

# BLOOD LAND



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"Make no mistake about it. This is Cohen territory dark." – Nicholl Fellowship

"Each page feel like a punch to the gut. Expertly executed." - Nicholl Fellowship

"Hard-hitting, gorgeously written, action packed. It's a brilliant trek." – BlueCat Screenplay Contest, Reader #8207

Would you kill ...

the last of a species...



for money?

What if you sold the pelt  
on the black market  
to the Russian Mafia ...

but the deal went horribly wrong ...

... and they put  
a price on your head ...

... and your entire family?





What if you were forced to flee from the Mafia  
into the unforgiving terrain of Siberia?



The wind chill  
is 90 degrees  
below zero ...



... and every man  
must find the  
heart of a hunter  
to survive.

**TITLE:** Blood Land

**GENRE:** Drama/Thriller

**COMPARABLES:** The Revenant, No Country for Old Men, Breaking Bad

**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: Based on real events

A young assassin, Gavril (40), botches a hit job in Moscow and is sent to an impoverished village in Siberia to lay low until things cool off.

This blip-on-a-map village is run by a local mob family who keeps the rest of the "peasants" near starvation -- only providing them with a loaf of bread each week as payment for working in the paper mill.

In this same village, 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, Mishka, discovers the tracks of a rare Siberian Tiger, an opportunity arises.



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. They know the pelt will fetch at least \$40,000 US dollars on the low end. Soon, they'll be rich enough to live a good life.

But the deal turns deadly when they are offered a mere \$50 for the pelt - and "reassurance" that they won't be turned in for poaching an endangered animal. Tempers rage and Peter kills the son of a local mobster in self-defense. With minutes to flee into the Siberian wilderness they become like the tiger they hunted. Every starving peasant and mob family, headed by the assassin Gavril, is out to collect the bounty or seek revenge.

There's blood on everyone's hands in this hard-hitting, eco-thriller that has been compared to *Breaking Bad*, *No Country for Old Men* and *Treasure of the Sierra Madre* by the BlueCat, StoryPros and Nicholl screenwriting judges.





## CAST of CHARACTERS

### MISHKA

The patriarch of the family, Mishka is a leftover relic from WWII. He survived Russian imprisonment but has never been able to lift himself and his family out of poverty in their village that once served as a Gulag.



Sir Ian McKellan



Sean Bean



Viggo Mortensen



Pierce Brosnan

## CAST of CHARACTERS

### ANDREI

Mishka's grown son, Andrei, 47, works at the paper mill in exchange for a loaf of bread each week as payment. He is a trapped man without any future or hope.



Owen Wilson



Jeremy Renner



Alexander Skarsgard

## CAST of CHARACTERS

### PETER

Andrei's son, 19, is pissed at the world. Since the fall of the Soviet union all he sees is the mob getting richer while he picks through their trash and steals food.

He refuses to work at the mill where they keep promising paychecks but never deliver.



Finn Wolfhard



Alex Lawther



Jacob Lofland



Ethan Cutkosky

## CAST of CHARACTERS

### GAVRIL

A hit-man sent to lay low after a botched hit job. Gavril will gun anyone down in broad daylight without blinking an eye – but finds himself in awe of the landscape he's thrust into.



Mike Faist

### ALEXEI

Head of the local mob in an impoverished village that was once a gulag on the outskirts of the Siberian forest. Alexei is a single father who loves his children.



Steve Buscemi

### SERGEI

Alexei's son who runs the pawn shop where he fences stolen goods. Alexei is also running drug deals behind his father's back.



Simon Helberg

## CAST of CHARACTERS

### KLARA

Andrei's wife who tries to keep the peace between her husband and son, Peter.



Ally Sheedy

### ALINA

Alexei's privileged daughter who witnesses the poverty in her village.



Kiernan Shipka

### THE TRACKER

Forced by Gavril and the mob to help track Mishka's family in the wilderness.



Bill Camp





[Screenplay Coverage: Blue Cat Screenwriting Competition](#)

Written by  
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Nicholl Fellowship semi-finalists



Screencraft Fellowship semi-finalists



Nashville FF Screenwriting finalists



StoryPros finalists

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