

No Season

Synopsis:

The burnt body of a soldier is being carried to a cemetery in Iraqi Kurdistan in order to put an end to his old mother's waiting and to comfort her.

The old woman walks a long distance in cold and hot weather every day in order to whisper secretly with the body of the soldier. However, she still stays alert and listens to the radio for the news of her son coming back to her and also she waits for the postman.

The villagers think she is insane; they abandon her, but she hasn't lost her faith. She remains the dead soldier's confidant while counting down the days for her son's arrival. The seasons pass by. The waiting comes to an end and her son returns from the war. The body buried in the grave was indeed that of an American soldier with whom the old woman has formed a mother and son relationship. She has now become the mother of all the war soldiers.

Screenplay summary:

It's twilight. The villagers are burying a burned body of a soldier in a remote area. Among the wailing and mourning of the people, an old woman with a young girl turns up screaming and crying among the crowd. The old woman approaches the body of her son. She is restless and wants to see her son's face for the last time. The people cannot change her mind and they surrender to the wish of the heartbroken mother. As the burned face of the soldier is shown, a dead silence spreads across the crowd. The mother is quiet. She leaves without saying a word as the crowd watches her in shock. She tells the girl—her son's bride—that the body does not belong to her son.

The old woman visits the soldier's grave every week, every month, and walks a long distance from the village to the cemetery. She stays there for a period of time to have a quiet talk with the body of the soldier. At the same time, everyday she asks the village postman if he has any letters from her son. She also listens to the old radio and keeps herself up to date on the war her son went to fight against ISIS.

The old woman doesn't even approve of carving a grave headstone in the name of her son and she tells everyone that her son is alive and will return one day.

She puts a tree branch above the soldier's grave.

She listens to the news every day and goes to the cemetery where she appears to be talking to someone. The old woman sings the soldier a lullaby and she dances. The

villagers ask her why she keeps visiting the soldier's grave if she believes her son is alive and why does she ask the postman about his letters? Who is in this grave then? Gradually, the young bride who has been her only confidant starts thinking that the old woman has lost her mind. The bride's brother insists she remarries and she eventually does, leaving the village and the old woman behind. From then on, the old woman goes to the cemetery by herself.

Time passes by, the seasons change. Crows fly over the old woman's cherry garden. The tree branch the old woman had planted above the soldier's grave has now turned green and the cross of Christ can also be seen above the grave.

The old woman shows up at the grave of the unknown soldier in a wheelchair. Her son has returned from the war and learns his mother has been talking to a dead soldier who was buried on the land by mistake. The old woman is whispering to the unknown soldier. Although her son has returned, she keeps visiting the soldier's grave. She will not leave him. Camera goes up to the sky , picture white out.

U.S. Navy Base

Camera tilt down from sky and American flag on top of the the U.S. navy covers the frame. We are seeing American soldiers who are coming back home and they are leaving the warship. They are welcomed by their own family and friends.

Amongst the people we see an old woman holding the picture of her son, a young American soldier. With a hopeful but worrisome eyes she is scoping every young man and woman who are leaving the ship and asking about her son. The camera closes in on her eyes which still hopelessly searching.

Cut.







Last Scene needs to be shoot near American Navy



Mood board



Mood board



San Diego Navy Base Museum

Writer/Director/Producer: Sepehr Mikaeilian

Cinematographer: Touraj Aslani

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Art director: Sepehr Goudarzi

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Cast:

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Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/290410318>