



BARRIER ISLAND (Part of the Galveston Cycle)

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2 Act Full-Length (4 Women-5 Men)

As a fearless and stubborn community rests their lives against the historic wall that protects Galveston Island from natural disasters, a younger generation challenges the emotional disasters no wall can protect.

CHARACTER:

Trey—Age: early-mid 30s, smart although not well spoken. He yearns for more.

TREY

Just not I guess. My first week back...I was in Virginia. I decided to hitch a bus North and hit up New York City. You know? Never been there. Always heard of it. I wanted to see the towers. I wanted to see what got me in this mess. I had to see it. I wore my uniform. Got in at Port Authority. First off, nobody'd help me find which train to take. Half the people thought I was goin' to arrest 'em or somthin'. And when I finally got there, I walked among this crowd of people, all tourists. And the ones that weren't were sellin' stuff. One guy was sellin' little snow globes—you know—of the Trade Center. I thought that was just sick. So, I walked up to the mess—and I looked. And I couldn't believe that years after—it was still...like a scab you know—that wasn't goin' to heal for years. And then I looked at the people—just gapin'. When they looked at me—they just turned away—quick. Like the people in the subway. So...I figured they couldn't all be scared of me. I figured most of them despised me. That's how it felt out there. And it was funny because what they don't know is most of us—most of us in my squad anyway—most of didn't want to be out there either. We didn't join up to fight. At least not me. I joined up to get away. Just get away from here. I figure people stay in this town for one of two reasons: they either believe this where they should be—or they've givin' up tryin' to be somewhere else. And most of us these days have just given up. So I came back here because I got sick of shootin' a gun just because I didn't want to be stuck. Better to be stuck I guess. So that night I stopped wearin' my uniform. The next day in New York was fine—went to some museums. Never done that before. And I haven't put on that uniform since.

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