**The Things They Carried Final Project**

For your final project, you will write a screenplay for **one** of the stories in *The Things They Carried*. Your screenplay must include four major components: a cast, music, props, and the script.

You can choose from the following stories:

* “The Things They Carried”
* “On the Rainy River”
* “How to Tell a True War Story”
* “Sweetheart of the Song Tra Bong”
* “Speaking of Courage”
* “In the Field”
* “The Ghost Soldiers”
* “Lives of the Dead”

Requirements

The Cast:

* List each major character involved in your story.
  + Each major character’s name must be followed by the name of the actor playing them.
* Include extras (characters that are not named).
  + Name them according to their role (i.e. Vietnamese Farmer)

The Music:

* Identify the most important scenes in your story.
  + Select a minimum of two scenes in which you will include background music.
* Cue the music at the appropriate points in the script.
  + Include a YouTube link to each song used.

The Props:

* List a minimum of five props that are necessary to your story.
  + Make sure all props listed are used/referenced in the script.

The Script:

* The script should total approximately 4-6 pages.
* You should include words and phrases that are specific to this story/Vietnam.
* You should include the following:
  + Dialogue (centered)
  + Action descriptions (italicized)
  + Setting descriptions (INT or EXT)
  + Music cues (fade in and out)

**Screenplay for “Curch”**

Written by Brittney Aman

Cast:

Henry Dobbins – Chris Hemsworth

Jimmy Cross – Chris Evans

Kiowa – Chaske Spencer

Monk 1

Monk 2

Props:

Monk robes

Watermelons

New Testament Bible

Cane chair

M-60s

Music:

“What We’re Fighting For”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEd1WQP-Uqs&index=15&list=PLkZcyncW452iiEMjiHISUsMNSlVuoTAVF>

**Scene 1**

INT (interior): Soldiers are sitting in a dimly-lit, well-worn pagoda somewhere west of the Batangan Peninsula

Fade in: “What We’re Fighting For”

*The soldiers are setting up camp on the pagoda. Kiowa sits back in a cane chair with his New Testament resting on his lap. Jimmy Cross paces the floor with his M-60 slung across his chest.*

Fade out: “What We’re Fighting For”

Kiowa

It’s bad news. You don’t mess with churches.

Cross

*Crossing to Kiowa.* The monks don’t seem to mind.

Dobbins

*Perking up.* How would you know? They barely speak any English.

*Monks enter with buckets of water and a watermelon. Soldiers strip down to bathe. Both monks giggle.*

Monk 1

*Performs washing motion with hands.*

Dobbins

What is that supposed to mean?

Kiowa

*Shrugging*. Your guess is as good as mine.

**Scene 2**

INT: Early morning in the dimly-lit pagoda.

*Dobbins and Kiowa are sitting quietly, cleaning their M-60s with the two monks.*

Dobbins

You know, after the war maybe I’ll join up with these guys.

Kiowa

Join how?

Dobbins

You know, wear robes, take the pledge.

Kiowa

*Thinking*. That’s a new one. I didn’t know you were all that religious.

Dobbins

Well, I’m not.

*Dobbins pauses to watch the monks run swabs through the M-60s.*

Dobbins

I mean, I’m not the churchy type, When I was a kid, way back, I used to sit there on Sunday counting the bricks in the wall. Church wasn’t for me. But then in high school, I started to think how I’d like to be a minister. Free house, free car. Lots of potlucks. It looked like a pretty good life.

Kiowa

You’re serious?

Dobbins

*Shrugging*. What’s serious? I was a kid. The thing is, I believed in God and all that, but it wasn’t the religious part that interested me. Just being nice to people. That’s all. Being decent.

Kiowa

*Nodding.* Right.

Dobbins

Visit sick people, stuff like that. I would've been good at it, too. Not the brainy part—not sermons and all that—but I'd be okay with the people part.

*Silence.*

*Dobbins smiles at the monk who is cleaning the gun’s trigger assembly.*

Dobbins

But anyway, I couldn't ever be a real minister, because you have to be super sharp. *Tapping his right temple.* Upstairs, I mean. It takes brains. You have to explain some hard stuff, like why people die, or why God invented pneumonia and all that. *Shakes head.* I just didn't have the smarts for it. And there's the religious thing, too. All these years, man, I still hate church.

Kiowa

Maybe you’d change.

*Dobbins closes his eyes and laughs.*

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