



# HOSTAGE

Script by Andy Fernandez. Treatment by Storm Ashwood. Design by Brooke Benton-Smith.

Hostage Pitch Deck



# Hostage

*Feature Film: Suspense, Thriller.*

When an 11year old girl robs a bank, the world watches as a Police negotiator desperately tries to stop a bloodbath. As the horrors unravel, the child's only hope lies with a corrupt cop and a hedonistic banker. The unthinkable is coming to a head...





# Synopsis

*Junah; an angry, desperate 11 year old girl robs a bank. Here, Jim, a corrupt cop, who's long since blurred the line between good and bad sees redemption at hand. While, Sarah, a police negotiator with zero faith in the law wants to save the child. In the bank, Alex, a hedonistic, narcissistic banker, begins to regret the choices he's made. And Julian, the reporter looking for the next big tabloid story wants to capture it all on live TV. Then there is Bill, the Starforce Commander who sees only one option - take the kid out. And Janet, the MP's wife who has the biggest secret of all... These people with nothing in common are on a collision course with shocking consequences when Junah tries to rob a bank with Alex and Jim is inside.*

*What starts out as a desperate act by a naive young girl turns into a deadly siege as the bank is surrounded by gung-ho police and insatiable media.*

*Surely, no one wants to see a young girl die on live television... Yet the police are at each other's throats. A negotiator is failing to reason with a child who's pain and anguish is reaching boiling point. And the ever-waiting media are digging deeper into Junah's past. With secrets to hide, it's only a matter of time before the unthinkable happens...*

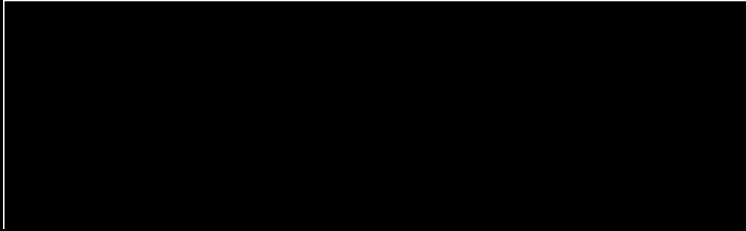




# Characters - Actors In Consideration



# Characters



Junah

**11yo.** Junah.

*We used to have a big family. But my uncle was killed in the war. And father lost his job. I know why he sold me.*

*I'm not angry at him for that. I understand. He was hoping to send me to a better life.*

*I miss my home.*



# Characters

## *Jim*

*Listen here. I am bringing him out the front door now. Give me two minutes. You got that? I am shirtless, I am only wearing a pair of blue jeans. I am unarmed.*

*If one of you mother fuckers shoot me... Ninety seconds. I'm coming out that door with Marty Roberts in hand.*



# Characters



## *Sarah*

*You have an angry young girl in there with a gun, a knife and a dozen hostages. No cameras inside the building but hundreds outside watching our every move and the possibility of a bomb.*

*Have I missed anything?*



# Characters

## Alex

*Show them all you have a compassionate side. Let someone go. Someone who doesn't deserve to be here.*

*Send someone out there who can vouch for you.*

*Send me.*



# Characters



## *Julian*

*I'll keep digging, Ms Jenkins. That's my job. Into Junah and her past. Into you and your past. I won't stop until I get what I want. I can make you a hero Ms Jenkins, a superstar.*

*I can also make you a pariah.*



# Characters

## *Sunny*

*Not anymore. SWAT Chief 'Meathead' Monrow has a Hostage situation at the United Bank in Summer Keyes. You're on...*

*They need you, Sarah. Apparently the suspect is a twelve year old girl.*



# Characters



## *Bill*

*We can't have a child light the whole place up screaming Allu Akbar on national television, while we stand around holding our dicks. I'll have tactical ready to move in ten minutes.*



# Characters

## Kathy

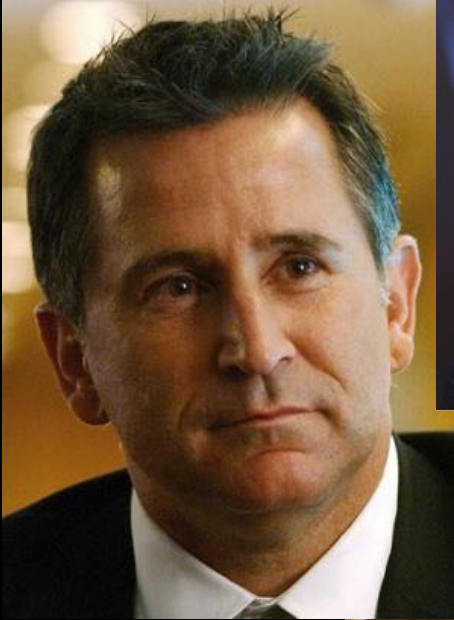
*Everyone out there is judging you, Junah. Deciding your fate. There is no voice out there for you.*

*But you deserve to have a voice. Your voice should be heard right across this righteous country.*

*We aren't the hostages! She is...*



# Characters



## Steven

*I'll not let you bring me down with this Janet.  
If it looks like I'm going to sink from this, I'll cut  
you loose. You understand?*





# Team

## DIRECTOR

Storm Ashwood (Escape and Evasion)

## PRODUCER

Tim Maddocks (Avarice)

## EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Stars Down Under  
108Media (Pending)  
Alex and Victoria Fleri

## FINANCE SUPPORT

*Screen Australia*  
*Screen Queensland*  
*Gold Coast Council*

## ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS

*Cinzia Coasin*  
*Delfin Solomon*

## DISTRIBUTION - ANZ

*RadioActive Pictures (Ruby's Choice)*

## INTERNATIONAL SALES

*Lionsgate (Pending)*





# Tone and Style

*Similarly, to films such as Room and Mud we will use warm tones to represent the heart of our hero. Hostage will also use voyeuristic camera moves and dynamic angles to highlight both action and that someone is always watching.*

*Editing will utilise a similar approach to films such as 21grams and Babel to create suspense between our characters and the world around them.*



Room  
(2015)



21grams  
(2003)



Mud  
(2012)







# Themes

1.2million children are trafficked every year. Whether they are sex slaves, slave labourers or illegally adopted, 75000 of them wind up in the USA.

*Hostage is a current story about our modern world. It is a story about the horrors and dysfunction we place children in. It is a story about who is accountable.*

*Hostage is an in-depth look into the human condition. 3rd world struggles meet 1st world greed and hysteria. The journey of searching for freedom from one's own imprisonment.*

Room  
(2015)

What Maisie knew  
(2012)



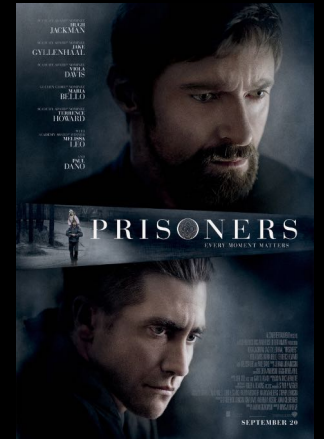
Incendies  
(2010)



Lion  
(2016)



Bable  
(2006)



# Prisoners

(2013)





# Director's Statement

*HOSTAGE* grabbed my attention immediately - "an 11 year old girl robs a bank..." Why? What are the repercussions? How does this affect the characters in the story? Where does this take place? When will hell break loose?

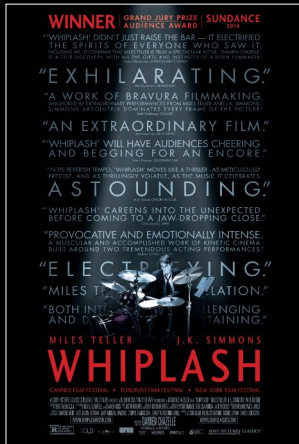
2022 - The entire world is at our fingertips: A Tic-Tok view, an IG share, a live YouTube view... And when a 11yo Sub-Continent girl holds up a bank in Florida, USA the whole world will be watching.

A dramatic story which deals with child trafficking. *Hostage* brings to us an ensemble cast to tell a horribly current story to the modern audience. Utilizing graphic storytelling tools,

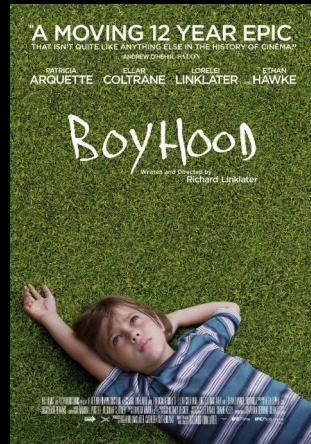
*Hostage* bend genres to maintain an exciting storytelling experience. All the while delivering within the performances a powerful story of imprisonment and the search for freedom both physically and psychologically.

# Comparative Films Box Office

BUDGET	\$3.3mil US	\$4mil US	\$1.7mil US	\$3mil US
BOX OFFICE	\$49mil US	\$46.4mil US	\$7.5mil US	\$6.6mil US



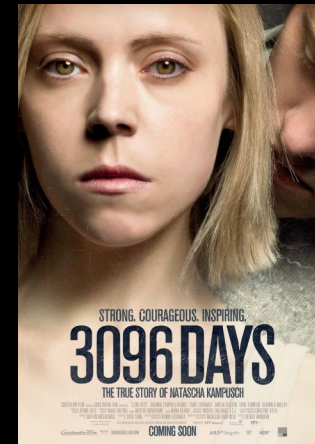
Whiplash  
(2014)



Boyhood  
(2014)



Beirut  
(2018)



3096 Days  
(2013)

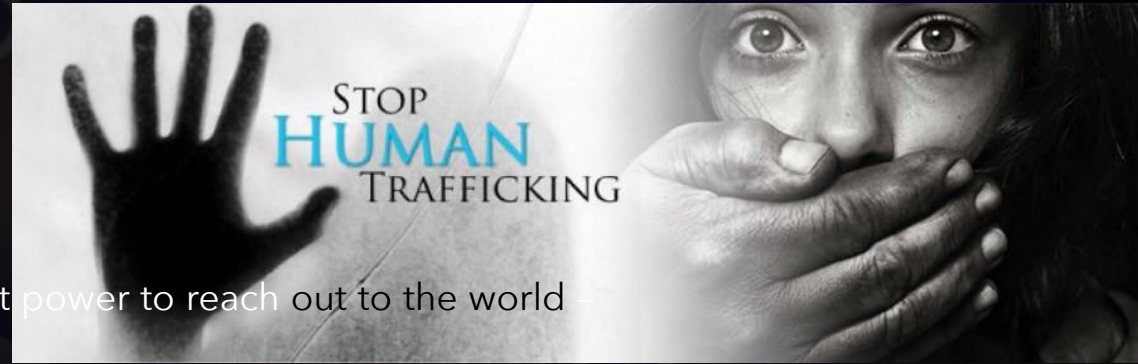
Americanfilmmarket.com -

*"Almost 60% of the most profitable films budgeted between \$3 million and \$10 million are dramas that give an insight into the minds of interesting characters.*

*The majority of these films are dark in tone, complex in their plotting and eschew the traditional happy ending."*



# Social Media Outreach



HOSTAGE centres its narrative around Media and its power to reach out to the world –

As a marketing strategy will plan to use the power to reach a greater audience.

- Use a combination of Facebook and Instagram paid campaigns to target the primary audience with interests that align with the film's themes /messages.
- Leverage off the official social media pages set up for the film and share via Distributor's website and social channels.
- Use community influencer social campaigns in major cities.
- Engaging women and disability support groups and organizations to promote the film via their owned Facebook Groups and Pages.
- Collaborate with social media pages relevant to the film's themes and content
- Polls and Q&A sessions to engage with the audience
- and develop a stronger following and community online.
- Unique hashtags that can track viral fan generated content and utilize it to further promote the film.
- To enhance engagement of the advertising we can use 10, 15 or 30 second video content such as a cut down version of the trailer on Facebook and Instagram.
- Provide an advertising subsidy to day and date exhibitors for promotion on their social media channels,geo targeting participating cinema locations and targeting the interests of the core demographic.