



Boys Fight

Wars

by faith noelle auon & ava kramer

**WHEN A GROUP OF JROTC CADETS PARTICIPATE IN A
ROUTINE EXERCISE OF CAPTURE THE FLAG,
IT BECOMES ALL TOO REAL WHEN
ONE OF THE PLAYERS
ENDS UP DEAD**



THE STAKES

16 year old cadet, Isaac Banks, and his two friends, Jayden and Noah, have made it to the end of their JROTC summer training. Petty fights, superficial politics, and constant ball-busting surround this battalion, but Isaac is only focused on one thing; the annual graduation exercise. This year, two teams will camp out in the woods without adult supervision to play a long game of capture the flag. Isaac knows that succeeding in this final exercise is key to getting nominated for admission into top military academies. Losing this game is not an option for him



The three friends are split up into two teams: Isaac and Jayden on the Blue Team, Noah on the Red Team. Tensions rise as the previous threesome face off against each other. Isaac is unable to relinquish control in his team and butts heads with Jayden, who continuously goofs off. Noah feels powerless and out of place on his team without his friends, but also so badly wants to beat them.

As the game progresses, the Blue Team begins to find their footing while the Red Team still struggles to find their rhythm. Isaac eventually makes a strategic move that gets the Blue Team into the Red base. Chaos ensues as the battalion battles for the flag, but victory is cut short when the dead body of one of the cadets is discovered.

THE CONFLICT



In the chaos, nobody sees the blow, but everybody sees the body. Panic sweeps the battalion as the two warring teams argue over what to do.

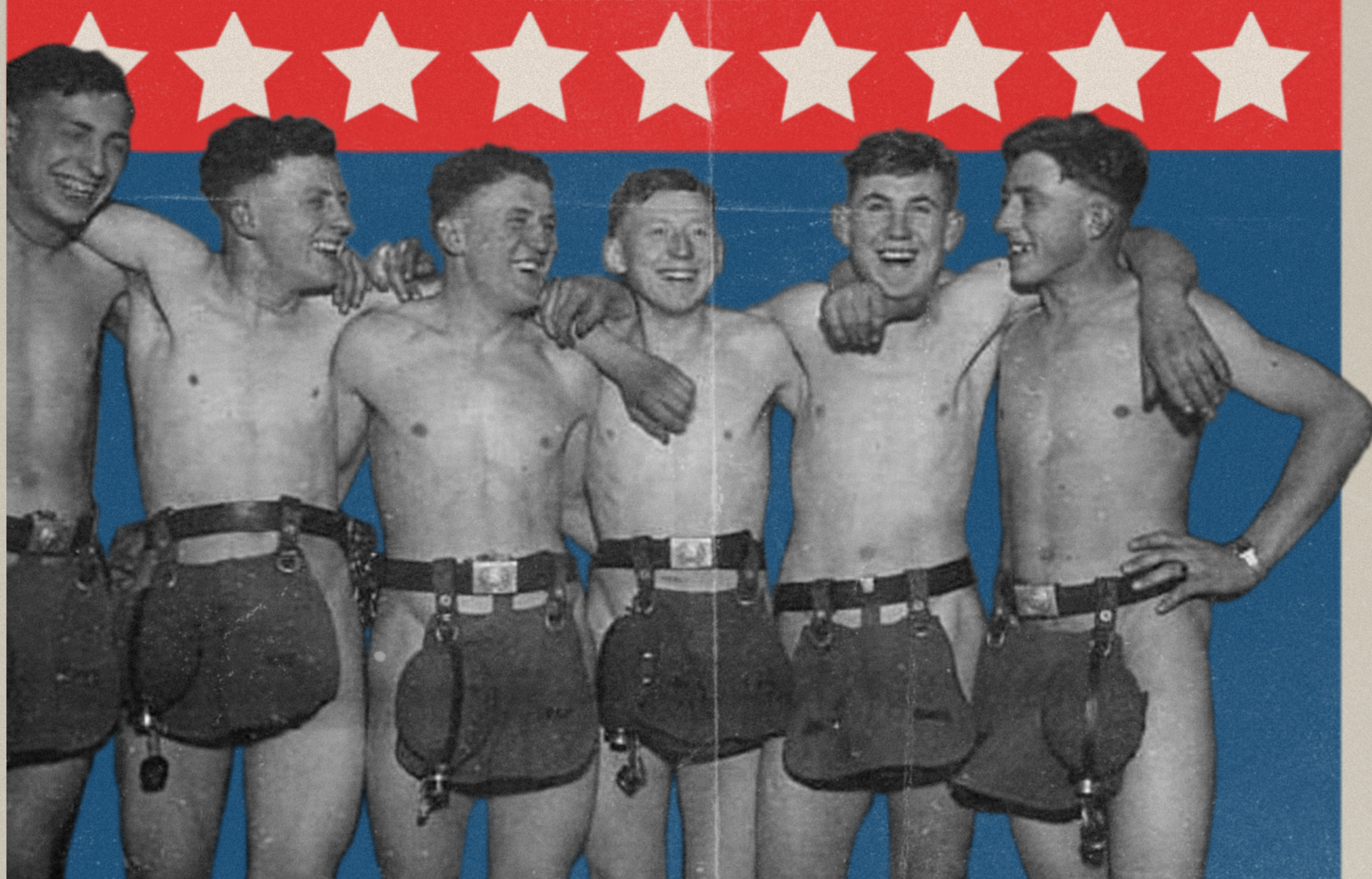
Two new teams emerge: The team of cadets that want to call for help, and the cadets that want to hide the body. As these two teams fight alone in the woods a new game starts, one that is much more real than anyone was prepared for.

THE CONFLICT



THE THEMES

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 2025-O-48292



☆ The gender of "boy" vs "man"

☆ War through the eyes of boys, who have historically fought most of the world's wars

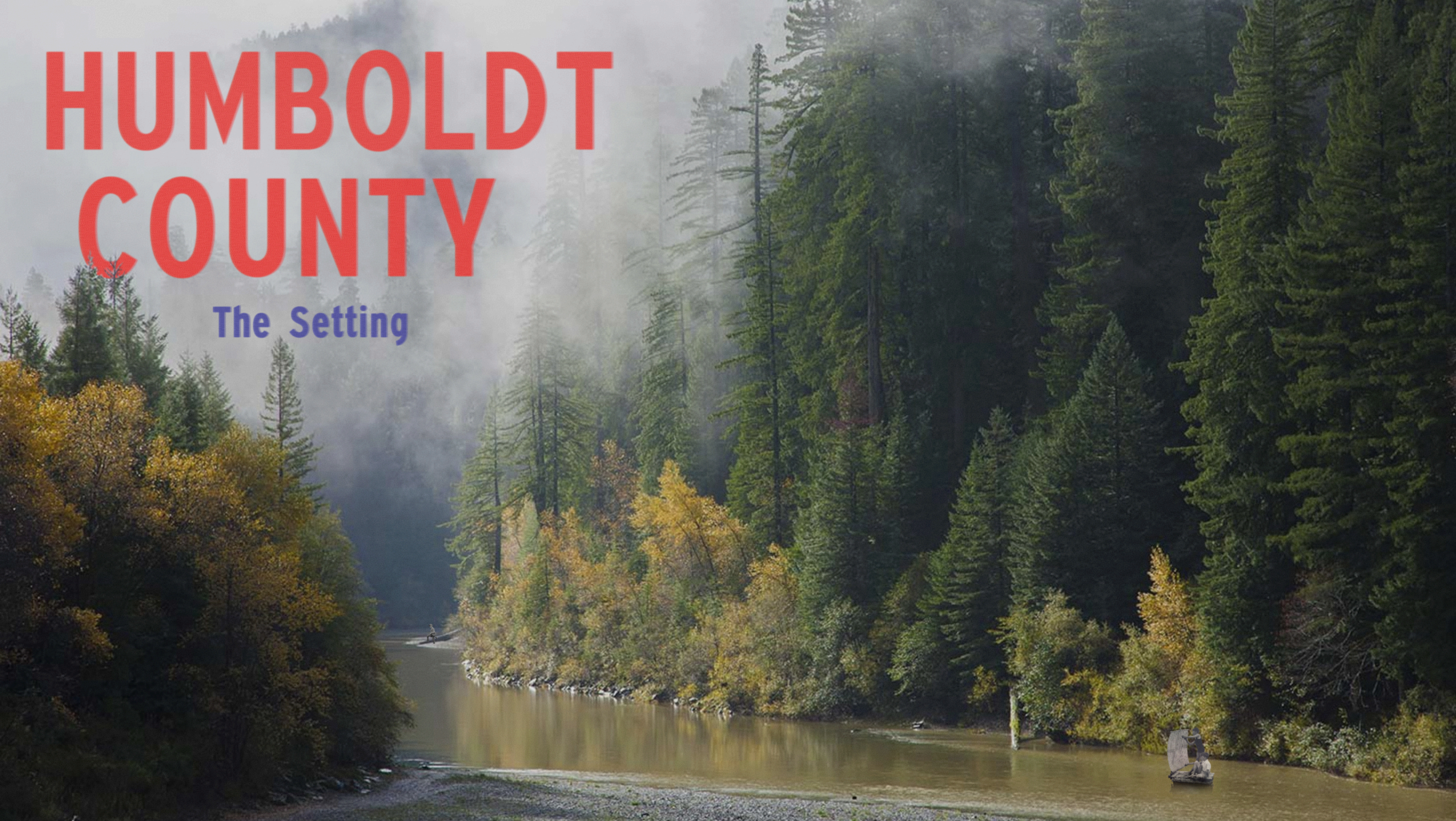
☆ War as a gender ritual being sought out in the modern day

☆ How war used to facilitate close male relationships

☆ To be "bitched"

☆ The struggle between the need for power and the need for connection

☆ Mob mentality



HUMBOLDT COUNTY

The Setting



Name: Isaac G. Banks

Sex: M Age: 16 Height: 5'10" Weight: 145 lbs

Assessment:

At every turn Isaac Banks chooses to be a cadet, not some directionless boy like his friends. He's going to play this game as professionally as any 16 year old can. Always looking towards the future, Isaac is aiming to be admitted into the top US military academies and this game could get him there. He knows he has what it takes to inch himself in front of his peers and get the recognition he needs, but he'll have to work around his team's lack of skill.

★NOTES★

Isaac has all the markings of a leading serviceman. He's analytical, smart, quick on his feet, and physical.

Coming from a home where debt strangled his family, Isaac is determined to have the life they never had.



Name: Noah Hancock

Sex: M Age: 16 Height: 6'0" Weight: 153

Assessment:

The loudest and the most unsure of the three friends. Noah swings from being caustic, cocky, and rambunctious, to faltering, sweaty, and aggressive. Noah is one of the highest performing cadets of the battalion but suffers from a lack of direction; leaning on his competitive streak to guide him. Separated from his friends during the game, he struggles to lead his team forward.

★NOTES★

Noah joined the JROTC when he beat someone in a school recruitment exercise.

The thrill of not just being the best but beating someone else got him hooked.



Name: Jayden Gardner

Sex: M Age: 16 Height: 5' ~~11~~ 11" Weight: 142

Assessment:

Jayden can't think of anything better than killing time with his friends and getting into lighthearted trouble. A boy that only ever skims sincerity. He's not really motivated by competition but instead seeks out what will be the funniest/most fun thing to do. In the game, Jayden is paired with Isaac and butts up against his professionalism. For Jayden, Capture the flag is just a game, nothing more.

★NOTES★

Jayden isn't bad, he's just not great.

Not that it bothers him anyway, Jayden joined the JROTC because his friends were there.

THE BATTALION

BRYCE McCALLISTER: 17 yrs - 6' 2" - 160 lbs

The battalion leader and lap dog of the two supervising sergeants. Red in the face with power and a need for validation.

ETHAN PLAYFORD: 16 yrs - 5' 10" - 141 lbs

The scheming double agent only out for his own gain. If something's amiss, Ethan is involved.

OWEN CHAMBERS: 15 yrs - 5' 10" - 135 lbs

One of the newest members of the battalion, Owen has yet to gain his sea legs in this high-pressure environment.

LIAM GERBERS: 14 yrs - 5' 9" - 138 lbs

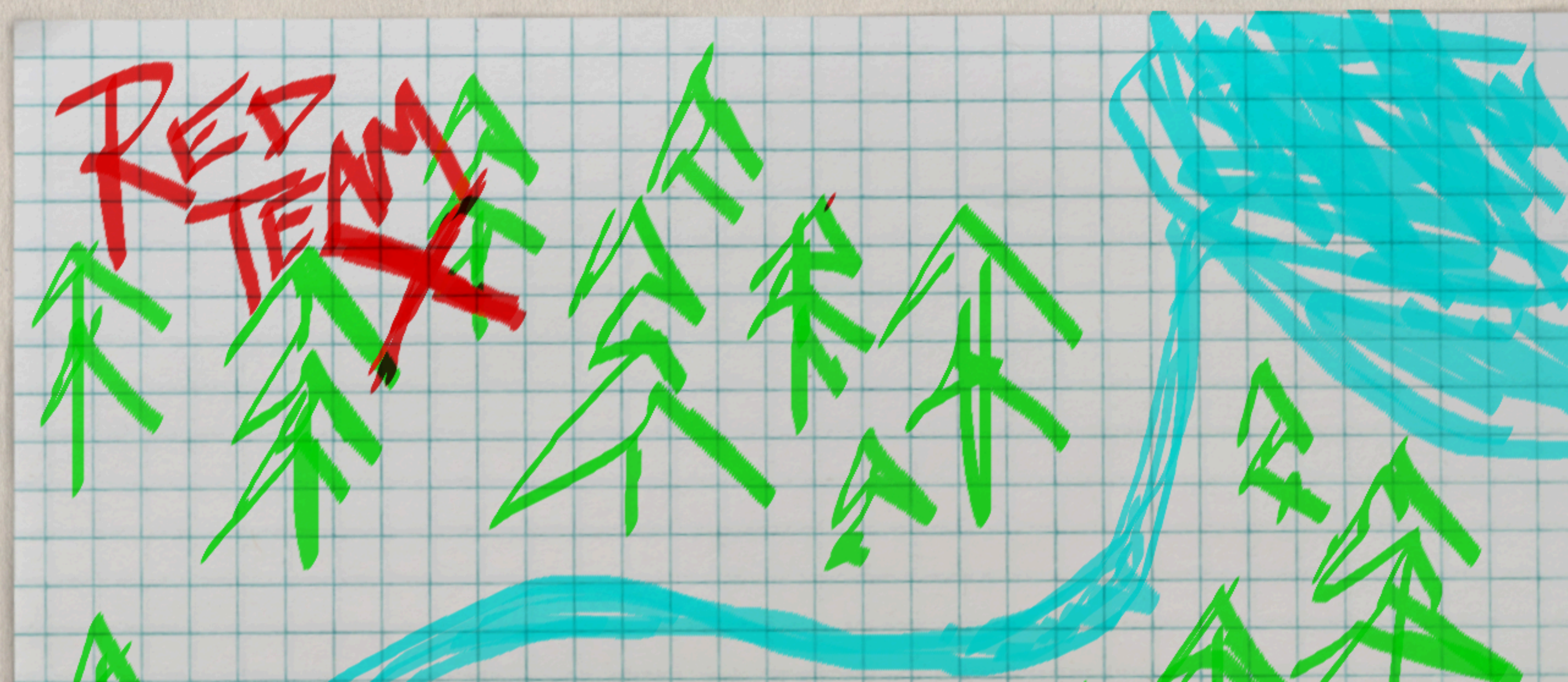
Overly enthusiastic about everything war related, and very eager to succeed.

MATT DAWSON: 15 yrs - 5' 11" - 143 lbs

The black sheep of the battalion. Matt is participating in the JROTC as a form of community service to have his Juvie record expunged.

ANDREW GARCIA: 15 yrs - 5' 10" - 159 lbs

Aggressive, gruff, and a bit dogmatic. Andrew is quick to draw lines and start pointing fingers.



The Supervisors

TYLER REEVES: 21 - 5' 11" - 161 lbs

An apathetic cynic with sharp edges. Tyler just simply doesn't give a shit about anyone or anything, especially the cadets.



~~BLUE TEAM~~

Supervisors

CAMERON BONNER: 23 - 6' 3" - 165 lbs

Behind a very cheerful and supportive attitude lies a shadier, more conniving persona. Cameron likes to ever so slightly pull the strings from off stage to get what he wants.

character education
on the part of the military services
while fostering in each school a more constructive
and disciplined learning environment. JROTC makes
substantial contributions to students, schools and
communities which benefit greatly from its presence.
JROTC is the Department of Defense's (DoD) largest youth
development program in our secondary schools. The
purpose as defined in Title 10 United States Code, Section
2031 is to instill in students in United States
educational institutions the values and attitudes
to the United States and the world.