

BEAT SHEET

NO TIME FOR LOVE

Written by John Stone

Synopsis/Treatment

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Why it matters:

Creating characters and introducing fresh script ideas holds great importance for me. It matters because each of us has a story to tell, whether it be deeply personal, or a visualisation of what we desire to see on our TV screens.

Why should it succeed?

This narrative delves into the collision of two worlds and the tragic events that unfold within. It reflects upon the harsh realities of our contemporary world, whilst drawing on circumstances that could easily relate to ourselves. At its core is a story of a love lost, intertwined with forces beyond control, leading to one tragic outcome.

1. Opening image:

In London England Joshua Gold is just an ordinary young man struggling to cope with working life. His job in the rag trade as a pattern cutter is of little interest to him, and his continuous lateness leads to him being fired from his job.

2. Set-up:

When he returns home to his girlfriend Sarah, she lays down her frustrations and reveals to him that she has had enough. The relationship between them, at an all time low, she tells him those unwanted words: "It's over." So with the loss of his job and his girlfriend, he embarks on a working holiday to a kibbutz in Israel.

3. Theme stated:

Life on the kibbutz leads Josh to a particular happiness - a contentedness that offers him all the fruits that life can bring for him personally. He feels the freedom of the stranglehold that life back home weighed upon his shoulders. He is soon introduced to eighteen year old kibbutznic; Dahlia and falls in love with her, before she takes him on a sightseeing tour of the holy land.

4. Catalyst/Inciting incident:

They arrive back to the kibbutz and everything has changed for the worst. The kibbutz has been the subject of a vicious assault by Militants. Hearing of this violence, Josh's Mother calls him and pleads for him to come home, and all volunteers are requested to leave. Josh says his tearful goodbyes to Dahlia amid the impending strike upon the kibbutz. However, it is after he and his fellow volunteer Jerry leave to find work in Eilat that the bus they are travelling on is viciously attacked by Militants. He and Irishman Jerry are taken hostage and thrown into an underground world where torture and death are all too common.

5. Debate:

There are two sides to every story, and what is focused upon here is not the political indifferences betwixt Israeli and Palestinians over territory, but the human suffering and priceless freedoms enjoyed in the West; a luxury that many take for granted. Josh's own situation back home reflects upon his lack of desire to hold down a job, shows just how life is taken for granted as we search for an easy fix.

6. Tragedy.

During his time spent tied up beneath ground level whilst tormented and threatened with death by his capturers, Josh manages to free himself when he uses his super hypermobility trick to bring his tied hands over his head. He also unties Jerry before a bomb strikes a building directly above the tunnel where he is kept prisoner. Both he and Jerry are buried beneath the rubble during the pandemonium above.

Back on the kibbutz a fire fight ensues betwixt Militants and Kibbutzniks, as Dahlia and her grandparents take shelter inside the safe room. And when IDF join the fray, all Militants are killed, only for Dahlia to be told of Josh's fate. She laments. His Mother calls the British Embassy in Israel to find out where her son is.

Denouement:

Badly injured, Josh manages to escape through a hole in the ground. He finds himself face to face with the gruesome realities of war. He hides inside a heavily targeted shelled building only to be rescued by IDF medics. He is then rushed to hospital. But it is too little too late, Josh's journey to Israel in search of love and happiness is over. He dies of his horrific injuries, before his Mother sobs as she lays flowers at his graveside.

The idea behind this screenplay is to show that there was once a thriving existence for all to enjoy inside Israel.

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