



CASTING NOTICE FOR FILM

Mercy Street Rescue In The Holy Land

Production title: Mercy Street Rescue In The Holy Land

Union/Non-Union: Non-Union

Production Type: Independent Film

Project length: Full Length Feature Film (90-120 Minutes)

Project format: 16:9 HD

Production location: Chicago/Surrounding Northwest Suburbs

Production Company: ThinkTEAM1 Productions , COMSATforHOPE.org, Full Team
TBD

Company website: www.MercyStreetFilms.com Site in development

Shooting Locations: Chicago/Elgin/Surrounding Suburbs, further locations TBD

Producers/Director: Vincent Shade, Full Team TBD

Email: ThinkTEAM1@gmail.com and info@COMSATforHOPE.org

Compensation: Not at this time, but subject to change. Cast/Film Crew/Production roles may receive a stipend and some daily expenses paid. Amounts yet to be determined. Travel to film location in Chicago/Elgin/Surrounding areas will be the responsibility of the actor.

Filming Dates: November and December 2017 – Most likely weekends and breaks; Some scenes may need to be scheduled just before or after November/December for unforeseen reasons or studio availability.

Schedule Conflicts: We understand people have jobs and other obligations. If you are CAST for the project, the film production team will try to respect existing conflicts, however, if you cannot reasonably commit to being available during those months, please do not apply.

TRAINING/EXPERIENCE: There are many roles to cast in this production! It is a full-length feature film, which was originally performed as a Stage Production in 3 separate acts. We encourage everyone who wants to be a part of this project to apply in one or more capacities. Training may be available!

How to be considered for CAST or other roles in this project:

1. Read the Cast Notice and decide if you are sold on the idea and truly interested in bringing your talents to make this film come to life!
2. Video record your best shots of (one or more versions of yourself, and as many characters and lines as you'd like) reading/acting out the roles, including any singing, accents, etc. Send your Video Audition recording(s) electronically by Email or WeTransfer.com to Thinkteam1@gmail.com with a copy to info@MercyStreetFilms.com

3. You can send a USB by U.S. Post Office to Laura Graziano-Straus c/o RE: Mercy Street Rescue In The Holy Land Cast, PO Box 425, Harvard, IL 60033
4. We will confirm receipt as soon as your audition recordings are received.
5. If you do NOT hear from anyone within 24-48 hours confirming your submission was received, do feel free to resend, or contact us to check. Things get lost in cyberspace, though we wish they didn't.
6. We will follow up after reviewing your form and recordings!

Mercy Street Rescue In The Holy Land
Film/Screen Play Story Summary
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Working Title:

Mercy Street Rescue in the Holy Land (Acts I/II/III)

Genre:

Family, Adventure, Mystery, Suspense, Borderline Drama-Comedy

Setting:

Sometime in the future on what appears to be an ordinary street that leads to a time of intensified governmental control, travel to unstable territories, and a renewed appreciation for old-fashioned principles.

How the film will be distinct, fresh, unique:

Our original story begins as a look into some modern responses to Christmastime, but becomes a call to action that asks: What is our response to the message and how will it look if we lived by the very thing we profess? As it is with real life heroes who endeavor to walk the “path less traveled” it is the ordinary circumstances that beckon us to embrace opportunities to make this life extraordinary. Dare we choose “love”!

Target Audience:

All around family film with deeper significance for early-pre-teen to adult.

Predicted Rating:

PG-PG 13 for thematic elements involving widows, orphans, abandonment, imprisonment, potential terror situations, and ultimate resolutions.

Commercial Significance

Society by nature seems to embrace the idea of Christmas and the pursuit of meaning and significance. No matter how hardened the heart [or head] may be all year round, Christmas is an opportunity to appeal to the hardest of hearts, to reach out to those less fortunate, and bring hope to discouraged hearts. This film has the potential to be among the best holiday classics, but is equally significant every day and how we choose to live out tomorrow. This film challenges the believer and non-believer alike to live the example, boldly facing situations that call us to define and perfect our faith, to defend the weak, and not be afraid to put our life on the line for another. Far from the superficial notions of 'being a light' in our community, the film engages its characters to step up to the plate, to face things, people and places, and go beyond the norms expected. It guides the characters through an incredible journey of obedience, love, compassion and courage, and ends with the very promise of renewed hope and conviction.

Music/Soundtrack/Score

Create an original score and soundtrack! Or possibly license some existing music accordingly for film, live performance and/or background tracks.

The Story:

Mercy Street Rescue In The Holy Land begins with a brief look into the hearts and lives of several individuals and families and their response to Christmas at a time when believing in tradition is a risk and an unpopular pastime.

Our story meets the widowed, depressed and lonely Mary, the frustrated hard-working man Matt who became ill and lost his job after devoting many of his years, a materialistic family whose only concern was to get the most, latest and greatest gifts, and a family who stands by tradition and wants nothing more than to share the love and real meaning of Christmas and what it means to have those blessings alive and living in our hearts every day of the year.

The story unfolds as the sharing family reaches out to their neighbors in ways that are a bit old fashioned but acceptable at Christmas time. We see the parallel of burdens and sorrows weighing down hearts like invisible 'chains' without the hope and freedom of the real meaning of Christmas dwelling and vibrant in their hearts.

The plot moves forward and shows the internal choices and changes some of the neighbors made as a response to the sharing family who reached out to them and invited them to a local holiday production at the neighborhood theater.

Relationships evolve as they realize they care about and need each other, were determined to live differently, to be a light in their homes and community, and to share that love with others in need.

Moving through the months ahead, Mary the widow has befriended the children in the neighborhood and regularly meets with them to mentor and teach them things. One day, Mary faints in the middle of a project. As some of the older children frantically try to comfort her, the others go for help. Mary awakens, pleading two

desperate wishes: take her special box (pointing to the closet) to find her children after all these years, and to remember to put food out for the dog or cat that eats the leftovers she puts on the back porch.

As Mary is taken away in the ambulance, everyone sadly agrees to meet shortly to discuss Mary's wishes. They slowly retreat to their own homes, and the neighboring family sent a child to look for Mary's box, and to put food out on the porch. The child runs out of Mary's house with the box, leaving the door open flapping a bit in the wind. The scene quiets to focus on the orphans living under Mary's back porch. They see Mary's door flapping open, and make a run for inside and go to hide in the closet.

The neighbors find clues in Mary's box to search for her estranged adult children. When they finally locate them, they share the news about Mary in the hospital and arrangements are made for their arrival to Mercy Street. The neighbors prepare food and care packages for them and for Mary at the hospital. On their arrival, as they unload out of the taxi, street boys try to steal the packages and luggage. One of the street boys gets caught, admits he is homeless and just wanted food. Matt agreed with police to be responsible for the boy until he finds where he belonged.

As everyone gathers that evening in Mary's home, the orphans are discovered in Mary's closet and all are stunned. Later that evening, they receive word that nothing is wrong with Mary and that she could come home. As Mary arrives home, conversations continue with the neighbors explaining to Mary what happened on Mercy Street when she was in the hospital. Mary's children want to know what made such a change in her life from several years ago. After all the stories are shared, everyone is amazed at God's amazing grace, and they are determined to find out where these "lost" children belong.

The next day Mary's (adult) children meet with the neighborhood attorneys to find out where the children may belong, and if they are indeed orphans, how to adopt them. After hearing the stories, attorneys immediately call in Special Agent GARY (God's Army Recruiting You) as they assist with complex cases. GARY explains about the Orphan and Missing Parent epidemic and explained the detailed, strict regulations about a highly confidential process known as Orphan Resolution.

GARY sets another meeting a few days later with Military Sergeant U.U. Grant who has access to special intelligence which is key in resolving these cases. Sergeant Grant explains about the early families from Mercy Street that started the GCIA (God's Children In Action) which was in a sense, a secret revolution against complacency. People all over the world started relying on God rather than their government. Then the crackdown. Regulations implemented everywhere, even a curfew when lights had to be out in private homes. The government considered the GCIA a rebellion. Since then, many parents have become missing in action.

Sergeant Grant explains the clear and present danger involved in searching for missing GCIA. Were they prepared? Could they afford the expenses to travel, go overseas, if that is where the search led? Are they ready to commit to a rescue mission that could endanger their lives? He asked each person to decide if they were really willing to risk their life for the cause. They would have to wait 7 months for the paperwork to be cleared. They agreed to meet again in 7 months.

7 months later, the scene fades to somewhere East of Jerusalem Israel in a Low Security Prison-Detainment camp in a cell made of stone, where the street boy's mother Lydia, is marking another tally on the wall for another day spent. She realizes it is only a month until Christmas. Hazy staring out the tiny barred window she imagines what her child now looks like years later, she sees visions of people in her past who have encouraged her, scenes and sounds of the season back home. She snaps out of it and cries out to God about another year going by.

Feeling abandoned and forsaken she rumbles through her papers to find her "Christmas letter to God" and sarcastically sad, reads it aloud as the Low Security Prison Guard stands outside her door listening. He is convicted to help her until his supervisor walks by motioning his hands in the air and laughing loudly "Does she always talk this much? Good thing you're in the sound-proof wing! Ha!" and scurries away from the building. Later that night the guard takes Lydia's pile of papers to the office and knows what he must do.

Scene fades to somewhere further North of Jerusalem, at a High Security underground prison where we see the street boy's dad in chains and mouth muffled. The supervisor yells at the guards to "feed the prisoners just enough to keep them alive, as we don't get the money if the prisoner dies or are so delirious they can't feel the pain of their own complacency!"

Scene fades back to the meeting on Mercy Street, after the 7 month wait. GARY and Sergeant Grant call in a GCIA Special Force Captain and an Ex KOGB Special Agent rescued from Russia. They explain how the KOGB (Kingdom Of God Busters) was developed as a response to fight against the work of the GCIA and they had vital information on the case.

Sergeant Grant arranged for the IMAP Border Advisor to join them as the mission is considered high risk in unstable territories. IMAP officer explained his expertise in reading maps and underground systems, but also that IMAP means Intelligent Men Always Pray and suspects he knows what happened to these parents.

In the midst of the meeting, they receive a package filled with the copies of papers from Lydia's cell. They now know they have to go forward with the mission and make plans to leave the country. Briefed on the volatile nature of the borders and civil wars between neighboring countries, they depart. With the help of undercover GCIA and other providential assistance in the region, the mission is completed and the prisoners are reunited with their family.

Arriving back on Mercy Street to a homecoming celebration just in time for Christmas, Mary's children receive word that the orphans in the closet were identified and officially released for adoption. Among some other surprises, the debt for the mission was fully paid for by a fund from Mary's husband found in her special box. The story comes full circle paralleling the real point of Christmas...and all the changes that occurred in so many lives, just because some neighbor shared love, and because someone accepted it.

The end.....or another beginning.....on Mercy Street.

THE SEQUEL IS BREWING !!!

Mercy Street Rescue In The Holy Land

Character List and Profiles

(Update In progress 7/16/17)

Singers, Musicians, Composers: If you sing and have strong vocal abilities, please submit samples in your recording. If you play an instrument or compose music, please also share your specialties. Opportunities abound.

Village Madrigal Carolers

Need about 4-6 who can stroll and sing Olde English Carols

Mary the Widow – Closed ?

(Husband: Henry)

Matt - Closed

Family 1:

Bob – (also ATTORNEY BOB) - Closed

Martine (also Tour Guide Ariana Martine) - Closed

Robbie - Closed

Marla

Beth - Closed

Family 2:

Jake (also GARY Jr.)

Justine

Kate - Closed

Jack (Also GARY Jr. Jr. and News Agent 1) - Closed

Joey - Closed

Uncle Earl (also IMAP BORDER SCOUT) – Closed

Theater Patrons

Seated Theater Patrons

Theater Workers

Angel Ensemble:

Master Guardian Angel, Announcer

2-4 Dancing Angels Chain Removers

4 Prison Angels

StreetBoy Corben – Closed

StreetBoy Steven – Closed

Liv, Steven’s Sister - Closed

Policeman George

Taxi Driver - Closed

Liza, Mary’s Older (Adult) Daughter

Eliot, Liza’s husband

Zandria, Mary’s Younger (Adult) Daughter (Secretary/News Agent 2) Closed

EMT 1

EMT 2

Nurse Tara - Closed

Attorney Bob - Closed

Attorney Klein - Closed

GARY SR.

GARY JR. (also role of Jake, family man)

GARY JR. JR. – (also role of Jack and News Agent 1) Closed

Young Corben in flashbacks – Closed

Lydia – (Corben’s Mom)

James – (Corben’s Dad) - Closed

Ice Cream Guy

Shadowmaker Suit 1

Shadowmaker Suit 2

Secretary/Also Zandria - Closed

Sergeant Grant - Closed

Sergeant Jay

Martha – (Steven and Liv’s Mom) - Closed

John – (Steven and Liv’s Dad) - Closed

Dr. Shaam Dentist - Closed

Joyce, Receptionist - Closed

Max - Closed

Neighborhood Children – Need 4

Nile – Low Security Prison Supervisor

Armed Guards – Need 3
Border Prison Guard 1 – Closed
Border Prison Guard 2
Prisoners – Need 4
Ian – High Security Border Prison Supervisor
Townspeople – Need 3
Delivery Truck Driver
Agent ROE – Closed
CAPTAIN
IMAP BORDER SCOUT – Closed
Harbor Vendors – need 3 or 4
Harbor Tourists – Need 6
Harbor Shoppers – Need 4
Business Travelers – Need 4
Multi-National Airport Guards – Need 4-8
Airport Travelers, Tourists – Need 7 each
Lydia’s Mirage: Corrie TenBoom
Large Night Guard – Low Security Prison
Prison Angel 1 – Closed
Prison Angel 2 –
Prison Angel 3 –
Prison Angel 4 –
Maid Agent Maddie – Closed
Prison Patient 1
Extra Prison Patients – Need 2
Extra Prison Guard 1
Extra Prison Guard 2
Extra Prison Guard 3
VO High Security Prison Speaker – Closed
Hi Security Prison Night Guard
Hometown Christmas People (All extras from script)

The Mercy Street Rescue In The Holy Land Film Project
is an educational endeavor for all involved and sponsored in part by
COMSATforHOPE.org, The ARK Schoolhouse, Mentoring Gardens,
The Educare Foundation, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit TEAM
educating and encouraging hearts to care
through media, music and educational missions.
(815)258-6821 or (815)ARMS-479

www.ArkHome.org

www.MentoringGardens.com

www.EducareMissions.org

www.COMSATforHOPE.org

www.MercyStreetFilms.com

We sincerely appreciate your support!

We look forward to working together as a TEAM on this project!

Together Everyone Achieves More!