

THESE THINGS I DO, THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

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OVER BLACK SCREEN

SUPER: Less than 5 miles south of El Paso, Texas, a war is raging across the Mexican border.

The Sinaloa and Juarez Cartels battle against each other for control of the drug trafficking network entering into the United States.

With a death toll reaching over 10,500 victims, this battleground is known as the most dangerous place in the world.

The United States is forced to aid the outgunned, outmanned and over extended Mexican Government.

This is a Story of that involvement...

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. MEXICAN VILLAGE - DAY

Two Mexican kids (12ish) play soccer on the dirt streets of their impoverished village. The locals move about in their daily activities. An older villager woman places clothes on a clothesline. At the village bar, a Mexican man sleeps against the outside wall.

Suddenly the shadow of a low flying helicopter moves over the village. One of the kids grabs the soccer ball and looks up. The rotor-blades kick up dust and dirt from the street, fully engulfing the kids below. The fuselage rotates out of control under the spinning blades as smoke trails from it's engine.

One of the kid's mothers runs through the dust storm into the street and grabs her son's arm. She drags him to the house and shuts the door behind them.

The other child runs home crying. The locals quickly start to disappear from the streets. Doors and windows of the village homes are shut and locked.

The streets are vacant. The village is now a ghost town.

FADE TO BLACK.

We hear the sound of heavy breathing and the rustling of foliage.

ARMSTRONG (V.O.)
 Hang in there. They're on their
 way. I promise. Just hang in
 there.

Words fade in from the darkness of the black screen:

TITLE: **THESE THINGS I DO...**

EXT. FOREST - DAY

ARMSTRONG (30's) dressed in a military pilot uniform, is carrying KATIE (20's) dressed in the same uniform through the forest. Sweat pours from his face. He's visibly struggling to sustain her weight. His feet stumbling through the sticks and brush of the forest floor.

FADE TO BLACK.

OVER BLACK SCREEN

ARMSTRONG (V.O.)
 (breathless)
 Bravo six four, Bravo six four,
 this is Zulu Mike. Confirm seven,
 four, seven, Alpha Tango. We need
 immediate extract. Two pilots
 down, one critical. I say again,
 two pilots down, one critical.
 Over.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Katie is lying on the forest floor. Blood trickles from her mouth. Her eyes are glazed over. Her breaths are short and shallow. Armstrong is sitting up against a tree with a hand held radio next to his ear. He's visibly exhausted.

He coughs. Blood spurts out of his mouth and on his chest. His uniform has a dark stain propagating from underneath the torso area. A piece of bloody scrap metal sticks out of his side.

Nothing but static is heard from the radio.

ARMSTRONG
 (exhausted)
 ...six four, this is Zulu Mike.
 Confirm seven, four, seven, Alpha
 Tango. We need immediate extract.
 Two pilots down, one critical.
 (MORE)

ARMSTRONG (CONT'D)
I say again, two pilots down, one
critical. Over.

Again, nothing but static on the radio.

Armstrong grabs his drink tube from his camel pack and pours
drops of water onto Katie's lips.

ARMSTRONG (CONT'D)
Come on Katie, you have to drink.
Just hang in there.

He looks down and grabs a small stick lying next to him. He
places the stick in his mouth and reaches for the piece of
metal sticking out of his side. He grabs it with both hands
and pulls. His teeth clinch the stick so hard that it
breaks. He throws the piece of metal away in the distance.

Struggling to get up, he lifts Katie in his arms and stumbles
through the forest.

ARMSTRONG (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Have to keep moving. We have to
keep moving.

Blood trickles down his leg.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A military soldier kneels on the forest floor. His weapon is
at the ready position. He scans his sector.

CHIEF (40's), pulls out a hand held radio.

CHIEF
(into hand held radio)
Bravo six four, Echo team has
landed. I say again, Echo team has
landed. Preceding to locate
packages. Echo team out.

SANTA (30's) about 10 yards away from Chief, pushes a button
on his chest activating his mic and headset.

SANTA
Chief, did mom give us permission
to play?

Chief collapses the hand held radio and places it in his bag.
He activates his headset and mic.

CHIEF

We're a go.

GABE (30's), 10 yards away as well, is scanning his sector.

GABE

(to himself)

...all the evil spirits who prowl
about the world seeking the ruin of
souls.

(into mic)

Move out. They're out here
somewhere. Lets find em and go
home.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT ROAD - DAY

A black Mercedes hauls ass along the desert road. Clouds of dirt and exhaust fumes trail as the car slides around the loose gravel. The passenger, RAMIREZ (50's), points forward. The driver, XAVIER (30's), grabs the steering wheel tighter and slams his foot to the floor.

Suddenly from behind the dust cloud, two pick-up trucks filled with armed Mexican men come into view. The men in the rear of the trucks hold on as they fishtail on the dirt road.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Armstrong reaches the edge of the forest treeline. Katie is still in his arms. There's a small village in the distance.

ARMSTRONG

We're almost there, Katie. Hang in
there. It's your daughter's
birthday remember. She needs you.

Katie's eyes open and she tries to lift her head. She can't.

He gently places Katie on the ground and takes a deep breath. Grabbing a set of binoculars from his bag, he begins scouting out the small village. His pilots suit is soaked with blood and sweat. He coughs, more blood escapes his mouth.

Through the binoculars he sees scattered clothes flowing in the wind on clotheslines. Tumbleweeds cross the empty village dirt streets.

Armstrong struggles to get to his feet. He stumbles and falls back down. His head drops and his eyes close.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FOREST - LATER

A small lizard runs across the top of Armstrong's hand. His eyes open and he looks around. He looks at Katie lying on the forest floor, bleeding and struggling for breath. He tries to get up again.

ARMSTRONG

(to himself)

We're almost home. Can't stop now.

(to Katie)

This is it. Home stretch. They're on their way. Stay with me.

He lifts Katie up from the ground and makes his way to the village.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Armstrong approaches one of the villager's homes. Katie is still in his arms. He slams desperately on the door.

CUT TO:

INT. VILLAGE HOME 1 - DAY

The little boy with the soccer ball from earlier hears the knocking and starts to approach the front door. His mother grabs his arm, pulling him away. She places a finger over her lips. She then pulls him to the corner of the room and they both sit on the floor. Her arms wrapped around him. They stare at the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE HOME 2 - DAY

Armstrong abandons the first home and with Katie, knocks at the second house. This time he tries to just open the door but it's locked. He tries the windows but they are locked as well.

He stumbles to the middle of the empty street not sure where to go.

He spins around and notices a LITTLE GIRL (13ish) peeking through a crack between the door and the door frame of her home. He quickly stumbles to that house.

Armstrong and Katie reach the house of the Little Girl and push the door open. They stumble in and both collapse on the ground. The Little Girl shuts the front door behind them.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The military soldiers are tactically searching the forest.

JIMMY (30's) looks at a GPS tracking monitor.

JIMMY

You guys picking anything up?

SANTA

Nothing in my sector.

CHIEF

Look for broken branches, footprints, anything that doesn't look like it belongs.

JIMMY

If T.O.C. says they're out here, then they're out here. Don't worry Chief, we'll find them.

Gabe looks at his GPS tracking monitor. Hits it a few times and looks at it again.

GABE

Something's not right. Their GPS isn't activated.

KID (Stevie) (20's), is the youngest of the group. He's visibly nervous and on edge.

KID

We're out here running blind.

SANTA

Alright "STEVIE", try not to run into a tree. The newbie needs a walking cane.

JIMMY

Hey, Santa, leave the kid alone, he's nervous enough.

(MORE)

JIMMY (CONT'D)

He's doing better than you did your first time out.

SANTA

Maybe the kid can use the cane to pop his cherry.

The team laughs quietly.

JIMMY

Hey Chief, if this is your last hurrah, what time's the retirement party?

CHIEF

Twenty one hundred. Then Gabe takes over.

SANTA

Oh, shit. Gabe, are you gonna make us all carry mini bibles?

The team laughs again quietly.

CHIEF

Alright boys, let's keep the chat to a minimum. Their comms might be down because they went black and their GPS could've been damaged in the wreck.

Gabe notices a broken tree branch and investigates.

GABE

I think I got something here.

Gabe kneels down and inspects the forest floor. He takes his tactical black gloves off and touches the leaves on the ground. He raises his hand, wet blood covers his fingertips.

GABE (CONT'D)

Chief, they were definitely here. It doesn't look good.

Jimmy kneels over the matted area where Katie was lying.

JIMMY

I've got blood here too. Looks like double trouble.

Gabe walks away from the others. He reaches around the inside of his collar and pulls out a necklace with a cross on it. He closes his eyes and bows his head for a moment.

The rest of the team waits patiently.

Gabe then opens his eyes, kisses the cross and places it back under his collar.

CHIEF

Alright boys, looks like the stakes
have been raised. Santa, I think
it's time to pull out the sleigh.

Santa takes the long black bag he's been carrying from around his shoulders and places it on the ground. The other soldiers pull security around him as he unzips the bag and pulls out a 50 Cal. sniper rifle.

The team moves out.

CUT TO:

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

The black Mercedes followed by the two pick-up trucks are moving through the desert.

XAVIER

(in Spanish w/ subtitles)
I didn't see an explosion when you
shot down the helicopter. They
must still be alive.

RAMIREZ

(in Spanish w/ subtitles)
We need to go faster. We can't let
the Americans escape. They've seen
too much of our operation.

INT. MEXICAN FAMILY HOME - DAY

The Little Girl is folding towels and placing them underneath the heads of the two pilots.

The FATHER (50's) is arguing with the MOTHER (20's) as she is trying to get both pilots to drink water.

FATHER

(in Spanish w/ subtitles)
They can't stay here. There's
nothing we can do for them. All
they bring is trouble.

MOTHER
 (in Spanish w/ subtitles)
 We can't standby and watch them die
 on our floor. They need our help.

The Mother helps the Little Girl with the blankets and towels.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 They need our help.

FATHER
 (in Spanish)
 They will bring trouble.

The Little Girl looks up. Her hands soaked with blood.

LITTLE GIRL
 (in Spanish)
 Papa, we need more towel.

The father thinks for a minute.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Chief comes to the edge of the treeline and puts up his hand to stop the others. The team stops in their tracks and kneels down in a defensive position.

GABE
 What do you got Chief?

CHIEF
 Not sure yet. Santa, tell me what
 you see.

Santa moves and kneel's next to Chief, raising the scope of his 50 Cal. to his eyes. He scans the area ahead.

SANTA
 Small village. Looks empty.

CHIEF
 See anything that'll ruin our day?

SANTA
 Negative Chief. Looks clear.

CHIEF

I want you L-ROW on that ridgeline over there. If anything moves, let us know. The rest of us will go into the village. I got a funny feeling we'll find our packages there.

EXT. RIDGELINE - MOMENTS LATER

Santa is in position looking through the scope of his sniper rifle. He sees the rest of the team moving tactically down the streets of the village.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

The team moves smoothly down the side of the street. Two men pulling forward security and two men pulling rear security. They reach the first home. Chief gives a quick jiggle of the door knob. Locked. This action is repeated door after door until...

Gabe looks down at his feet.

GABE

Chief, we got blood.

Gabe now in the lead, takes the team down the street following the blood trail in the dirt. They get to the small house but again the door is locked.

Without warning...

JIMMY

We don't have time for this.

Jimmy kicks the front door open. The team rushes in, weapons drawn.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Clear.

GABE

Clear.

CHIEF

Clear.

KID

Clear.

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

Santa is continuing to scan the area and watch the team through his scope.

SANTA
(into mic)
Jesus Jimmy, you could have
knocked.

INT. MEXICAN FAMILY HOME - DAY

Blood is all over the floor, but the room is empty.

KID
They were definitely here.

JIMMY
Whoever was here, they tried to
clean up the blood.

The wooden floor is littered with wet towels stained with blood.

GABE
That's a lot of blood. We're
running out of time Chief.

Chief walks around the room, scanning, analyzing the scene.

KID
Where'd they go?

Gabe finds more drops of blood. He follows the trail to the back door. Slowly opening the back door he see's the church.

Gabe points to the church.

GABE
(smirking)
They went for more help.

CHIEF
(into mic)
Santa, moving to the church. You
have eyes?

SANTA (O.S.)
Roger, You're clear.

CHIEF
Let's get'm back home.

The team rushes to the church.

INT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

Both pilots are lying on the wooden pews of the old dilapidated church. A plastic statue of Jesus leans in the corner. The place looks like it's been abandoned for years.

The Little Girl is continuing to give the pilots water and rearranging blankets.

KATIE
(shivering uncontrollably)
I can't breath.

ARMSTRONG
(barely understandable)
Stay strong, we're almost there.
Can't quit.

FATHER
(in Spanish w/ subtitles)
Sweetheart, there is nothing more
we can do for them other than pray.

Tears roll down the Mother's face as she grabs her husband's hand.

Suddenly, the front wooden doors of the old church swing open. Four armed military men burst in the room with weapons drawn.

ALL SOLDIERS
(screaming)
Down! Down! On your knees now!

The Little Girl runs to her parents, terrified. They grasp each other and hold on tight.

JIMMY
(in Spanish w/ subtitles)
Get on your knees! Get on your
knees now!

The family falls to their knees. Still in each others grasps.

The other soldiers take control of the room as Jimmy keeps his weapon drawn on the family.

CHIEF
Clear.

GABE

Clear.

KID

Clear.

CHIEF

Santa, eyes?

SANTA (O.S.)

All clear Chief. No movement.

CHIEF

(to Jimmy)

Find out who they are?

Gabe and Kid have already started emptying out their medical bags.

ARMSTRONG

(barely understandable)

See, I told you Katie. They're here. You're gonna see your daughter on her birthday.

Chief grabs the hand held radio.

CHIEF

(on hand held radio)

Bravo six four, Bravo six four. This is Echo team. Packages have been located. I say gain, packages have been located. Preparing for extract Sierra.

Chief puts the radio down and reaches into his medical bag, grabbing his latex gloves.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

Jimmy, who are they?

Jimmy is still covering the family but has been talking to them in Spanish trying to calm them down.

JIMMY

Chief, they're N.A.T's (not a threat). Just scared shitless.

CHIEF

Copy. Leave'em. I need you over here.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

A cloud of smoke in the distance catches Santa's eye. He turns his weapon and focuses his scope on the smoke. The heat mirage from the terrain blurs his vision. He pulls away from the scope, blinks a few times and wipes the sweat from his face. He reacquires the target. The Mercedes and pick-up trucks come into view.

Santa digs his hand held radio out of his bag.

SANTA

(into hand held radio)

T.O.C., this is Echo team. Request immediate air support. We have hostiles inbound. Over.

T.O.C. (V.O.)

Copy Echo team, one moment. Negative Echo team. Air support is delayed till nightfall.

SANTA

(to himself)

Shit.

Then...

SANTA (CONT'D)

(into mic)

Chief, we got company. They don't look like they've been good girls and boys.

CHIEF (O.S.)

What's our time?

SANTA

You've got about seven minutes before they reach the village. Looks to be about fifteen bad guys. T.O.C. says we're alone on this.

CHIEF (O.S.)

Just keep eyes, and give me their progress.

SANTA

You guy's almost done down there?

CHIEF (O.S.)

Not now Santa. Just keep eyes.

SANTA

Roger.

INT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

The team has split up. Jimmy and Kid are working on Armstrong, while Chief and Gabe work on Katie.

Gabe places the pulse oximeter over Katie's index finger.

CHIEF

(to Gabe)

Check her breathing. It sounds shallow to me.

Gabe grabs his stethoscope and listens to her lungs.

GABE

Left lower quad sounds diminished.

Gabe quickly pulls back her flight suit. A large bruise is developing on her lower rib cage.

CHIEF

Looks like a collapsed lung is putting pressure against her heart.

GABE

If we don't decom her chest, the air build-up's gonna kill her.

Chief grabs a needle and inserts it into the left side of her rib cage between the second and third rib.

Gabe listens as air escapes at the catheter hub. Katie takes a deep breath.

Chief watches as the pulse oximeter reading increases.

SAMETIME

Jimmy has cut open a section of Armstrong's flight suit exposing his wound from the scrap metal.

JIMMY

(to Armstrong)

What's your name buddy?

ARMSTRONG

(faintly)

Chad. Chad Armstrong. Her name is Katie--

Jimmy starts packing the bloody wound with gauze pads and applying pressure.

Armstrong screams in pain.

JIMMY
(to Kid)
Give him some morphine.

Kid breaks open the auto injector of morphine and stabs Armstrong in the thigh with it. After a few moments Armstrong's screaming stops and he begins mumbling incoherently.

ARMSTRONG
Almost home-- promise to get her home. Katie-- birthday party. Her daughters birth--

JIMMY
(to Kid)
Sounds like someone else has a party tonight.

Jimmy continues packing the wound.

CHIEF
Get an IV and Heta, he needs fluids.

Kid grabs an IV line and Hetastarch bag and searches for a vein in Armstrong's arm.

KID
Chief, I can't find a vein, they've all collapsed.

GABE
Go interosseous. Use the FAST 1.

Kid opens up Armstrong's flight suit exposing his chest. He places a white patch on his sternum and grabs a spring loaded cylinder containing nine hypodermic needles.

Kid looks at Chief who gives him the nod.

He then presses the device into Armstrong's sternum. A pop is heard as a larger needle plunges from the center, opening up a pathway. Kid then hooks the IV line and Heta bag to the FAST 1 port.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

Santa has the vehicles in his cross hairs as they approach the entrance to the village. He places his finger gently on the trigger.

SANTA

(into mic)

Chief, fifteen hostiles inbound entering village. Look to be Cartel. I can slow them down from here.

CHIEF (O.S.)

Negative. Do not engage, I say again, do not engage.

Reluctantly, Santa removes his finger from the trigger well.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - DAY

Ramirez gets out of the passenger side of the Mercedes and walks to the center of the village road. He shouts to the empty streets.

RAMIREZ

(in Spanish w/ subtitles)

My people, we know the Americans are here. It's better for you to give them me, then for me to take them from you.

Ramirez waits, looking around the village. Nothing. He places a cigar in his mouth, lights it and nods to Xavier.

XAVIER

(in Spanish w/ subtitles)

Take half the men and start here. Have the others start on the other side of the village. I want every house checked for the Americans.

The Cartel quickly split up. Their movements are disorganized and frantic. The first group approaches the nearest house and bursts through the door.

INT. VILLAGE HOME 1 - DAY

The family that lives there is immediately thrown to the ground as the men viciously search the home.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - DAY

Ramirez smokes his cigar as he observes the chaos.

CUT TO:

INT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

Gabe turns Katie on her side.

GABE

Chief, she seems stable. I'll get
her ready for extract.

Chief moves over to Jimmy and Kid working on Armstrong.

CHIEF

(to Jimmy)
How's that wound?

JIMMY

He's going through a lot of gauze.

Chief bends down and places his ear next to Armstrong's nose.

CHIEF

Reverse the morphine with Narcan,
his breathing is shallower than it
should be.

Jimmy grabs a vial of Narcan and injects the fluid into the
FAST 1 port on Armstrong's chest.

KID

Chief, look at his eyes, they're
bloodshot.

Chief opens Armstrong's eyes wider with his fingers.

CHIEF

They're not bloodshot. He's
ruptured vessels. Give me a hand.

Kid helps lift up Armstrong's head as Chief palpates around
the back of his head.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

Shit, that's what I thought. Feels
like he's got a crack in his skull.

GABE

That would explain the blown
pupils.

Jimmy grabs a vial of fluid and injects it into Armstrong's FAST ONE port.

JIMMY
Manitol should reduce the swelling
in his head.

Kid grabs the space blanket and places it on Armstrong.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

Santa watches through his scope, as the Mexican Cartel gets closer to the church.

SANTA
(into mic)
Chief, it's time to go.

INT. VILLAGE CHURCH - SAMETIME

Gabe checks Katie's pulse.

GABE
Dammit, she's crashing, I barely
have a pulse. She needs another
decom.

Gabe inserts another needle in between her second and third rib. Air starts to flow out of the catheter hub again.

Kid has Armstrong's wrist in his hand.

KID
Jimmy, I lost radial.

Jimmy rushes to Armstrong and places his stethoscope on his heart.

JIMMY
I got no heart sounds. Hurry, give
him a full dose of EPI.

Kid grabs the auto-injector and jams it in Armstrong's leg. Jimmy continues to listen for a heart beat.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
I got nothing.

Kid yanks the space blanket away and desperately begins CPR.

After a moment Jimmy grabs Kid and pulls him away from Armstrong.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
Stevie, he's gone.

Gabe listens to Katie's lungs with his stethoscope.

GABE
Chief, we got quickness of breath here.

CHIEF
Check her neck.

GABE
Jugular is distended.

Chief thinks for a minute.

CHIEF
Alright. You two secure the perimeter. We need more time with her.

Jimmy and Kid immediately remove their bloody surgical gloves. They grab their M-4 rifles and head for the church's front doors.

JIMMY
(into mic)
Santa, talk to me. What's going on?

SANTA (O.S.)
The Cartel is moving down the streets. They're converging onto your pos.

JIMMY
Roger.

EXT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

Jimmy grabs Kid and points to the left street.

JIMMY
You take left and I'll take right.

Both soldiers get in position and wait, watching the Cartel move their way down the streets harassing the locals.

Without warning, A huge explosion is heard.

Everyone in the church gets down on the ground for cover.

CHIEF
(into mic)
Santa, what the fuck was that?

SANTA (O.S.)
They were getting too close. Good news is, I gave you time. Bad news is, they know we're here.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

One of the pick-up trucks has exploded. The Cartel abandon the search and run for cover.

Xavier is pointing in various directions and screaming to his men to continue the search.

Ramirez looks up into the various hillsides, searching. He goes to the back of the Mercedes, opens the truck and pulls out an M4 rifle.

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

Santa is chambering another round in his rifle. A cloud of smoke leaves his muzzle. He acquires his second target and...

Another huge explosion goes off. The second pick-up truck bursts into flames.

EXT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

Amongst the confusion, one of the Cartel soldiers sees the barrel of Kid's weapon and starts firing in his direction.

Kid fires in return and the Cartel quickly regroup and head for the church.

JIMMY
(screaming over the gunfire)
Here we go. Only sure shots. You got it? We don't have enough ammo to play all day.

The Cartel soldiers are firing blindly at the church. Jimmy and Kid are holding off their advance.

One Cartel soldier gets brave and starts to dash across the left street when suddenly he falls to his knees and is dead.

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

Santa's cross hairs pan off the Cartel soldier in the middle of the street. His muzzle still smoking. He searches for another target.

SANTA
(cocky, to himself)
Merry Christmas fucker. Hope you
liked your present.

EXT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

As rounds are flying back and forth down the streets of the village, a Cartel soldier locks in on Kid's position and...

Kid is hit in the neck and goes down immediately. Jimmy sees this and rushes to him. It's too late. He's dead. Jimmy, still firing down the streets, drags Kid's body through the front doors and into the church.

INT. VILLAGE CHURCH

Gabe and Chief look up from working on Katie as Jimmy drags Stevie's body toward them.

JIMMY
He's gone! Stevie's gone!

The team is stunned.

Gabe lowers his head as he continues to work on Katie.

GABE
(to himself)
...may the souls of the faithfully
departed through the mercy of God
rest in peace. Amen.

EXT. RIDGELINE - SAMETIME

Santa, lowers his head and slams his fist on the ground to the news.

INT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

Jimmy grabs Kids magazines and goes right back outside the front of the church. He starts engaging targets on both the left street and the right street. His anger represented by the increased intensity of his firing.

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

Santa sends another present. Another Cartel soldier goes down.

SANTA
(serious)(into mic)
How much more fucking time do you
need Chief? We need to go. **NOW!**

INT. VILLAGE CHURCH - DAY

Gabe places the stethoscope over Katie's heart.

GABE
Muffled heart beat. Sounds like
it's underwater.

Chief moves over to Katie and listens to the heart himself.

CHIEF
She's got fluid build up around her
heart.

Chief gets his needle prepared, then pours antiseptic on Katie's stomach.

GABE
Your gonna do a PCD here? Now? We
don't--

CHIEF
(focused)
If we don't release the fluid build
up compressing her heart, she's
dead. We don't do recoveries. We
do rescues!

Chief locates her xyphoid process and inserts the long needle withdrawing the plunger slowly. Suddenly a gush of bloody fluid rushes into the syringe.

CHIEF (CONT'D)
(to Katie)
We're not gonna lose you.

Gabe places his stethoscope on her heart and listens. He gives Chief a nod.

CHIEF (CONT'D)
(into mic)
Santa, we're moving.

SANTA (O.S.)
Roger, It's about fucking time.

Chief picks Katie up in his arms, and Gabe stands in front with his weapon drawn.

CHIEF
Jimmy, give us some cover fire so we can get out of here.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jimmy starts firing blindly down the streets. Gabe opens the church's front doors and begins firing as well.

The three soldiers move as a unit, shooting down the streets, trying to get to the forest treeline.

A single shot from the opposite direction is heard and Jimmy goes down.

Chief and Gabe stop behind the cover of empty barrels. Chief returns fire as Gabe runs toward Jimmy. He places his hand on Jimmy's neck and lowers his head.

CHIEF
(into mic)
Santa, Jimmy's down. We really need some help getting to that treeline.

SANTA (O.S.)
Fuck, this is not happening.

SECONDS LATER

Another explosion is heard. Flames engulf a small fuel station in the middle of town. The Cartel soldiers again run for cover.

EXT. RIDGELINE - DAY

Santa quickly packs up his equipment and runs to the treeline. He turns and notices more pick-up trucks full of Cartel heading their way.

EXT. TREELINE - DAY

The soldiers get to the treeline at the same time. Chief is still carrying Katie.

CHIEF

Santa, cover our six. We're going to Sierra.

The soldiers begin to run through the woods. The Cartel are running behind them and firing.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

(into handset)

Bravo six four, Bravo six four, this is echo team, heading to Sierra. Three down, one package is inbound. I say again, three down, one package is inbound. The area is hot.

Santa quickly swings his sniper rifle over his shoulder and grabs his M-4. He gets on one knee and fires at the advancing Cartel, he then gets up, runs for 50 yards and repositions himself to fire again. He continues this repetitive action as he moves through the forest following Gabe and Chief.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Chief is carrying Katie in his arms and Gabe is leading.

CHIEF

(into mic)

Santa, how's it looking back there?

SANTA (O.S.)

Get your asses to the LZ. I'm right behind you.

Gabe and Chief look at each other. Santa's intense firing is heard in the background behind them.

Gabe and Chief reach the clearing from the treeline. A Blackhawk helicopter is hovering above.

CHIEF

(into handset)

Bravo six four, Bravo six four, this is Echo team. Drop the litter so we can get out of here. Hostiles in the area.

HELICOPTER PILOT (O.S.)
Copy Echo team. Litter is being
dropped.

Kneeling at the treeline, Chief looks down at Katie.

CHIEF
You're gonna make her birthday. I
promise.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

As Santa starts to get up again to run he gets hit. He gets
back up and spins to return fire and gets hit again, then
again. Santa is down.

EXT. TREELINE - DAY

Gabe picks up Katie this time as Chief fires into the
treeline.

GABE
I don't hear Santa firing.

CHIEF
(into mic)
Santa? Santa, how do you read?

There's no response.

CHIEF (CONT'D)
It's now or never.

GABE
Three, two, one... Go.

Gabe, carrying Katie, races toward the litter lying on the
ground. Chief is two steps behind firing into the treeline.

The Cartel have reached the treeline and are firing into the
clearing as Gabe secures Katie to the litter.

Chief is on one knee in front of them returning fire.

The last buckle is cinched and as Gabe gives the helicopter
pilot a thumbs up, Chief gets hit and goes down.

GABE (CONT'D)
Chief!

As Gabe begins to move toward Chief, he looks into the treeline and see's a Cartel soldier aiming his weapon at Katie. It's Ramirez. As the round goes off, Gabe jumps on top of the litter blocking Katie and gets hit from the side.

Katie looks into the eyes of Gabe as he slowly slides off the litter.

Suddenly the sound of heavy machine gun fire is heard. Empty shell casings are raining down from the helicopter as the litter is being raised.

FADE TO BLACK.

HELICOPTER PILOT (V.O.)
T.O.C., this is Bravo six four,
package is secured. I say again,
package is secured. We have six
K.I.A.. Heading home.

Over the black screen "...**THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE**" fades in from the darkness.

FADE TO BLACK.

SUPER: IT IS MY DUTY AS A PARARESCUEMAN TO SAVE LIFE AND TO AID THE INJURED. I WILL BE PREPARED AT ALL TIMES TO PERFORM MY ASSIGNED DUTIES QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY, PLACING THESE DUTIES BEFORE PERSONAL DESIRES AND COMFORTS. THESE THINGS I DO, THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

FADE OUT.