and comedy, transcending commercial expectations to provide audiences with a compelling and lasting experience.







## SHAD MESHAD, LCSW, CTS, TFTdx - 2023 - US Veteran's Hall of Fame

For almost five decades, National Veterans Foundation (NVF) Founder and President Shad Meshad has worked as a therapist for veterans and an advocate for veterans' rights. After receiving his master's degree in psychiatric social work from Florida State University, he enlisted in the army in 1970 and served as a counselor for U.S. soldiers in Vietnam.

Upon his return to the U.S., Meshad founded and directed the Vietnam Veterans Re-Socialization Unit at the VA Hospital in Los Angeles. It was the first program of its kind, focusing on the readjustment problems of Vietnam veterans. During this time, Meshad was among the first to study the disorder now known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

In 1978, he worked to develop and lobby for the National Vietnam Veterans Readjustment Bill. In 1979, Meshad founded the Vet Center Outreach Program, which now serves veterans in more than 300 locations across the country.

In 1980, Meshad was nominated for the first Olin Teague Medal of Service Award. In 1982, he published a memoir of his experiences in Vietnam, entitled "CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS." In 1985, he founded the Vietnam Veterans Aid Foundation, which he later renamed the National Veterans Foundation.

He has served on the faculty of the International Critical Incident Foundation; as President and Board Member of the Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists; and, was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Green Cross Project.

Today, Meshad consults and teaches stress reduction and anger management techniques to mental health, law enforcement, and critical incident professionals through Quantum Performance institute, a firm he established in 2001. He continues his work with veterans in the Los Angeles area, helping them through the process of healing and readjustment and is a regular contributor to the Huffington Post raising awareness about issues returning veterans' face.

# FILM COMPARISONS

Inflation not adjusted, P/A values unavailable



Budget 58.8MM  
WW Gross \$547 Million  
**ROI 930%**

Academy Nominations:

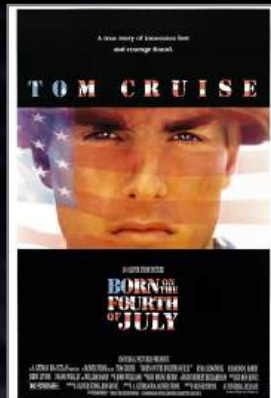
Picture  
Actor  
Screenplay  
Editing  
Sound  
Sound Editing (WIN)



Budget 15MM  
WW Gross \$49.2 Million  
**ROI 228%**

Academy Nominations:

Picture (WIN)  
Director (WIN)  
Actor  
Screenplay (WIN)  
Editing (WIN)  
Cinematography  
Sound (WIN)  
Sound Editing (WIN)  
Original Score



Budget 14MM  
WW Gross \$161 Million  
**ROI 1,150%**

Academy Nominations:

Picture  
Director (WIN)  
Actor  
Screenplay  
Editing (WIN)  
Sound  
Original Score



Budget 3MM  
WW Gross \$109 Million  
**ROI 3,637%**

Academy Nominations:

Picture (WIN)  
Director (WIN)  
Actor (WIN)  
Screenplay (Win)  
Actress (WIN)  
Editing  
Supporting Actor  
Cinematography  
Score



Budget 3.5MM  
WW Gross \$82 Million  
**ROI 2,331%**

Academy Nominations:

Picture  
Director  
Supporting Actress  
Screenplay (WIN)  
Editing



Budget 6MM  
WW Gross \$139 Million  
**ROI 2,309%**

Academy Nominations:

Picture (WIN)  
Director (WIN)  
Supporting Actor  
Supporting Actor  
Screenplay  
Editing (WIN)  
Cinematography  
Sound (WIN)

"You have such a GREAT Script!  
'Captain for Dark Mornings' is  
fantastic - some Savvy Person IS  
going to make your FILM HAPPEN!"

Howard E. Smith  
Film Editor



## NANCY FROESCHLE - SCREENWRITER

Nancy Froeschle is a Nicholl Fellowships winner for *The Greater Glory* set in WWI. Her optioned thriller, *The Restoration*, was a 2019 Writer's Lab finalist and winner of the Writers Digest Screenplay Competition. Her co-written Thriller, *Terminal*, was a 2020 quarter-finalist in the Big Break competition. She was hired to adapt a WWII true story and a Vietnam War book to film. Martin Sheen is attached to the latter. Enamored with TV, Nancy's co-written *Purgatory*, a period western pilot and 2021 Austin second-round; *Blue Hour*, a dark dramedy pilot and 2022 ISA Emerging Screenwriters Quarterfinalist; *Funeral Club*, a dark dramedy pilot; and *Lake Crescent*, a female-driven, supernatural pilot. In 2021, she was rehired to co-write the Vietnam book as a limited series. Her latest endeavor is a co-written sci-fi thriller feature titled *Exit The Machine*.



### Screenplay Awards

2022 Emerging Screenplay Quarter-Finalist  
2021 Stage 32 Diversity Springboard Semi-Finalist  
2020 Fade In Awards True Story/Biopic Nominee  
2019 Semi-Finalist Fade In Awards winner

**Executive “S.S.” - Pitch Feedback (feature):** *Thank you so much for sharing this compelling story with me. Considering the news this week and what I'm watching friends that served in Iraq / Afghanistan go through, it was incredibly difficult for me to watch your video pitch and I appreciate you pushing this forward. I don't know if I have the emotional capacity to tell this one with you, but I'm open to reading.*

**Geralyn Smith - Pitch Feedback:** *Scott's pitch for "Captain for Dark Mornings" was a fascinating read! The document is visually captivating and its evident from these pages that a lot of careful development has already gone into the series. The story is emotionally resonant on multiple levels and is full of beautifully complex character dynamics. I am typically hesitant about the commercial viability of limited series as there has been a trend away from that format in the marketplace. However, I think that this series could be a strong contender as is. I am “passing” on the pitch but only because this project is outside of my current development purview. I have high hopes for this series and am eager to see it come to fruition.*

**Jeff Boone - Feedback:** *The first ten pages of CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS effortlessly invoke a colorful 1970s world. From the beautiful LA coastline to the grit of Vietnam and the Hospital Compound, each feel unique and richly detailed. And with Shad from motorcycle to visiting the homeless vets, to active combat in Vietnam, there's a compelling pace to the entire opening sequence.*

*Shad feels like a compelling entry point to the story. In comparing this piece to the countless Vietnam and Vietnam-adjacent shows/films/stories, him being a Psych Officer feels like a small difference but an important one as a fresh POV into the world.*

*Overall, CAPTAIN is well-crafted and engaging.*

## FEEDBACK AND VIABILITY

**Sofia Rovaletti - Pitch Feedback:** *The structure of this pitch is excellent! The delivery of the information was perfectly clear, and you have a lot of meaningful material to showcase. This is a very valuable project, not only because it is based on a book but also because it has a very important message and concept to deliver, which is the story of how PTSD got discovered. I really do not have anything else to suggest here. I would love to please read the script of the feature and the pilot for the limited series.*

**Script Feedback:** *...the story is very shocking, thrilling and at the same time I feel this is a very important story to tell. The writing, characterization, and dynamic between characters are fantastic.*

**Literary Department, 1399: Pitch Feedback:** *This is a very moving and interesting idea for a story. This doc is very effective at conveying a ton of information about the project and is extremely visually engaging as well, which is great. It's also very easy to get a read on tone from the doc which is very helpful too. I do think tonally that this idea stays a bit close to Spike Lee's DA 5 BLOODS, which also deals with the aftermath of Vietnam and the effects of PTSD on American soldiers. I honestly don't really have many critiques—I think you've done a fantastic job here creating an informative, exciting, and visual pitch doc.*

**Nigel Wooll, Producer (Tar):** *Just finished your terrific script. It was so enthralling that I read it straight through. This is a must script to be made. Thailand would work perfectly for 90% of the production with an added bonus of 30% tax break.*

**Jim Young - Pitch Feedback:** *Really impressive pitch! Appreciate you sending it along. Thought the visuals were strong and help bring the story to life, great job putting such an impressive team together, and no doubt the subject matter is important, inspiring and has a place in the market. Also, good to see a female perspective in terms of the script. Not many notes in terms of the script or the accompanying material which we also checked out. Was great to see the prototypes of actors that could potentially play the roles and given the period nature of the piece and the action sequences, sounds like the right budget range. Regrouped on our end and the challenge with our partners who would be apt to this kind of material and in this budget, range is that our marching orders have been to attach directors that have previous film notoriety even if the person is entirely capable as it appears that you are. It's clear that you have a lot of support and could attract a solid caliber of cast but that's something that has ultimately been a prerequisite unless there's an actor with high enough value to compensate for that. Between all the support there is for the project, how buttoned up the presentation is, the incredibly accomplished team and the importance of the subject matter, you'll be able to find a wonderful home for it.*

**Matthew Ozuna - Pitch Feedback:** *This is a well-thought-out pitch delivery that examines all the right elements in presenting a screenplay. Everything is there to know about this project is contained in this pitch, which helps gain a better understanding of the vision of the story. Although this project is your typical Vietnam setting-based film, what helps this project stand out as an original piece is how the story is centered around PTSD among soldiers. By being more focused on that aspect will bring this story a more authentic feeling and will bring an audience that relates with this type of behavior. It could also be somewhat therapeutic for people that may be struggling.*



"IT DO MEAN SOMETHIN'" - SHAD MESHAD



# CAPTAIN FOR DARK MORNINGS

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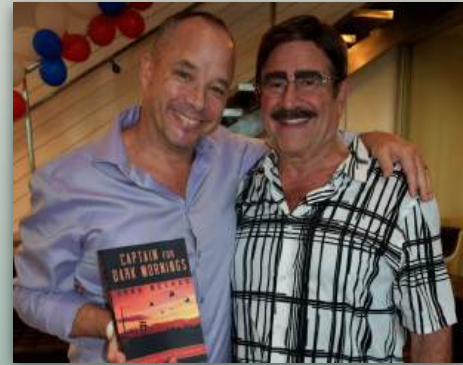
Captain for Dark Mornings is a feature film in search of a leading industry producer or production company to secure full funding and distribution. The estimated production schedule spans 39 days, with a budget under \$20 million, including 33 days in Thailand—where unbeatable exchange rates apply—and 6 days in Los Angeles.

Preliminary Below the Line (BTL) costs for the Thailand segment, covering crew, gear, accommodations, exterior and interior sets (including partial facades of the Vietnam 95th base), jungles, stunts, mechanical effects, props, vehicles, and extras, are projected at \$7 million for the 33-day shoot (budget details available upon request).

The remaining budget will encompass Above the Line (ATL) costs for cast, key crew, CGI effects, post-production, scoring, and Virtual Production assets set in 1973 Venice, CA.

Filming in authentic locations ensures a cinematic experience infused with visceral energy and uncompromising authenticity. Enhanced by cutting-edge CGI technology, Captain for Dark Mornings promises to deliver a powerful and unforgettable tribute to our war heroes.

Clean, singular chain of title and life-rights held in perpetuity by Scott McCullough.



## CONTACT

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