

# Maurer Productions Inc

*Presents Auditions for*

# A FEW GOOD MEN

**Auditions:**     **Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11AM to 5PM**  
                      **Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> from 5PM to 9PM**

**Show dates:**   **January 21- 23 & 28- 30, 2011**

## **Audition Appointment Options:**

- Sign up online for an audition slot at  
      [www.mponstage.com/auditions](http://www.mponstage.com/auditions)
- E-mail us at [Audition@mponstage.com](mailto:Audition@mponstage.com)
- Call **(609) 882-2292**

**NOTE:** Walk-ins will be seen on a time-available basis. Without an appointment, there may be a long wait to audition, and there is no guarantee you will be able to audition.

## **Audition Packet Contents**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Page</b>
Plot Synopsis .....	2
Basic Audition Info .....	3
Character Descriptions .....	3
Audition Guidelines and Tips.....	4
Audition Form .....	5
Audition Monologues .....	6-13

# ***A Few Good Men***

*By Aaron Sorkin*

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In this military courtroom drama, Navy lawyer Lt. j.g. Daniel Kaffee is assigned to defend two Marines, Pfc. Loudon Downey and Lance Cpl. Harold Dawson, who are accused of the murder of fellow Marine Pfc. William Santiago at the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GITMO). Kaffee generally plea bargains for his clients rather than bring them to trial, which is probably why he was assigned this potentially embarrassing case, but Lt. Commander Joanne Galloway makes it her business to assist Kaffee because she is convinced that there's more to the matter than they've been led to believe.

Under questioning, Downey and Dawson reveal that Santiago died in the midst of a hazing ritual known as "Code Red" after he threatened to inform higher authorities that Dawson opened fire on a Cuban watchtower. They also state that the "Code Red" was performed under the orders of Lt. Jonathan Kendrick. Kendrick's superior, tough-as-nails Col. Nathan Jessup, denies any knowledge of the order to torture Santiago, but Galloway believes that Jessup is really at the center of the incident and its cover-up.

With the help of crucial evidence from former GITMO Executive Officer, Cpt. Matthew Markinson, Kaffee and his team (Galloway and Lt j.g. Sam Weinberg) manage to weed out the truth. Kaffee makes a valiant effort to defend his clients and, in so doing, puts the military mentality and the Marine code of honor on trial.

## AUDITIONS: A Few Good Men. *By Aaron Sorkin*

**Audition Dates:** 10/3/2010 - 11:00am - 5:00pm & 10/4/2010 - 5:00pm - 9:00pm

**Location:** Mercer County Community College West Windsor Campus

**Performance Dates:** January 21-23 & 28-30, 2011

**Company:** Maurer Productions OnStage Inc.  
**Director:** Alycia Bauch-Cantor **Stage Manager:** Jeff Cantor  
**Producers:** John M. Maurer, Dan Maurer, & Diana Maurer

### CHARACTERS (ALL ROLES ARE OPEN)

**Pfc. William T. Santiago (*Victim*):** About 19 years old, sincere & sensible

**Lance Cpl. Harold Dawson (*Defendant*):** About 20 years old: stoic, serious, bold, aware, intimidating even in silence, caring in command

**Pfc. Loudon Downey (*Defendant*):** About 19 years old. Obedient and respectful. His intelligence is slightly below average.

**Lt. j.g. Daniel Kaffee (*Lead Defense Attorney*):** Late 20s. Easy-going and quick-witted. He is good-looking, talented, and smart; and he knows it. He tends to think that he knows everything.

**Lt. Cmdr. Joanne Galloway (*Defense Attorney*):** Early 30s. All-business. ALMOST as fully composed as she would like to be but, usually, more composed than others tend to think she is. Her quick wit tends to take others by surprise.

**Lt. j.g. Sam Weinberg (*Defense Attorney*):** Late 20s. Laid back, he does his job with reasonable diligence, but he is a family man first and foremost.

**Capt. Isaac Whitaker (*JAG supervisor*):** Mid 40s to early 50s. Smart and sensible, not strict

**Capt. Matthew Markinson (*GITMO Company Commander*):** Late 30s to early 40s. Stoic, logical, and strictly military. Served in Counter-Intelligence for 17 years.

**Lt. Col. Nathan Jessep (*GITMO CO*):** Late 30s to early 40s. Self-confident to-a-fault. Bold, Intelligent, Ultra-Military, Tyrannical

**Lt. Jonathan James Kendrick (*GITMO Winward XO*):** Late 20s to early 30s. Stoic, fanatically religious, average intelligence but believes himself to be much smarter than he is.

**Capt. Jack Ross (*Prosecutor*):** Early 30s. A nice guy but not a sucker. Logical and sensible.

**Cpl. Jeffrey Howard (*Platoon-mate of victim and defendants*):** Early 20s. Probably likable to fellow Marines, but snide to those outside the Corps.

**Capt. Julius Alexander Randolph (*Judge*):** Mid 40s to early 50s. Smart, sensible, fair.

**Cmdr. Walter Stone (*Doctor*):** Mid-late 40s. Sensible but easily swayed

**ADDITIONAL ROLES:** Sentry, Lawyers, Marines, MPs, and etc.

## What You Need to Know for the Audition

1. You can now use our online audition sign-up site to schedule your audition. Go to [www.mponstage.com/registration](http://www.mponstage.com/registration); choose A FEW GOOD MEN and sign up for an available slot. If you can't access the website or if you have any problems signing up, you can still call (609) 882-2292 or email at [audition@mponstage.com](mailto:audition@mponstage.com) to schedule an audition time. If all audition slots are full and you wish to audition for the show, please call and we will try to set up another time for you to audition.
2. **All actors are required to audition with a monologue.** It is recommended that you use one of the monologues provided in this packet (If there is no monologue for your specific character of interest, pick the one you feel is most appropriate). In addition, you may be asked to read additional monologues or to read scenes with other actors.
3. **Sign up for a slot on the audition schedule and arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of your audition slot.** The audition process may last 15-30 minutes or more if you are asked to read scenes with other actors. Appointments are requested and **HIGHLY** recommended; walk-ins will be seen on a time-available basis. Without an appointment, there may be a long wait to audition, and there is no guarantee you will be able to audition.
4. **In order to sign up for an audition slot you must register on the Cast Me 1-2-3 system.**  
You can now upload your resume and headshot, as well as any additional information you feel would be appropriate and helpful, into the MPOnStage Cast Me 1-2-3 system. This can save you the time and expense of downloading and filling out lengthy forms, having headshots printed, and copying resumes. The MP OnStage Cast-Me 1-2-3 site is located at [www.mponstage.com/registration](http://www.mponstage.com/registration).
5. **Bring to the Audition:**
  - a. Your conflicts, using the calendar pages that follow
  - b. A completed Audition Form (next page of this packet)
  - c. Your resume & headshot **IF THEY ARE NOT ALREADY ON THE CAST ME 1-2-3 SYSTEM**
6. While they are not required for auditions, **Appropriate Military haircuts/styles will be required of all actors for all performances and publicity photos.** (Publicity photos will be fairly early in the rehearsal process)
7. You should expect three rehearsals per week, two evenings during the week and one weekend afternoon. These rehearsals will be broken up by scenes. Call sheets will be made available to the cast to tell you which rehearsals you will need to attend. All cast members should plan to be available most evenings for the two weeks before the show open.
8. The Read-through will be on Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, the cast will get their scripts and rehearsal schedules, fill out some paperwork, and get measured for costumes.
9. All cast members are required to assist with load in and load out. Load-in occurs on the Sunday evening (January 16<sup>th</sup>) before opening night, and load-out occurs after the Sunday afternoon performance on the second weekend of performances (January 30<sup>th</sup>).



**October**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>3</b> Auditions	<b>4</b> Auditions	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <i>Halloween</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-

Include All Conflicts: Evenings, Weekends, and HOLIDAYS!

**November**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
-	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <i>Veteran's Day</i>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Thanksgiving</i>	<b>26</b> <i>Kwanzaa</i>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	-	-	-	-

**December**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
-	-	-	<b>1</b> <i>First Night of Chanukka</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i>	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas</i>
<b>26</b> <i>Kwanzaa begins</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <i>New Years' Eve</i>	-

Include All Conflicts: Evenings, Weekends, and HOLIDAYS!

**January**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1</b> <i>New Years' Day</i>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Load In	<b>17</b> Tech Week	<b>18</b> Tech Week	<b>19</b> Tech Week	<b>20</b> <i>Tu B'Shvat</i> Tech Week	<b>21</b> Show 8pm	<b>22</b> Show 8pm
<b>23</b> Show 2PM	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Show 8pm	<b>29</b> Show 8pm
<b>30</b> Show 2PM Load Out	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

## **AUDITION MONOLOGUES:**

Most of these monologues are from A Few Good Men but some are not. If you do not see a monologue for the character you are interested in, please select whichever you feel is most appropriate REGARDLESS of what it was taken from.

**GALLOWAY:** Sir, two prisoners are being held in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. They pleaded to Murder 2, Conspiracy to Commit and Conduct Unbecoming. I petitioned JAG to deny the guilty pleas. (Pause) They confessed to murder at three in the morning at a nineteen-minute hearing without counsel. It's my sense that there's much more to this than what's written in the Division report. Which brings me to my request... It's not a request so much as a recommendation... I think the attorney assigned to the case should have a certain energy. A real go-getter. Someone who possesses not only the legal skill, but a familiarity with the inner workings of the military and a singular passion for justice. In short, Captain, if I may be so bold, I'd like to suggest myself. I've brought a letter of recommendation from Captain Bronsky. I am ready to take this case on with a vengeance, sir.

**GALLOWAY:** Lieutenant, would you feel very insulted if I recommended to your supervisor that he assign different counsel? I'm not sure how to say this without possibly hurting your feelings, but I don't think you're fit to handle this defense. You went to Harvard Law on a Navy scholarship and I know that you're probably just treading water for the three years you've gotta serve, just kinda laying low till you can get out and get a real job, and that's fine and I won't tell anyone. But my feeling is that if this case is handled in the same fast-food, slick-ass Persian Bazaar manner with which you seem to handle everything else, something's gonna get missed. And I wouldn't be doing my duty if I allowed Dawson and Downey to spend more hours in jail than necessary because their attorney had predetermined the path of least resistance.

**HOWARD.** Sir, a Code Red is a disciplinary action brought against a Marine who's fallen out of line. He might get one for being late for Platoon or Company meetings, keeping his barracks in disorder, letting his personal appearance become sub-standard, behaving in a manner unbecoming a Marine, falling back on a run ... I dropped my weapon during a field exercise one day. We were doing seven-man assault drills and I dropped my weapon. It's just that my palms were sweaty cause it was over a hundred degrees and my weapon just slipped. So, that night in my barracks the guys in my squad threw a blanket over me and took turns punching me in the arm for five minutes. Then they poured glue on my hands. It worked, too, 'cause I ain't never dropped my weapon since.

**JESSEP.** I suppose you're right. I suppose that transferring Santiago is the right thing to do. Wait. Wait. I got a better idea. Let's transfer the whole squad off the base. We better do that. Let's -on second thought-Windward. The whole Windward division, let's transfer 'em off the base. Jon, go on out there and get those boys down off the fence they're packing their bags. Tom, get the President on the phone, we're surrendering our position in Cuba. Wait a minute! Don't call the President Maybe that's the wrong thing to do. Maybe we should consider this for a second. Maybe, instead of surrendering the fight because a Marine made a mistake, maybe we should train Santiago. What do you think, I'm just spit-balling, but maybe we, as officers have a responsibility to this country to see that the men charged with it's security are trained professionals. Maybe we have that responsibility to other members of the Corps. Yes, yes, I'm certain I once read something like that. See, and now I'm trying to think about how I'd feel if some Marine got hurt or killed because a Pfc. In my command didn't know that the fuck he was doing. I'm trying to think about how the other members of his unit might feel, putting their lives in the hands of a man they can't count on ... and this brief meditation has brought me around to thinking that your suggestion of transferring Private Santiago off the base, while expeditious, and certainly painless, might not be, in a manner of speaking, the "American Way." Santiago stays on the wall. .

**JESSEP.** What do you think of Kendrick? (pause) I think he's kind of a weasel myself. But he's an awfully good officer and in the end we see eye to eye on the most efficient way to run a Marine Corps unit We're in the business of saving lives, Matthew. With every degree that we allow ourselves to move off the mark of perfection as officers more people die-that's a responsibility that I take pretty seriously. 'Cause I absolutely believe that simply taking a Marine who's not yet up to the job and packing him off to another assignment is the same as sending a kid into the jungle with a weapon that backfires. (*MARKINSON starts to stand.*) Matthew, sit down. I'm younger than you are, Matthew, and if that's a source of tension or embarrassment for you, well, I don't give a shit. I'm in the business of saving lives, Captain Markinson. Don't ever question my orders in front of another officer.

**KAFFEE.** Submit for Defense Exhibit "A." This is the Tower Chief's Log for Naval Air Station, NAVBASE, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. (Opens the log book, crosses to Jessep.) Is that your signature? (Pause.) I draw the court's attention to the fact that between oh six hundred on Thursday the 7th and oh two hundred on Friday the 8th, no passenger-capable flights left the base.

Colonel, a moment ago you said that Willy Santiago's death saved lives. If these Marines are such heroes, why the hell did you go through so much trouble to cover up what they'd done? (not giving Jessep an opportunity to respond)

Submit for Defense Exhibit "B." It's the Tower Chief's Log for Andrews Air Force Base for the evening of July 7th. It seems that at 9:26 p.m., 21:26, an AF-40 transport landed at Andrews with 94 empty seats, having taken off at two minutes past six p.m. It's departure point? ... Colonel? ... Naval Air Station, NAVBASE Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. You know that Kendrick ordered the Code Red on Santiago. Because that's what YOU told Kendrick to do. And Kendrick follows orders. Or people die, isn't that right. Colonel?. You had Markinson sign a phony transfer order so it'd look like you tried to move Santiago, you forged the log book so it'd look like the oh two hundred was the first flight out, and you told the doctor to say it was poison so it wouldn't look like a Code Red. You trashed the law. But we understand. (parroting back the Colonel's earlier statements) You have a greater responsibility than we can possibly fathom. We live in a world that has walls, and those walls have to be guarded by men with guns, and nothing's gonna stand in your way of doing it. Not Willy Santiago, not Dawson and Downey, not the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and not the Constitution of the United States. That's the truth, isn't it Colonel? I can handle it.

**KENDRICK:** Corporal Dunn, you think you and the boys of Alpha Squad could show Private Santiago how to be right? (Pause) Anybody in Alpha goes near him, you'll answer to me, is that clear? (Pause). Alpha's dismissed. Corporal Thomas, how 'bout my brave men of Bravo. I bet I turn this over to your boys and Santiago's a Marine by sunrise, am I right? (pause) Bravo touches him and you'll all be filling sandbags till you beg for mercy. Dismissed. Corporal Hammaker, I have two things to say to you. The first is that I believe in my heart that you and the men of Charlie Squad are outstanding Marines. The second is that the government of the United States maintains a military installation in the Arctic Circle, and you and the men of Charlie will find yourselves scraping icicles off of igloos in a heartbeat if you so much as look funny at the private. Is that clear? (pause) No Code Reds, is that clear? Dismissed. God is watching, Lance Corporal Dawson. And he helps those who help themselves. And so do I. Get your house in order, so that these men can believe in you again. Get your house in order ... so that the Lord our God can look down and say "There is a United States Marine and I will stand at his side." Get your house in order ... and don't let anybody ever tell you we're not at war. (Pause.) Would you like me to tell you what to do now?

**MARKINSON.** (Quietly and with difficulty.) They're giving you a lawyer. They're gonna move you up to Washington, D.C. and give you a lawyer who's gonna ask you some questions. I want you to remember something about these lawyers. They don't care about anything. They don't care about honor. Or loyalty. They don't care about the United States Marine Corps. They don't even care about you. They're clowns. That's why, so help me God, they're the only ones who can save you right now. I want you boys to be smart. Talk to the lawyer.

**MARKINSON.** Dear Mr. and Mrs. Santiago. I was William's Company Commander. I knew your son vaguely, which is to say I knew his name. In a matter of time, the trial of the two men charged with your son's death will be concluded, and seven men and two women whom you've never met will try and offer you an explanation as to why William is dead. Most likely, they will offer many explanations. For my part, I've done what I can to bring the truth to light. I've done it, not in the uniform in which I served for twenty-one years, but in costumes and in shadows. I was a defender. And at this moment I'm being pursued by the Naval Investigative Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Military Police. And I can't possibly do this anymore. Because the truth is this: Your son is dead for only one reason. I wasn't strong enough to stop it. Always, Captain Matthew Andrew Markinson, United States Marine Corps.

**ROSS:** RSC is an effective unit. And Lt. Colonel Jessep's star is on the rise. They'll let me bend over backwards to spare that base, and the Corps, any embarrassment. (Pause.) So this is it: aggravated assault, seven years. All things considered, it's not a bad week's work for the defense. I admit, I can't afford to go to court. Lucky for you, huh.. Danny? You're turning green at the thought of it. No, taking this to court would be bad for me. It'd be bad for the Marine Corps and I'd be held responsible. But you go to court, and the boys go away for thirty years. Are we clear on that?! We have to be clear on that. Once we go outside this room, I have to go all the way, they'll be charged with murder. And in a courtroom you lose this case. Please. I'm the Judge Advocate and I'm telling you I don't think your guys belong in jail. (Pause.) But I don't get to make that decision. I represent the People. Without passion. You see? And the People have a case. (To Kaffee.) If you could get me written statements from the defendants, they'd do six months. Without the statements, it's seven years. Believe a thing this woman tells you, and they won't see the light of day 'till they're fifty-nine. That's the end of this negotiation. From this moment we're on the record. Tomorrow morning, 9:45. I'll see you at the arraignment. (He exits.)

**SANTIAGO:** My name is Pfc. William T. Santiago. I am a Marine stationed at Marine Barracks, Windward, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. I am writing to inform you of my problems and to ask for your help. Wednesday, May 18th, we were out on a PT run. I've fallen out on runs before for lots of reasons, like feeling dizzy or nauseous, and on the 18th, we were running and I'd fallen back about 20 or 30 feet going down a rocky hill. My sergeant grabbed me and pushed me down the hill. Then I saw all black and the last thing I remember is hitting the deck. I was brought to the hospital where I was told I just had heat exhaustion and the doctor said that my body had trouble with the hot sun and I hyperventilate. I got put in remedial physical training and punished by filling sandbags every day after I stand my post on the fenceline. I ask you to help me. Please, Sir, I Just need to be transferred out of RSC.

**SEFTON (from Stalag 17)**

What're you guys trying to prove anyway? Cutting trap doors! Digging tunnels! You know what the chances are to get out of here? And let's say you do get all the way to Switzerland! Or say to the States? So what? They ship you to the Pacific and slap you in another plane. And you get shot down again and you wind up in a Japanese prison camp. That's if you're lucky! Well, I'm no escape artist! You can be the heroes, the boys with the fruit salad on your chest. Me -- I'm staying put. And I'm going to make myself as comfortable as I can. And if it takes a little trading with the enemy to get me some food or a better mattress or a woman -- that's okay by Sefton!

**VON SCHERBACH (from Stalag 17)**

(to the P.O.W.s) I understand we are minus two men this morning. I am surprised at you, gentlemen. Here I am trying to be your friend and you do these embarrassing things to me. Don't you know this could get me into hot water with the High Command? They do not like men escaping from Stalag 17 - especially, not enemy airmen from Compound D. We plucked you out of the skies and now we must see to it you do not fly away because you would come back and blast our cities again. The High Command would be very angry with me. They would strip me of my rank. They would court-martial me, after all these years of a perfect record! Now you wouldn't want that to happen to me, would you? Fortunately, those two men did not get very far. They had the good sense to rejoin us again, so my record would stand unblemished. Nobody has ever escaped from Stalag 17. Not alive, anyway.

### **COOKIE (from Stalag 17)**

Where did we hide Dunbar? Nobody knew that except Hoffs -- not one of us -- and he wouldn't talk. It sure drove the Krauts crazy looking for Dunbar. They herded us all out into the compound and put some extra machine guns on us and gave us the whole check. You know, checking our dogtags against their index file. They searched under the barracks. They searched the roofs. They even searched the bathroom in the Kommandant's office, but no Dunbar. Then they tried to smoke him out, throwing tear gas bombs into every barracks, just in case he was hiding up in the rafters. Then they made us stand for six hours out there until finally von Scherbach came out and gave us his ultimatum: if Dunbar didn't come out by next morning he'd raze the whole lousy compound, stick by stick and if we'd sleep in the mud for the rest of our lives, that was okay by him. I thought he'd bust his gut the way he was screaming. He just couldn't figure how a guy could disappear from the compound and still be there, but Dunbar was there all right.

### **JACKSON (from Saving Private Ryan)**

Seems to me, Cap'n, this mission is a serious misallocation of valuable military resources. By my way of thinkin' I am a finely made instrument of warfare. What I mean by that is, if you was to put me with this here sniper rifle anywhere up to and includin' one mile from Adolf Hitler, with a clear line of sight, war's over. You see Sir, it seems to me that the entire resources of the United States Army oughta be dedicated to one thing and one thing only, and that is to put me and this here weapon on a rooftop, smack-dab in the middle of Berlin, Germany. Now I ain't one to question decisions made up on high, sir, but it seems to me that saving one private, no matter how grievous the losses of his family, is a waste of my God-given talent.

### **CHRIS (from Platoon)**

Somebody once wrote Hell is the impossibility of Reason. That's what this place feels like. I hate it already and it's only been a week. Some goddamn week, grandma ... (checking his raw blisters) ... the hardest thing I think I've ever done is to go on point, 3 times this week - I don't even know what I'm doing. A gook could be standing 3 feet in front of me and I wouldn't know it, I'm so tired. We get up at 5 a.m., hump all day, camp around 4 or 5 p.m., dig foxhole, eat, then put out an all-night ambush or a 3-man listening post in the jungle. It's scary cause nobody tells me how to do anything cause I'm new and nobody cares about the new guys, they don't even want to know your name. The unwritten rule is a new guy's life isn't worth as much cause he hasn't put his time in yet - and they say if you're gonna get killed in the Nam it's better to get it in the first few weeks, the logic being: you don't suffer that much. I can believe that... If you're lucky you get to stay in the perimeter at night and then you pull a 3-hour guard shift, so maybe you sleep 3-4 hours a night, but you don't really sleep ... I don't think I can keep this up for a year, grandma - I think I've made a big mistake coming here ...