



Robo & Bash Productions presents

A BLUE SHROUD

Written and Directed by Jason Snellman

Contact Information:

Shelly Snellman

818-337-8227

roboandbash@gmail.com

10861 Moorpark St. #204

North Hollywood, CA 91602

Specs:

29 minutes

2.39:1 Cinemascope

5:1 surround and stereo

English

Shot in Los Angeles, CA

Logline:

After surviving an attempt on his life, a disgraced police officer enlists the help of his partner to seek revenge, bringing into focus their differing sense of morality and responsibility to the community they serve.

Contents

Synopsis

Director's Bio

Note from Director

Statistics

Key Cast Bios

Cast

Crew



Synopsis

After a night of celebrating his return to the force, disgraced Officer Adam Hoffman finds himself blinded, bound, and sinking into a deep blue abyss. Surviving the attempt on his life, Hoffman hatches a plan against his assailant. He calls upon his partner David Carter to have his back. Being the Unit Captain's son, Carter is torn between his sense of duty to his father, his department, and his community, but ultimately meets his friend at the rendezvous. There they confront their stained past and make decisions that will dictate the future of the force and the people they serve.

Director's Bio



Jason Snellman was born and raised in the Upper Midwest. His love and admiration of visual storytelling carried him to Minneapolis, where he studied theater arts at the University of Minnesota before moving to Los Angeles where he attended the New York Film Academy.



Since graduating, he has slowly been building his directing resume along with his professional relationships within the industry, with the ultimate goal of directing meaningful films and television for an audience eager to challenge their perceptions. Most recently, he was honored to be brought on board the hit Hulu show *Pen15* as the Director's Assistant for all five of the show's immensely talented directors.

Note from Director

I first started wrestling with the idea of telling this story while sitting on a plane, blinded from the outside world by a sleep mask, my mind racing with thoughts of rage. It was 2015, and cell phone footage of Walter Scott's murder had just been unleashed upon the world. This and similar events around the time seemed to finally be lifting the shroud that was concealing the ugly underbelly of American race relations, but much of society's fervor had dwindled by the time my piecemeal thoughts finally became a script and then a production, circa late-2019. Nevertheless, the quiet that had settled on the subject did not mean that the problem had been solved. The death of black Americans at the hands of "peacekeepers" is a plague on our nation. Sadly, 2020 has shown us once again how perpetual this injustice is and how far we still need to go. My aim with this piece is for audiences to begin by questioning "Who done it?" and leave the theater thinking "Who will undo it?"



Statistics

Though one need not dig deep to find case after case of black American deaths due to police shootings, we chose to share insights from *The Washington Post's* Police Shootings Database.

Researched and compiled by a Pulitzer prize winning staff (*The 2016 Pulitzer Prize Winner in National Reporting, 2016*), this database has been updated daily since January 1, 2015, is transparent in its methodology, and only documents "shootings in which a police officer, in the line of duty, shoots and kills a civilian - the circumstances that most closely parallel the 2014 killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO... (Tate et al., 2016)."

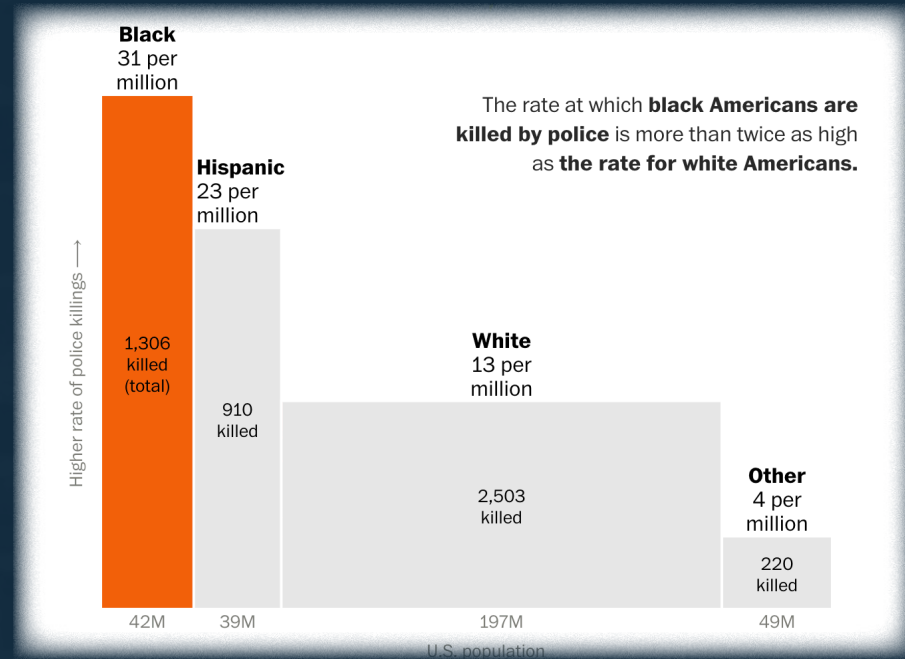


Figure 1. Rate of fatal police shooting by population. Reprinted from *The Washington Post*, Tate, J., Jenkins, J., & Rich, S. 2020, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

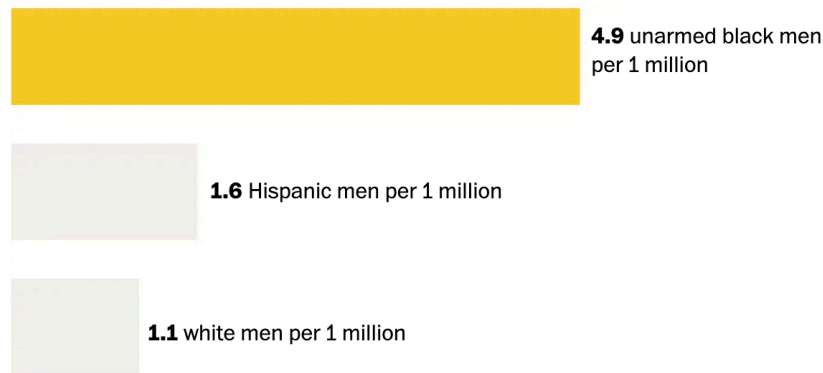
Tate, J., Jenkins, J., & Rich, S. (2020, January 22). Fatal Force: Police shootings database. Retrieved August 05, 2020, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

Tate, J., Jenkins, J., Rich, S., Muyskens, J., Elliott, K., Mellnik, T., & Williams, A. (2016, July 07). How The Washington Post is examining police shootings in the United States. Retrieved August 06, 2020, from https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/how-the-washington-post-is-examining-police-shootings-in-the-united-states/2016/07/07/d9c52238-43ad-11e6-8856-f26de2537a9d_story.html

The 2016 Pulitzer Prize Winner in National Reporting. (2016). Retrieved August 06, 2020, from <https://www.pulitzer.org/winners/washington-post-staff>

Statistics

Compared to their numbers in the overall population, an **unarmed black man** is about four times more likely to be killed by police than an unarmed white man.



Though Figure 2 is from a 2019 summary of the data, unfortunately, the rates have stayed relatively the same over the past year, as shown by Figure 3.

Figure 2. Rate of unarmed black men per 1 million. Reprinted from *The Washington Post*, Tate, J., Jenkins, J., & Rich, S. 2019, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

Search the database

This database contains records of every fatal shooting in the United States by a police officer in the line of duty since Jan. 1, 2015. It is updated regularly as fatal shootings are reported and as facts emerge about individual cases.

+ State + Gender + Race + Age + Mental illness + Weapon + Body camera
+ Fleeing the scene + Year

Male ✕ Black ✕ Unarmed ✕

117 people shot and killed by police match your filters (2%)

Figure 3. Search the database query. Reprinted from *The Washington Post*, Tate, J., Jenkins, J., & Rich, S. 2020, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

Estimating that the 2019 U.S. population of black Americans is roughly the same as 2020 (42M), 117 unarmed black American male fatalities would be about 2.95 men per 1 million. Given that, as of this writing (Aug. 2020), we're only a little more than halfway through the year, this population is headed toward the same or higher rate of deaths at the hands of police officers.

Fox, J., Blanco, A., Jenkins, J., Tate, J., & Lowery, W. (2019, August 09). What we've learned about police shootings 5 years after Ferguson. Retrieved August 06, 2020, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2019/08/09/what-weve-learned-about-police-shootings-years-after-ferguson/?arc404=true>

Tate, J., Jenkins, J., & Rich, S. (2020, January 22). Fatal Force: Police shootings database. Retrieved August 05, 2020, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

Key Cast Bio



BRANDON ALAN SMITH as Adam Hoffman

Brandon Alan Smith is a classically trained actor, holding a BFA in Acting from The University of the Arts. A member of SAG-AFTRA and AEA, he has film, television, and theatre credits in New York, Los Angeles, and parts of Europe.

The story of "A Blue Shroud" touches Brandon personally. He feels strongly that artists have a unique responsibility to identify and eradicate racial and social injustice by holding up the proverbial mirror so that we may perhaps see ourselves from a new perspective.

Key Cast Bio



TELVIN GRIFFIN as David Carter

Telvin was born and raised in Texarkana, Arkansas. After graduating with a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism, he signed with a Dallas agent and booked his first audition.

Since then, Telvin has booked over five National Commercials, including being the National Spokesman for *blackpeoplemeet.com*. Telvin has also appeared on numerous television shows and films including Fox's *Deputy*, CBS's *The Bold and the Beautiful*, *Queen Sugar*, and the feature film *Jerico*. His latest film *Tazmanian Devil* was an official selection in the 2020 ABFF (American Black Film Festival). Telvin's goal and purpose in life is to inspire others to never give up on their dreams. "Be the best you can be and trust God!"

Key Cast Bio

SHELLY SNELLMAN as Officer Jacobs

Shelly Snellman is an actress and producer mostly known for her Los Angeles theatre work. A three-time graduate from the University of Southern California (B.A., M.L.S., M.S.) and a veteran of the stage, Shelly is pleased to mark "A Blue Shroud" as her dramatic film debut in both her roles as actress and producer. Otherwise, she can be found in comedic shows made for internet consumption and the ephemeral theatre production poster, notably *Rope* (2018), *Drop Dead!* (2014), *The Afflicted* (2013), *Crumble*, *Lay Me Down Justin Timberlake* (2013), *An Italian American Reconciliation* (2009), among many more.

Shelly is deeply proud to be telling this story, if only to add another voice to the ever-growing BLM chorus.



CAST



BRANDON ALAN SMITH
TELVIN GRIFFIN
SHELLY SNELLMAN
ALEXANDRA SEIGEL
NATHAN MARLOW
TRAVIS "TJ" JOHNSON
I'KE MITCHELL
EDDIE ALFANO
CHAD ADDISON
LEIF GANTVOORT
KOURTNEY JAY

Adam Hoffman
David Carter
Officer Jacobs
Sarah Hoffman
Captain Dennis Carter
Louis
Martin
Officer Williamson
Officer Day
Detective
Dispatcher

CREW

Director + Writer: Jason Snellman

Executive Producer: Shelly Snellman

Producers: H. Hal Snellman, Wanda L. Axtman,
Jason Snellman

Associate Producer: Elizabeth Izzo

Production Company: Robo & Bash Productions

Director of Photography: C. Clifford Jones

Camera Operator: Hiro Fukuda

1st Assistant Camera: Alison Theabo

1st Assistant Director: Richie Elson

Key Grip: John Roger Owens

Camera Equipment: Polymind, Inc.

Boom Operator: Alexandra Parral

Key Hair Stylist/Make-up: Alison Eubrey

Hair Stylist/Make-up: Liz Amezcua

Costuming: David Hill

Editor: Patrick Allen

Sound Mixer: Koni Buenaventura

Visual Effects Supervisor: Gil Hacco

Colorist: Sam McConville

