

# ***Facing The Sun***

*by*

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Cast of CharactersCHESTER:

20's

TOM:

20's

Place

Mountaintop (winter)

Time

Early morning hours

2.

Setting: The play takes place on top of a mountaintop. There are rocks, trees, dirt and it's deathly cold.

At Rise: The play opens up with Tom and Chester sitting against a rock side by side to keep warm. Another soldier called Reynold is facedown dead a few feet in front of them.

CHESTER: How you feeling Tom?

TOM: I'm alright...you?

CHESTER: So hungry I don't feel hungry, if that makes sense.

TOM: Makes sense.

CHESTER: We really shouldn't talk.

TOM: Good for the mind.

CHESTER: (laughs)

TOM: Shouldn't laugh, either.

BOTH laugh softly.

CHESTER: True. Fuck it.

TOM: Should we move Reynold?

CHESTER: We'll exert too much energy.

TOM: Feels inhumane.

CHESTER: It is, but...

TOM: We have anything to cover him?

CHESTER: We can't.

TOM: Alright.

CHESTER: Keep thinking I'm hearing choppers?

TOM: Me, too.

CHESTER: Maybe they're real.

TOM: Maybe...

CHESTER: Fucking hard to breathe up here for so long.

TOM: Yeah?

CHESTER: Don't you feel that?

TOM: Some restriction.

CHESTER: Christ! Like an elephant squatting on my chest.

TOM: Drink some water.

CHESTER: It's frozen.

TOM checks his scepter. Hands it  
to CHESTER.

TOM: Here...drink mine, there's some liquid left.

CHESTER: Thanks mate.

TOM: Sun should be coming up soon, daylight starting to break, we'll warm up.

CHESTER: I hope so.

TOM: Couple hours more.

CHESTER: Yeah. Stiff.

TOM: Let's walk.

CHESTER: Nah, no.

TOM stands up and hoists CHESTER to his  
feet.

TOM: Let's go soldier.

TOM wraps his arm around CHESTER and  
the two men walk.

How's that?

CHESTER: Can't feel my legs, feet.

TOM: Gotta get your circulation up, buddy. Let the blood circulate.

CHESTER: Shit.

CHESTER buckles and TOM holds him back up.

TOM: No, no, come on, walk it off soldier. Keep your engine running. Right now we are driving, you see, we are driving far out to the country side, toward the hot sun, it's beaming on us but we love it and don't put the visor down, just let it burn baby and it's hot, making us sweat, it's so damn hot and out in the near distance, the ocean, yeah, we're driving toward's the ocean, you see it, there's that blue open water for us to take a dip in and refresh, ahhh it's paradise.

Straight ahead, there's food vendors selling Nathan's hot dogs and burgers and we're gonna get ourselves a delicious cold brew of beer and we're gonna get so drunk, we're gonna be falling all over the sand and we're flying now, we're free and nothing can touch us, no enemies, (Chester buckles) KEEP WALKING SOLDIER! (Chester buckles) Chester Goddamn you, I said keep walking soldier! You walk! Walk for your life! Walk for your family! Walk for your soon to be beautiful wife Cassandra! You walk for your pride if nothing else you fucking, (Tom is almost dragging Chester now) you walk for me, for me, please Chester, don't die and leave me on top of this stupid ass mountain you bastard, cause I'll kill you I swear it, I'll... (Chester walks stronger) That's right, soldier, you keep walking, you keep moving, you are unstoppable, strong, that's right...talk to me, how you feeling? How you feeling Chester? You coming back? You with me now?

CHESTER: I'm with you soldier.

TOM: (chuckles) Hell yeah, that's right!

CHESTER: We are walking. And talking.

TOM: You are talking like a bird sings a song.

CHESTER: (chuckles) That's right.

TOM: I'm a let you go now. You try walking on your own. Okay?

CHESTER nods.

TOM gently lets CHESTER go and CHESTER takes a few wobbly steps but manages to keep walking on his own.

There you go. You got it. Like riding a bike.

CHESTER: I'm walking.

TOM: Once you get going you never forget.

CHESTER: I'm walking Tom.

TOM: You are you son of a bitch, you are.

CHESTER collapses.

TOM wills himself to CHESTER'S aid.

You alright! You're alright!

TOM helps lean CHESTER up against a rock.

CHESTER: I was walking.

TOM: Yes, you were. All by yourself.

CHESTER: I was, I was.

TOM: You rest easy now. You done excellent.

CHESTER: Yeah?

TOM: Got that blood pumping and flowing in your veins.

CHESTER: Okay.

TOM: You're gonna be alright.

TOM grabs his scepter.

TOM helps CHESTER drink.

Good, good that's good. You relax. You did good.

CHESTER: Feel better.

TOM: Yeah?

CHESTER: Blood pumping through me.

TOM: You feel it?

CHESTER: Throbbing through me.

TOM: Good! Good!

TOM begins massaging CHESTER'S  
arms, shoulders and legs.

Keep that blood flowing through you.

CHESTER: I need to rest.

TOM: Not yet, we're gonna watch the sun rise.

CHESTER: Tired.

TOM: I know, but that sun is gonna shine itself right on us. It's rising up over those mountains there and it's gonna hit us like summer break.

CHESTER: Just five minutes.

TOM: Chester, you need to stay awake or you're gonna die.

CHESTER: Just five minutes, you wake me up.

TOM: You need to keep your eyes open and stay awake. You close your eyes for one second, you're as good as dead. Make it to the sun, my man. When that sun comes over us, warming up our bodies, you can take a rest but not until then.

CHESTER: How long?

TOM: Minutes, we're talking minutes.

CHESTER: Okay.

TOM: We are alive. Say it with me.

CHESTER: We are (TOM joins him on the word ALIVE)

TOM: That's right. We ain't going nowhere but home.

CHESTER: Tell Cassandra I love her.

TOM: Tell her yourself.

CHESTER: I love her more than anything.

TOM: Then you show her, by getting to that sun. Look! It's rising! It's coming up over the mountains.

SUN beams start to come over TOM and CHESTER  
painting them a bright orange/yellow.

You see that?! It's here! We made it! Day is breaking!

CHESTER: I see it.

TOM lifts CHESTER up to his feet.

TOM: Come on Chester. You gotta touch the sun. Come on.

TOM and CHESTER raise their arms and hands  
and hold them up to the sun's rays.

It's come for us. It's here.

BOTH men stand on their own and face  
the sun, arms extended. CHESTER walks ahead of TOM,  
TOM falters to his knees.

**END OF PLAY**