

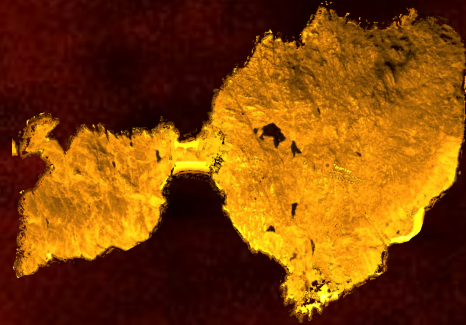
LIFE OR DEATH

Could you survive a war?



LIFE OR DEATH

**THE WORLD'S FIRST
BATTLE ROYALE REALITY SHOW**



**ARMED WITH MILITARY GRADE LASER TAG WEAPONS
STIRRED UP BY WARMONGERS AND AGITATORS
20 CONTESTANTS BATTLE AGAINST EACH OTHER
TO BE SOLE SURVIVORS AND WIN**

£100,000

LIFE OR DEATH



THE CONCEPT

Contestants enter Tar, in the Outer Hebrides, the UK's largest uninhabited island. Agitators, prospectors, arms dealers and propagandists follow to stoke fires and spark conflict. Over four weeks ordinary people are put at the helm life or death decisions as they try to survive a month.

This is a social experiment and study of human beings under extreme conditions that delves into the very essence of what it means to be human; the drive to fight and dominate, and the seemingly opposing desire to nurture community.

Drawing from decades of war-time experience, from conflict journalists, peace negotiators, security advisors, spooks and special forces, this reality TV series throws a light on the nature of war.

Fear, joy, love, friendship are pushed to their limit on the island.
It is Big Brother meets survivor meets Hunger Games.

A BATTLE TO THE LAST

LIFE OR DEATH

THE FORMAT

There are 4 distinct phases of game play during the 28 days of the series:

- **SETTLEMENT**
- **SEEDS OF CONFLICT**
- **STRUGGLE**
- **FINALE**



LIFE OR DEATH

SETTLEMENT: PHASE ONE (2 days)

Twenty settlers arrive unarmed with basic rations and provisions. Small groups of friends, family and lone wolves populate the barren hills and farmhouses, building community, bolstering shelter, seeking staples and resources. This is the peaceful phase of Life Or Death where the audience get to know the contestants.

Players are cast to represent a diverse Britain but with a special emphasis on people more peacefully inclined. The aim is to see how normal people behave under duresses that spurn conflict.

They are joined by embedded reporters who film the bulk of the series. Contestants will come to realise that these camera people may also have their own allegiances and their own footage could be transmitted from the Island's Radio and TV station and used for propaganda purposes.



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SEEDS OF CONFLICT:

PHASE TWO (5 DAYS)

Prospectors, preachers, aid workers come onto the island. While some may seem benign, useful, even charitable, they have their own hidden agendas. These characters offer contestants food or tradable currency such as 'stones'. But they also spread disinformation fanning flames of discontent.

Agitators and gun dealers follow, selling limited weapons and ammunition to the settlers. Daily transmissions from the TV station push propaganda, claiming that one group is planning an attack or have raided food supplies and want to stockpile weapons. Among the contestants, sleeper agents and informers agitate further.

With settlers armed we enter the third phase -



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STRUGGLE: PHASE THREE (2 WEEKS)



Contestants may or may not fire the first shots. However mercenaries despatched by handlers can ignite escalation. Head shots trigger 'bleeds' and a countdown that ticks away the life of settler. Medical kits revitalize hits but can only be applied to others, so friends must decide whom to let 'live' or leave to 'die'. Lone wolfs will have to seek alliances.

During this phase, leaders rise and fall, groups split and fragment. Alliances are tested, strengthened or broken with mutinies. This is the backbone of the series, where tension explode and all permutations are possible. Seasoned peace negotiators are deployed to quell unrest and keep the balance. But these peacemakers have hidden agendas and leanings and contestants will do well to understand what they are signing up for. Everything comes at a cost in Life Or Death. And there is no utilitarianism.

When a contestant's life force reaches zero they are removed from the island. This leads us to the final stage -

LIFE OR DEATH

FINALE: PHASE FOUR (1 WEEK)



Whittled down to a few remaining contestants, tensions explode in the final week. Informers and agitators will be outed and contestants may turn on their own. This is the final drive to a single or small group of survivors to win the prize money. Incentivised for a bigger stake in the £100,000, contestants will be under pressure to make life or death decisions about those closest to them. Gun runners and agitators will offer fresh ammunition and better weapons for this final push. Contestants who have understood the web of complexity in the war will better understand who to side with and how to win.

These life or death decisions are the hallmark of the series. It's not just about who survives but about what they do in order to get there. Contestants ideas about morality are laid bare, as we witness how normal people behave under extreme pressures.

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ADDITIONAL CHARACTERS/ ADVISORS



HANDLER

Andy Kane served 11 years in SAS and 2 Para, including classic Special Forces Raids in the Falklands campaign. He formed AKE Limited in 1991, the first specialist risk mitigation company, delivering safety courses to prepare journalists for war zones. Operated in conflict zones across the world for 25 years including Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia, training journalists, negotiating with bandits and war lords and rescuing individuals, tasks often too difficult for Governments. He is author of the SAS+ Security Handbook.

AGITATOR

Kim Williams was the first female since World War two working in Algeria in a security capacity, providing close protection to oil company execs for Stirling Security in 1996. Armed close protection in Bosnia, and protection to journalists in West Africa for AKE. Counter surveillance in Northern Ireland. Kim's father was a SAS soldier.



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ADDITIONAL CHARACTERS/ ADVISORS

PEACE NEGOTIATOR

Lieutenant Colonels (retired) David Lord, ex parachute regiment. David is a negotiation, influence and conflict resolution expert with three years United Nations service as a Military Observer and Liaison Officer. Deployed with negotiation skills to roles in Iraq, Afghanistan and recently Ukraine. Civilian contracting work in Algeria and Egypt. Currently employed by a PSC as a military sales consultant.



REPORTER

Leslie Knott is a Canadian filmmaker who spent over a decade in Afghanistan, setting up a radio station for women. Her award winning filmmaking career has taken her to multiple war zones and she has won many awards including being nominated for an Academy Award for “Buzkashi Boys”.

LIFE OR DEATH

ADDITIONAL CHARACTERS/ ADVISORS

ADVISOR

Colonel Watt's combat service includes year-long tours of Afghanistan, 2001-2002, Iraq, 2006-2007, and Iraq again in 2010/11. Leadership and key staff positions of special operations units. Three Bronze Star Medals for meritorious service, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, G.W.O.T. Expeditionary and Service Medals, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two stars, Iraq with three stars, and the Joint Meritorious Unit Award. He was featured in 2003, ABC television special Profiles From the Front Lines, and the August, 2003, issue of Men's Health magazine. He is the author of "One Warrior's Creed," written during the closing days of his 06-07 Iraq tour.



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THE WILD CARDS

These elements help us shift dynamics on the island, quelling conflict, fanning flames or shaping story. They are the movers and shakers and represent the covert undercurrents behind wars.

RELIGIOUS ZEALOT

A humanist preacher is one of the early arrivals on the island, offering food and resource and a religious message to the settlers. Interactions between him and other external factors will reveal hidden loyalties and other agendas.

PROSPECTOR

Another early arrival, the prospector interacts with contestants in a search for minerals. Offering tradable currency in return for loyalty to one conglomerate or another. These stones can be bartered for weapons, food and resource.

SLEEPERS/INFORMERS

Not all contestants are as they seem. Some are 'sleepers', agents of bigger powers with their own covert objective. Their orders may be to topple or install specific leaders or spread disinformation. Audiences and contestants will constantly be asking themselves who is who on the island and if they can be trusted.

GUN RUNNERS

These profiteers operate sporadically in the Zone with the purpose of personal gain and are only interested in 'politics' when it pays. They offer the chance of strengthening their armoury. Players may choose to steal from gun runners but do so at their own risk and may face reprisals from the powerful conglomerates behind them.

MERCENARIES

'Soldiers of fortune' will enter the zone; skilled combatants who can offer themselves as hired guns and tacticians. Or lie low as solitary snipers, hitting members of one group to give the impression that they are under fire from another. Mercenaries spark conflict then look for opportunities to profit.

LIFE OR DEATH

HANDLERS

These are the middle men and women, who liaise with sleepers, mercenaries and gun dealers to flare, coerce and control the conflict. They operate ruthlessly at the behest of the corporations.

PEACEMAKERS

From time to time we may subdue the fighting by sending in seasoned experts in conflict resolution. However 'peacemakers' may be operating with hidden agendas. They may be corruptible with leanings towards one group or another or larger powers playing the greater game.

AIRDROPS

Basic provisions, rations and ammunition can land anywhere on the island. These honey pots may draw bees to the pot but risk direct conflict with others.

PROPAGANDA

'Truth is its first casualty of war'. Whoever controls the TV and radio station controls the propaganda. They can broadcast their military gains or fake news, triggering defections and splintering groups. Bigger powers can also disseminate information through broadcast in order to shift dynamics.

EMBEDDED REPORTERS

Every group of lone wolf has a reporter and their footage is the bedrock of the series. But it also feeds the TV Radio station. 'News' is edited and aired by those who control the air ways and they can propagate their own version of the 'truth'.

COMMUNICATION

There is no Internet in the Zone. No connection with the outside world. However everyone has a smart phone that connects to the TV Radio station. Players may relay information to comrades via phones or they can taunt the enemy.

THE GREAT GAME

Players need to understand the bigger picture at play, with neighbouring islands vying for power and resources, and fanning flames for their own purpose. Knowing this gives players an edge to survive.

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FILMING THE SERIES

This reality series is filmed mostly on the ground by embedded reporters but bolstered by remote camera rigs and drones that fly in and out of the Zone. Contestants carry 360 cameras mounted on guns and jackets and record intimate video diaries on Gopros. Sound is committed to hard disk drives mounted on each player and phones conversations are tapped.

Movement on the island is monitored with GPS trackers and limited to an 8-hour day-light window. Either side of this contestants remain static, while batteries are recharged, footage collected and risk assessed.

Where needed, we will help motivate and drive the story with the wild cards. It's a huge and varied arsenal that can be used for calming or inciting struggle.

But ultimately the predisposition of the Life Or Death series is down to the players, ordinary men and women with their own leanings for war or peace.



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MISSION STATEMENT

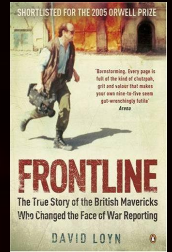
Life Or Death holds a mirror against our own society and begs the question 'what if?' Many of us don't know what we are capable of until we are under duress. The island is a pressure cooker where these hidden traits rise to the fore, where normal people climb the ranks, where mutiny and defections run their course and the sands are constantly shifting. Fires may be stoked by my external agencies but it's down to individuals to pull the trigger. **Life Or Death** tests the bonds of friends, family and strangers. Allegiances will be born out of necessity but will they last? It is life on a knife-edge, where the rules of society have collapsed and some of the oldest questions about human nature play out.





LIFE OR DEATH

**RICHARD PARRY:
Creator and director
Personal Message**



I covered wars for 25 years - from the Balkans to Central Asia, Africa and the Middle East. At my company 'Frontline News Television', I saw half of my colleagues fall under fire. This series is an attempt to explore and unravel some of the many themes and nuances I have seen in war. People at home often said 'it could never happen here'. 'But what if it did? How would you or I or any of us behave? When the things we take for granted are suddenly ripped away from us? What are we really like, once the veneer of society is gone?'

Wars can be triggered by many things from proliferation of weapons to external politics and propaganda. The island is a bubble where we simulate these influences. Where nothing is quite as it seems. The onion has many layers that those within it are forever unravelling.

Wars often bring out the worst in people but in a strange way they also bring out the best. Compassion and caring between people who have nothing left. Life Or Death is a personal attempt to illuminate the conflict and the humanity that lies at the heart of every human being.

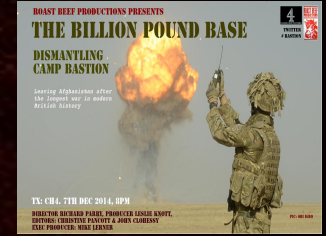
Richard Parry



CREDITS RICHARD PARRY



HUNTED Series 1- Channel 4 TV. Producer/ director
CAPTURING MY RAPIST - Bite films for ITV (in development) Producer/ director
BASE- Writer/Director, Vertigo Films, Content Media. Amazon Prime, Google play.
A NIGHT IN THE WOODS -Writer/Director, Vertigo, Tribeca Films (US) DVD theatrical.
SOUTH WEST NINE - Writer/Director Irish Screen, Theatrical release
SHOOTING ROBERT KING - Director/ Producer Trinity. BBC Storyville, DRTV & Various.
MIRANDA BARBOUR: SERIAL KILLER OR LIAR?- Director/ Producer BBC 2, 3
UNSOLVED SERIE 1: Director/ Producer BBC3
21 MILES: Director/ Producer Virgil Films, Australian Entertainment Co, Amazon, Hulu
BILLION DOLLAR BASE: Director/ Producer for Channel 4.
DALE FARM - The Big Eviction: Director/ Producer for BBC Panorama.
GYPSY WARS - Director/ Producer for BBC 2 & 3
CITY STORIES - Channel 4 series. Director
EXORCIST OF WOODGREEN - Channel 4. Director



LIFE OR DEATH

REVIEWS:

- ★★★★★ *Richard Parry's extraordinary film about the perils of being a war photographer* TIM DOWLING, THE GUARDIAN
- ★★★★★ *This is a thoughtful and provocative film unlike anything we've seen. It's also vitally important.* BBC RADIO 5 LIVE
- ★★★★★ *Parry's film surveys the wreckage and finds in King a fearless, fascinating, flawed figure* JOHN FORTANG, CHANNEL 4
- ★★★★★ *Powerful... Shooting Robert King is Mesmerising in its intensity.'*RICHARD WATSON, BBC NEWSNIGHT
- ★★★★★ *The ever-present whiff of despair, Shooting Robert King makes for compulsive viewing.*JON LEE ANDERSON, NEW YORKER MAGAZINE
- ★★★★★ *'Completely blown away by it. It's beautifully put together, and by far the best war doc I have seen* NICK BROOMFIELD, FILMMAKER
- ★★★★★ *Darkly comic, as if 'Scoop' was reimagined for the 21st century as a gonzo acid trip through some of the most hellish wars in memory* PETER BERGAN, CNN
- ★★★★★ *An eye-opening cinematic experience... Hugely Impactful.* THE UPCOMING
- ★★★★★ *Essential viewing for any global citizen...*DJ MAGAZINE
- ★★★★★ *Will move you so much things won't feel the same afterwards...* CAMDEN NEW JOURNAL
- ★★★★★ *Vivid journalism indeed...* SOLDIER MAGAZINE
- ★★★★★ *Filmmaking at its finest...* HEATHER SMALL, M PEOPLE
- ★★★★★ *A landmark film... defines the temper of our age...* ALEXANDER WALKER, EVENING STANDARD
- ★★★★★ *Visually stunning... Parry creates a genuine sense of melting pot culture.* QUENTIN FALK, SUNDAY MIRROR
- ★★★★★ *Colourful and energetic work.com ambition and humour that put most similar British efforts to shame,* OBSERVER
- ★★★★★ *Lively, gritty, beautiful and deeply surreal...* ARWA HAIDER, TIME OUT

TEAM

LESLIE KNOTT: PRODUCER

WITH THIS BREATH I FLY, premiering 2021
THE PEACE DELUSION, in production, 2019
GIRLS BEHIND BARS, Unreported World, Channel 4, 2019
MADE IN VEGAS, Channel 4, 2019
FINDING MEANINGFUL PEACE FOR AFGHANISTAN, ICC, 2018
NAZI HUNTERS, in production, Roast Beef Productions, 2018
THE TWELVE, 2018
ROCKABUL, 2018
PURO CUBA, The Annenberg Space for Photography, 2017
THE GENIUS AND THE OPERA SINGER, 2017
NIGEL AND HIS FRIENDS, Channel 4, 2016
REFUGEE, The Annenberg Space for Photography, NETFLIX 2016
THOSE WHO REMAIN, Channel 4/UNHCR, 2016
IN OUR BACKYARD, Al Jazeera Earthrise, 2015
THE GIRL WHO LOST HER FACE, Unreported World/Ch. 4, 2015
THE OTHERS, Universal Records/UNHCR, 2015
AFGHANISTAN'S FEMALE PARK RANGERS, Al Jaz Earthrise, 2015,
VACCINATION WARS, Unreported World, Channel 4, 2015
THE BILLION-POUND BASE: DISMANTLING BASTION, Ch. 4, 2014
THE LAST CALIPH, ARTE, 2014
PROJECT HALA, CNN/UNHCR, 2014
THE PARABLE OF GULNAZ, Channel 4 News
KIM VERSUS KABUL, NBC Dan Rather Reports, 2013
NIP TUCK KABUL, Channel 4 News, 2012
PRISONERS OF THE HIMALAYA, France 5, 2012
GIVING LIFE: A RISKY PROPOSITION, ABC Diane Sawyer, 2011



Leslie Knott is an award-winning Canadian filmmaker who has spent most of her career in war torn countries, telling the human story behind the conflict. Her films have lead to innocent women being freed. She has made films for Netflix, Channel 4, PBS, ARTE, ABC, CBC and UNHCR working with Angelina Jolie.

She was nominated for an Academy Award for “Buzkashi Boys” which was co-produced by the Afghan Film Project, a non-profit NGO that Leslie co-founded in 2010 to help train Afghan filmmakers and foster Afghanistan’s film industry. Most recently she was in Mosul providing training to aspiring filmmakers with GIZ.



IAN LIGGETT: Director of Photography

DARK CORNERS - Director Richard Parry, Feature drama with Sam Hazeldine, Julie Dray,

SCARBOROUGH - Director Barnaby Southcombe, Feature film with Jessica Barden, Jordan Bolger,

THE SECRET LIFE OF BOYS - Series 1 and 2. Director Beryl Richards BAFTA award winning

VERA series 5... 'Old Wounds' - Director Daikin Marsh, TV Drama starring Brenda Blethyn, Davai Leon

HEBBURN Series 2 - Directed by Jonathan Gerschfield with Gina McKee, Vic Reeves,

VERA series 4 ...'Protected' - With Brenda Blethyn, Davai Leon

STARLINGS 8 x 1hr comedy drama - with Brendan Cole, Lesley Sharp, Steve Edge, Matt King

HELLO STRANGER (feature doc) Beryl Richards. 104 Films / Alex Osborne for Storyville Ch 4

SOUL SEARCHING David Malone 3 part series BBC Bristol

SECRET LIFE OF THE INCAS (To the Ends of the Earth doc strand) dir David Malone C4

THE LONDON FOG (Secret History strand) dir David Monaghan BBC

DARWIN - THE LEGACY (Horizon) dir David Malone BBC

HUMAN SHIELD dir James Cutler C4

THE MAN WHO OWNED MUSTIQUE (BAFTA nominated) Joe Bulman/Vikram Jayanti

ADVISERS

VAUGHAN SMITH: Maverik businessman and journalist he founded the Frontline Club in London in 2003 championing independent journalism, screening films and launching iconic debates. He ran the celebrated Frontline Television News in the 90's and broke multiple world stories, such as Precatz the Kosovo massacre cited by Madeleine Albright as reason for US intervention. He housed WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange for thirteen months in 2011/12 and his work continues to support the free press and especially war journalists.

SARAH ANTHONY: Story produced the enormously popular Netflix docu-series *Heist*. She was a producer on the Grammy-winning HBO documentary series, "The Defiant Ones" and "The Price of Free" about child slavery which won the 2018 Sundance Festival Grand Jury Prize and was nominated for an Emmy. Sarah produced the Netflix documentary "Bikram" and was Consulting Producer for Netflix, "Making a Murderer" Series Two. She recently wrapped on an unannounced series for Imagine Entertainment and Lucasfilm as Story Producer.

ADAM KELLIHER: Adam was a foreign correspondent and covered twenty nine wars during his 14-year journalistic career. An entrepreneur and CEO who built two companies, Equazen and Equateq, from foundation through to successful exits, and took Avita Medical, a publicly-listed company, to US market entry. He has offered his island, Taransay, as the location for the reality show.

LIFE OR DEATH

You choose...

