

BLOOD LAND

“A SIBERIAN THRILL RIDE!”



“I couldn't put the script down. This is a great human story where so many lives are ruined all for the sake of a Siberian tiger fur.” – Blue Cat Screenplay Competition

An Academy Nicholl Fellowship Quarter-finalist
(top 372 out of 7,251 screenplays)



GENRE: Drama/Thriller

COMPARABLE MOVIES: The Revenant, No Country for Old Men

SETTING: A remote Siberian village. This is where assassins flee to lay low after a botched hit job. It's 1992 – just a few years after the fall of the Soviet Union.

LOG LINE: On the brink of starvation, a poor family kills one of the last Siberian Tigers for the wealth its pelt may bring on the black market – only to embroil themselves in a deadly struggle with the Russian Mafia when the deal goes wrong. They, in turn, become like the tiger they hunted.

STORY: Peter, 19, dreams of escaping the poverty he and his family have been living in all his life. Skimming drugs from the local mafia and digging through trash is not enough to ward off starvation. But when his grandfather discovers the tracks of a rare Siberian Tiger, Peter and his family set out to track the animal. Their plan is simple. They'll take the fur to a pawn shop where the mafia fences stolen goods.

But the deal quickly turns into a bloodbath when Peter is forced to kill the son of a local mobster in self-defense. With a price on their heads, Peter and his family must flee into the unforgiving wilderness of Siberia. They, in turn, have become like the tiger they hunted.

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Academy Nicholl Fellowship Quarter-finalist
Screencraft Int’l Fellowship Semi-finalist
StoryPros Finalist (Top 10)

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this is Coen territory dark!”

“Each page feels like a
punch to the gut. Expertly
executed!”

“It’s a brilliant trek.”



Comments from the Nicholl and BlueCat Judges (Reader #8207):

“This is one of those scripts where every scene pops to life as the writer vividly brings settings alive with elaborate and crisp descriptions.” - Nicholl

“We care about the protagonist and his family, so as we watch him fall deeper and deeper into the abyss, each page feels like a punch to the gut. Expertly executed.” - Nicholl

“Make no mistake about it, this is Coen territory dark, and we're right there in the snow, the cold, and the hardships, experiencing the blood, the pain, and the anguish ...” - Nicholl

“It is tightly woven and constant. Yes, constant. It is relentless in its action, in its hatred, in its crime and the characters are developed strongly and they are angry and life is horrible for them.” - Nicholl

“It is a very intelligent and powerful portrayal of life in Russia at this time, in the poorest, most terrible of places in the worst situations possible, dealing with drugs and the mafia and truly no way out - and the anger and difficulty of surviving and family disappointment. It never stops.” - Nicholl

“This isn't your predictable, formula thriller – the twists and turns of the story keep us riveted.”

“The narrative peels its layers continuously. The descriptions are excellent. They are dark, cold, and originally written, and they paint a beautiful yet merciless picture of the sprawling Siberian landscape. The descriptions also illustrate some flawless action sequences, such as the sorrowful tiger killing. And they’re unabashedly graphic and violent when they need to be.”