

Giant of Kandahar

Based on a true story

FADE IN:

2002

Kandahar. A remote, ancient and biblical city in Afghanistan, once called Khorasan also known as... The holy land.

1 A DARK VOID IN SOMEONES MIND

V.O

I used to have nightmares. Thunder became a monster in my mind. Sometimes so real, the clouds shook under the foot of giants.

The SOUND of thunder crashes.

VOICE

Hey wake up.

2 INT. BARACKS - MORNING

VOICE (O.S)

Hey wake up.

A hand slaps the head of DAVID, 24 who sleeps on a cot.

VOICE (O.S)

Hey.

DAN, muscular and hardened from years of war, slaps him again.

DAN

Quit murmuring about giants. We're in the real world now.

David looks at him.

DAN

We're Green Beret. Now get your ass up.

Dan looks at the others up and at the ready.

DAN

Before you embarrass me.

Dan yanks the blanket off David. Surprised, David hugs his rifle dressed and ready. Dan looks at him and scoffs.

DAN

Hmm.

He walks off.

DAVID

Love you too brother.

He takes a knee and whispers to his rifle.

DAVID

In war death is brought...to what for
the moment exists completely...In war
the reality of the time that separates
a being from its death...is
recognized. De Oppresso Liber.

David looks at Dan.

VOICE (O.S)

Don't worry about him. He's just your
brother.

David turns to see MIKE, too handsome to be a soldier.

MIKE

They're born assholes.

David smiles.

MIKE

They just come skippering out of the
womb assholes.

VOICE (O.S)

REGULATORS!

Captain MARK, a 30 something bad ass and commanding officer
stands front and center.

MARK

Mount up.

They look at each other.

MARK

You know what the fuck that means. Go,
go, lets go!

Mark looks at Mike, who sits on his bed.

MARK
You. Pretty boy.

Mike looks up from where he sits.

MARK
That also means you.

He jumps from his bunk.

MARK
Pretty boys don't get special
privileges.

He smooths his bearded chin and smiles.

MARK
Except this one.

The unit gathers around the Captain, who briefs them on the mission. He eyeballs the group of six.

MARK
Alright listen up. Shit just got real.
It's gonna sound a lot like some
"Aliens" shit.

A few chuckle.

MARK
Not ET, or little green men. I'm
talking "Aliens".

MIKE
James Cameron.

MARK
Yes, James Cameron shit. "Aliens"
shit.

Mark eyeballs the group.

MARK
I know this is a shorter notice than
you're used to but this is a time
sensitive situation, so listen and
save your questions. Six hours ago an
infantry squad on patrol went missing,
no radio contact. Reports had this
area relatively clear of enemy
presence so FORSCOM is at a loss.

Normally local QRF would handle this, but FORSCOM thinks, and SOCOM agrees, that a more subtle approach might be better, which is where we come in. Our mission is to helicopter in to the patrols last front line, trace and search along their projected route until we find some trace of our lost patrol. Our best case scenario is finding these men alive, and bringing them home, but any info is vital. You'll be dropped in by Chinook here.

He turns to a Map.

MARK

Follow along the route outlined on your maps, and search for any sign of our lost squad. Should you find anything, collect it and radio in. If you secure living personnel, call for immediate extraction. Should you encounter the enemy, aim high.

DAN

Aim high?

The soldiers exchange puzzled glances. He eyeballs the group of war hardened men.

MARK

Honor your country. Honor your team.
Honor yourself. We deploy at 015:00.

CRAZY MUSIC - STARTS

3 EXT. SANDY PLANE - DAY

A Black Hawk hovers and stirs up dust. The sound of the rotors fills the air. The troops run toward the hawk as it sets down.

4 INT. BLACK HAWK

The troops jump in.

5 EXT. SANDY PLANE

Mark watches as the Black Hawk ascends.

6 INT. BLACK HAWK

David looks as Mark gets smaller and smaller. Dan pats him on the shoulder.

DAN
Stay close lil bro.

David looks at him.

DAVID
Where would I go?

7 EXT. SANDY PLANE

Mark watches as they vanish into the distance.

8 INT. HELICOPTER - DAY

Soaring over the rugged Afghan landscape. David sits near the open door, lost in thought. Mike, takes notice.

MIKE
Hey, David. You okay there?

DAVID
(startled)
Huh? Yeah, I'm fine.

David's face tightens, as he looks uneasy.

DAN
We're almost there.

9 ESTABLISHING

A beautiful sweeping shot of the Kandahar mountains. The sky is blue and beautiful. Not a cloud in the sky.

CRAZY MUSIC - ENDS

CUT TO

10 MOUNTAIN TRAIL 1 - DAY

The troops come around the bend. They hike in single line formation. Mike drinks from his straw. David looks at Mike and drinks. Dan looks at David, then also drinks. The others look at Dan. They all drink.

11 MOUNTAIN TRAIL 2 - SUN SET

The mountains against the sunset is gorgeous. The unit hikes along a goat trail, scanning for signs of the missing unit.

MIKE

We've been up here a while.

DAVID

Not one Tali.

MIKE

Weird right?

DAN

Well, who's got watch?

MIKE

I've got this.

DAN

No. Second thought. I need you rested.
Get some sleep.

LATER

12 NIGHT

Dan stands watch while the others sleep. He glances at David.

DAN

Not quite the same as farmin is it?

His midwest accent comes out.

Watchin the cattle. Tendin the farm.

He looks at David.

DAN

Sittin under these stars. Reminds me of dad. He'd say "son, don't worry bout nothin that got nothin worth worryin." But here I am...and where was he? Shoot, I don't even think he cares that we're here. Fightin for our country. Fightin to die. Which are you figntin for?

He looks at David.

DAN
Yeah, well. I reccon your asleep.

Dan takes a deep breath then grips his riffle. David who lies on the ground, opens his eyes.

13 A DARK VOID IN SOMEONES MIND

A dark sky. Black rolling clouds. Lighting strikes and THUNDER rumbles. It crashes, again and again and again. David awakes. Startled.

14 GOAT TRAIL - DAY

DAVID
WHAH.

Dan slaps his head.

DAN
Hey keep it down. Want to get us killed?

David looks at Him. Dan shakes his head and looks off. David whispers to himself.

DAVID
Like footsteps of giants.

Dan takes his arm.

DAN
Hey.

He pulls him close.

DAN
Come here. What are you dong? What are you talking about? What the fuck are you murmuring? We're out here in the middle of fucking Kandahar and your talking about what? Huh? Giants?

David looks at Dans intense eyes.

DAN
Jesus.

He lets him go. He looks at the others.

DAN

Come here.

He pulls him aside.

DAN

Look. Look at me.

David looks at him.

You're my brother... but we can't...
Giants again? Really?

David looks at his brother.

DAN

You're not twelve man.

Dan looks at David.

DAN

You're a man.

Dan walks off. David becomes pensive. He looks at the others, where he can hear his brothers voice.

DAN

Alright guys. Listen up. We're gonna
continue along this goat trail...

David looks out at the sun, admiring its beauty. He reaches into a sack and pulls out a GRENADE. He wraps it in CLOTH and puts it back.

15 ESTABLISHING

Kandahar view.

16 GOAT TRAIL

The team comes around the bend. Mike who's taken point, sees something ahead. Closer, he looks down and it's a radio. He picks it up and it's bent. Dented. The realization hits him hard. Mike radios.

MIKE

(through radio)

Regulator Base, this is Regulator4-5,
over.

CPT. MARK
 (over radio)
 Regulator4-5, this is Regulator Base
 go ahead, over.

MIKE
 Regulator Base, we have destroyed
 radio equipment, looks like it belongs
 to our missing patrol, over.

CPT. MARK
 Good, copy Regulator4-5. Secure any
 sensitive equipment from the debris
 and proceed along the route, over.

MIKE
 Roger, Regulator Base, over.

CPT. MARK
 Regulator Base, out.

He looks back and signals Dan. They raise their rifles and continue. They look at the radio as they pass. The tension builds as they proceed cautiously and see more debris, then tattered clothes, uniforms. They aim their rifles and turn the bend. Bones. Some animal. Some human.

The unit reaches a plateau at the end of the ridge. They see three ominous caves, littered with bones and rotten flesh.

DAVID
 (whispering)
 The giants... they're here.

Mike signals. Dan and David joins Mike atop the flat. The others cover behind the ridge and take aim at the caves.

Dan Signals and Mike enters. Dan and David cover Mike who turns on night vision. The others cover Dan and Dave.

Mike moves through the dark. Shadows paint the walls. He aims and looks around. He peeks over a ledge and something moves. Suddenly...

Something massive charges forward. Mike starts shooting.

MIKE
 CONTACT. LETS ROCK!!!!

SOUND of gun fire fills the space. Muzzle flares light the cave.

MIKE
FALL BACK!

The monster crashes forward. They exit and lay down fire as the others take aim.

MIKE
MOVE! MOVE! MOVE!

Out from the cave storms a massive 12 foot GIANT. The others are stunned and it SKEWERS David with a PIKE.

DAN
NOOOOO!

Dans intensity grows and they fire. The Giant swings and Mike SPATTERS against the rock. Dan looks at the wall painted with Mike.

DAN
Shoot him in the face! SHOOT HIM IN
THE FACE!

The others advance and lay down fire. Flesh fly's from its head.

David lie skewered on the ground. His grenade and cloth lie near. Dan aims and gets CLICKS. The Giant takes the pike and David falls. They reload.

Dan's fingers move.

DAN
FIRE!

Dan SWATTED by the pike and fly's off. David crawls toward the grenade. The others advance toward Dan while suppressing fire.

David fixes the grenade in the cloth. The Giant TAKES FIRE, then throws the pike through a troops face.

David, now standing, whirls the grenade and takes aim. Dan lies still.

David lets it fly and it strikes the Giant between the eyes, then explodes at the others feet. Body parts fly everywhere.

Dan comes to and scrambles for his weapon. David looks at the others in pieces. One crawls toward his rifle. Suddenly, his head's CRUSHED by a huge foot.

Damaged and maimed, It turns and looks at Dan who crawls.
Suddenly...

Bullets. TAT, TAT, TAT, TAT... David unloads his mag on the
giants head. It falls to its knees and collapses. David looks
at Dan who now stands, then falls to the ground.

Dan starts chest compressions. After a while, he stops. He
looks at Davids still and open eyes, then at the massive hole
in his belly. The SOUND of a chopper grows in the distance
and he drops his head onto Davids chest.

YEARS LATER

A man sits with his back to a camera.

CAMERA MAN

You had an encounter with a 12 foot
Giant in 2002. Is that correct?

MAN

Yes. That's correct.

CAMERA MAN

For all intensive purposes, can you
tell everyone your name?

MAN

Mr. K. You can call me Mr. K.

MUSIC QUE:

Slowly the camera swings around and we see that its David.

FADE OUT