

RALLY POINT

Drama * Action * Ensemble

Created & Written by

Major **Frances A. Cheever**, U.S. Army (Ret.)



Trained to save lives, as well as take them to survive.



LOGLINE: The Army Surgeon General selects trauma surgeon Colonel Annie Shavel to assemble a Tactical Trauma Team to bring surgical capabilities to the front lines. Her team of medical warfighters will meet resistance from within the ranks as they strive to prove their mettle to be the first Army medical unit to join the elite Special Operations Command.



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RALLY POINT is an award-winning screenplay, and with its sequel, **DERAILED**, was created as a franchise vehicle. Based on enthusiastic reviews to date, it is currently being adapted into an action-packed, dramatic, ensemble, cable oriented, hour-long, serialized show with a comedic edge. The characters have uniquely compelling stories individually and collectively that bind them together, forging a team that takes on the challenges of the gritty, high-speed, *sexiest* missions in the military.



PREMISE: The Army Surgeon General selects trauma surgeon Colonel Annie SHAVEL to assemble and train the Army's first Tactical Trauma Team to bring surgical capabilities to the front lines. Her team of medical warfighters must prove their mettle to be the first Army medical unit to join the elite United States Special Operations Command rapidly deployable for combat, contingency and humanitarian operations worldwide. As they train to show proof of concept, they will battle resistance from within the ranks.

While **RALLY POINT** is a fictional story, it is based on real capabilities and training that exists in today's Army, a window into the future of battlefield medicine. With American fighting forces engaged in nearly two hundred countries around the world, on six of the seven continents, their combat, contingency and humanitarian operations take them around the world, leaving audiences desperate for a personal view into their unique world. The story is *not* set in Iraq or Afghanistan.



Backstory: Four years earlier, in Iraq, a convoy was ambushed, and the only survivors of the deadly attack were three of our characters: Gunner CPL Sanduce "DUCE", Medic SGT JACKSON and Senior NCO, SSG RENTARA who was wounded. Rentara was medevac'd to Walter Reed Army Hospital, where he woke up in the ICU while being treated by Orthopedic Surgeon LTC Annie Shavel. She delivered the hard news that she was unable to save his leg. Rentara's subsequent, anger was mis-directed at Jackson, whom he blamed for the death of the other soldiers. In truth, he really blamed himself but could not acknowledge that to others. Shavel challenged a demoralized Rentara to apply for the U.S. Army's Physician's Assistant (PA) program, which would allow him back in combat, saving lives now as an officer. He defied the odds and joined the growing number of Wounded Warrior amputees serving in combat. Jackson left the hospital with a secret she believed was best kept for the greater good. Their paths will soon cross again. As we learn more about who each Soldier is while off-duty, we understand better who each is on the battlefield. "Down" time is when you share everything with someone who was a total stranger just months, weeks or days ago.

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Characters

Colonel Annie Shavel, 48, Combat Surgeon.



“Never mistake kindness for weakness”

She’s a bombshell that fought under bombshells. This unlikely PTA mom packin’ an M-9 and compact lipstick case is the Combat Surgeon and matriarch of the Army’s 79th Tactical Trauma Team, leading the way ahead for Combat Medicine. Confident, composed, but stoic to the core, Shavel masks her vulnerabilities well, and sees no room for emotion in her professional performance. When her husband and two children fear losing her from yet another perilous mission, they beg her to retire. A crusader, this Matriarch will protect her “family” at all cost. The question is, which family will come first?

Captain Bobby Rentara, 32, Physician’s Assistant (PA).



“Even death cannot destroy me!”

Rentara is a decorated combat Veteran, a “Wounded Warrior” amputee, back in action, back in command where his past, present and future collide. Jaded from the experiences of combat, he questions his value and his commitment to country and cause. When the only person he completely trusted, Rose Jackson, abandoned him, so he thinks- he experiences pain more unbearable than war wounds. His trust issues turn into a cold exterior and arrogance that leaves an element of fear in his Soldiers.

Rentara and Rose Jackson are the alpha male and female with one shared weakness-- each other. The fraternization policy makes for an unfulfilled, war-torn love.

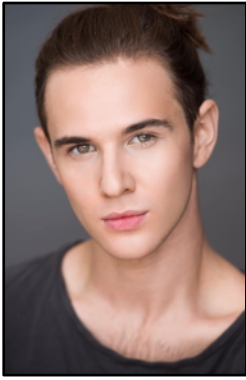
First Sergeant Rose Jackson, 28, Combat Licensed Practical Nurse



“Keep your head, heels, and standards high.”

Jackson is steadfast in her commitment to God, Country, Family and her man—Bobby Rentara. A single mom to her son, Isaac, she relies on **Grand-Daddy**, Sergeant James Jackson, a decorated Combat medic of the Korean War, to bring stability to the family while she serves her country. He cuts her no slack when it comes to her reckless behavior with that “hooligan” Rentara. Jackson hides the truth about the one thing that could jeopardize the cohesion of their team. Although she shoulders the emotional pain, she believes that keeping her secret is part of their mission success.

Private First Class Grant Sheckman, 23, Combat Medic.



“Your destiny is the sum of your choices”

Wicked smart and witty, this mitzvahed cowboy, has a sense of entitlement and style. He refuses to allow his sexuality to define him as a man or a Soldier. His personal mission is to prove that he has the true grit of a Soldier, especially in the eyes of his stepfather, the tough and arrogant USSOCOM Commander, who doubts his stepson’s mettle and tells him so. Young, hip and cocky, he believes he’s earned his way into the elite unit. He outperforms and proves his worth to the unit every time, well almost.

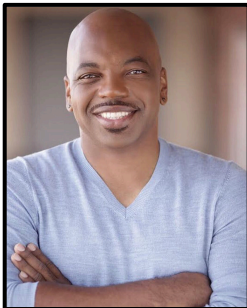
Sergeant Carlos “Duce” Sanduce, 26, Combat Medic and Gunner.



***”Damn! And I thought all I would get out of this was a green-card.
God, I love the Army!”***

The orphaned Mexican kid, desperate to belong, joins the Army and becomes a “green-card warrior.” During combat tours in Iraq with Rentara and Jackson, he earned purple hearts and bled American blood for his country. His team relies on his laser-like accuracy as their gunner and ability to fix just about anything. Staying out of trouble ensures his path to citizenship, but temptation is strong, especially for beer and big-breasted women.

Lieutenant Dean Montgomery, 28, Certified Nurse, Anesthetist.



“Our moral compass is what separates ‘us’ from ‘them’.”

A family man, and an ordained minister, Montgomery is the unwavering conscience of the team, his ethos forged by faith and tragedy. Haunted by a memory of holding a young, triple amputee Soldier in his arms on the battlefield, granting his wish to be allowed to die a warrior as he pushed a full syringe of morphine into his failing body forever a changed Montgomery. With a gold-handled knife given by his father, he whittles away his demons by creating bobble-heads. Every new team member gets one.

Chief Warrant Officer III, Kate Diamond, 27, Trauma nurse & Pilot.



“Toughen up and Embrace the Suck!”

Trained as both a trauma nurse and a pilot, with mad skills in both the O.R. and the sky. She’s a free spirit with unapologetic boldness, fearless, committed to excellence. She likes a good cigar to go with her beer, especially when dominating in debate. There’s no better friend to those who earn her respect.

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There is no other TV series out there to satisfy those who hunger to know today's military. All generations can identify with its characters, seven of which will stay constant. The remaining 6 characters can come and go: reassignment, promotion, retirement, injury, death, marriage, single parenting... There are a multitude of circumstances that can add to storyline, introduce new characters and cameo appearances, to include:

- Wounded Warrior amputees, back in action, back in command
- Don't Ask Don't Tell (DADT) LGBT
- Combat Exclusion Policy; allowing women in combat
- Green-card Warriors
- The way ahead for Battlefield Medicine
- Green-on-blue attacks (also known as "insider attacks")
- Battlefield Advance Directives

Missions:

- Alaska, a Joint military training exercise is DERAILED.
- Kosovo, a routine mission takes an unexpected turn for the worse.
- Natural disasters: Hawaii earthquakes/Volcanic eruptions.
- Ranger school. A hurricane strikes, students are stuck in the swamps.
- Horn of Africa, urban warfare, disease outbreak. US Army Africa: Rwanda.
- Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) caught in a no-fly zone.
- SMART - Special Medical Augmentation Response Team - White House...
- Humanitarian relief operations: Syria...
- Pirates – Saving lives on an overtaken ship.

Medical Science and technologies continue to evolve:

- Bring care closer to patients with virtual health.
- Controversial modern medicine: inhaled ketamine.
- Donor organ harvesting.
- Reconstructive surgeries. Limb and face transplants.
- Removing a lodged RPG.
- Amputations, saving limbs and reattaching.

THE BLACK LIST notes:

The diversity of the cast is a strong selling point that will appeal to executives and audiences alike. Not only are there multiple ethnicities represented here, there is also a great balance of male and female characters. It's particularly refreshing to see a woman in a position of power and having Annie Shavel lead the whole team is a great, progressive choice. Similarly, the fact that she maintains a piece of her femininity even while being held captive is an excellent, humanizing detail that shows the thought the writer has put into each character. Focusing on combat medics is fascinating and a facet of the military experience that hasn't really been explored in many films - it helps show that many military men and women really are there to save lives, not to take them. Using Kosovo as a background is another smart choice, as it's a region that the general public rarely thinks about in an age where the Middle East dominates news coverage. Trying to put a face on the locals like Julia works well and makes the story feel very current, particularly as the debate around refugees heats up - it's important to show that there are innocents in every part of the world and that an "us" vs. "them" mentality loses sight of the real human cost of war.

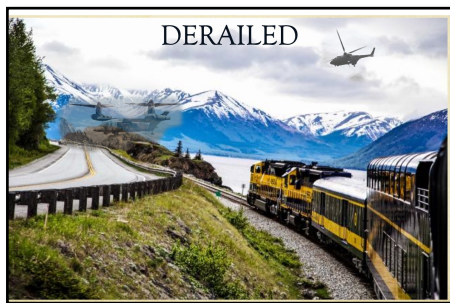
The premise almost feels better suited to television than film - focusing on combat medics is a fascinating choice, and there are so many potential stories that can branch off from these characters that it feels like a letdown to try to limit them to a 90-minute film. There is certainly a market for military-focused films, so in a draft or two, this will be a marketable film that will appeal to a wide audience.

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Frances A. Cheever

6 Serialized episodes. Every character will have his or her turn in the spotlight. In this bold new concept that makes people see the military genre in an enticingly new way.

PILOT: DERAILED.



Derailed takes us to the Arctic, introducing us to the gritty realism of ALASKA, and train with the elite Air Force Para Rescue Jumpers.

To mark the 50-year anniversary of the 1964 Good Friday 9.2 earthquake that triggered tsunamis with 43-foot-high waves, leaving a path of devastation, the 79th Tactical Trauma Team, and the Multinational Joint Forces, join the townspeople to reenact the rescue mission.



At the closing ceremony they honor rescuers for their heroic, life-saving actions 50 years ago. The train filled with family and VIP's heads back to Anchorage. As they enter the 2.5-mile Anderson Memorial tunnel, ominous clouds, gusts of winds, and snow blanket the port of Whittier. When they exit the tunnel, they find themselves in a snowstorm, as they approach Turnagain Arm a thunderous sound is heard, an avalanche of snow covers the train tracks causing the train to derail ... Sirens Blare.

The training exercise turns into a full-blown search and rescue mission, one of the most dangerous and personal missions of their lives.



S1, E2. The only way back home alive...is dead.

When the FRAGO (Fragmentary Order) comes in for their first mission to provide support to the SF/CIA EOD dudes, it's up to Colonel Annie Shavel to lead her combat-ready tactical trauma team to get boots on the ground in 72 hours, halfway around the world in Kosovo. First, she'll have to go up against the arrogant USSOCOM Commander to get the necessary waiver to keep her team together.

The routine mission takes an unexpected turn for the worse when their chopper crashes in the most treacherous terrain of the Goljak hills. They are taken captive by Serbian rebels, then taken to underground tunnels

where the brutal Serbian commander runs a ruthless operation to retake the gold mines lost during the liberation of Kosovo. He forces Albanian men, women, and children into slave labor. Shavel's motley crew of adrenaline junkies are forced to take lives as well as save them to survive. Meanwhile, a dangerous rescue ensues, with a shocking twist-- *The only way back home alive...is dead.*



S1, E3. Bleed American Blood.

Duce drinks too much at a bar while trying to impress a hot girl. She needs a ride home, so she volunteers to drive his car back to her place with a promise for an interesting night. But when the slick chick gets her free ride home, she waves goodbye. Duce knows all too well that a DUI could affect his green-card status. In the dark of night, with only a mile to go to the post he risks driving himself home after drinking. He makes the wrong choice; he's pulled over by the MP's. Luckily for Duce the MP knows Rentara and calls him rather than arrest Duce. Rentara covers for him. Shavel turns a blind eye. Family protects their own.

S1, E4 Whittle Me This.



With a gold-handled knife given by his father, Montgomery whittles away his demons creating bobble-heads, and every new team member gets one. He's haunted by a memory of holding a young, triple amputee Soldier in his arms on the battlefield, granting his wish to be allowed to die a warrior as he pushed a full syringe of morphine into his failing body. As he hugged him tight until he died peacefully, he prayed that others will do the same, if needed. This makes him feel his actions were justified, but he is internally conflicted and tortured that he took someone's life. Montgomery is changed forever.



S1, E5. Heart in a Rock Place.

While at the Forward Operating Base (FOB) Jackson fills her FOB wall garden with heart shaped rocks as a way to deal with the stress of an early decision to send Soldiers on a mission gone bad. Disaster hits again, patients, surgical teams, and individuals are all displaced. When all hope is lost, her FOB wall garden is relocated to her new campsite renewing her faith and determination.



S1, E6. COVID-19 in Djibouti, Africa

The global Covid-19 pandemic. When the Africa Command (AFRICOM) Members of Combined Joint Task Force- Horn of Africa report the number of COVID-19 positive patients steadily rising COL Shavel and her team get boots on the ground in an effort to contain the virus, save lives and evacuate the critical... chaos hits when civilians with Covid-19 storm the gates and unknowingly spread the virus. They become overwhelmed with critical patients needing intubation, ventilator support... to include one of their own.

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Product Integration and Opportunities.

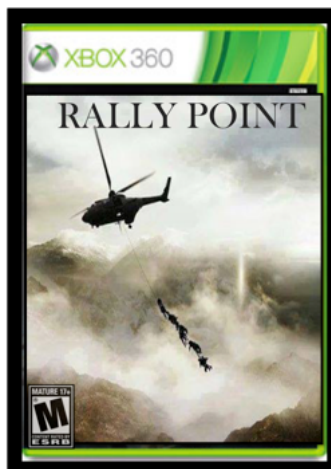
A production agreement with the U.S. Army Office of the Chief of Public Affairs to secure military assets and provide authenticity is an option to be considered.



*Ms. Cheever – good afternoon, I was given your care at AUSA. Heard you want to spearhead a reimagining of M*A*S*H and wanted the V-280 to play a role? That all you had to say! Let me know what I can do to help.*

*Bell Helicopter
Communications Manager – Military.*

The V-280 Valor, unlike the HH-60M MEDEVAC Black Hawk, has fire power, vertical lift, and in air refueling capabilities, which allows the chopper to fly in and out of challenging locations, fly longer distances in less time. The choppers in-flight stabilization minimizes vibrations, which gives the ability to set up a level two, trauma operating room in flight, minimizing preventable deaths. This cutting-edge technology leads the way ahead for combat medicine.



RALLY POINT Video game concept is aligned with Army battlefield medicine and tactical training. It is presently in the conceptualizing and defining stage.

Lieutenant General Patricia Horoho, (Ret), was the 43rd U.S. Army Surgeon General, head of the U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD). Joint Trauma System, Trauma Care Delivery Director, She stated, “*Many potential military and civilian first responders routinely play popular combat videogames (e.g. Halo, Call of Duty, Gears of War). Partner with the makers of these games and integrate accurate first responder treatment protocols for casualties in the game, based on injuries and injury requirements*”.



Frances, RevMedx would like to provide product support and technical assistance for your project to educate the public on new technology for Battlefield Medicine through the Rally Point initiative. Please feel free to use XStat and any of the other RevMedx products on your website. RevMedx products were designed by medics, for medics. Rally Point would provide a great conduit to demonstrate not only the horrors of war but the high level of skill and the fantastic technology available to medics in the 21st century. Sincerely, John Steinbaugh, VP Director of Strategic Development RevMedx, Inc

RALLY POINT

About the Creator and Writer.



Major A. Cheever (Ret.), who goes by “Frances”, is a Soldier for Life...” After 32 years of service she retired on 25 December 2012, but when the call came to serve again in support of the COVID-19 mission she didn’t hesitate to volunteer her service, knowledge, experience and leadership. She is currently deployed to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.



Frances is an award-winning screenwriter. She has a Masters degree in Producing Film, Television & Video from American University in Washington, D.C., and a Bachelor in Nursing with specialty training in Trauma, ER, ICU. She is the Director of Operations for Veterans in Media & Entertainment, D.C., Chapter.

Major A. Cheever (Ret), served in the US Army on active and reserve status for three decades as a senior NCO (E-7) and Officer (MAJ) in the Army making her one of the few female “Mustangs.” At Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC/Bethesda, and other assignments, she had the honor of caring for America’s Wounded Warriors, servicemen and women, Veterans and their family members. As a mobilization and training officer she knows all too well the importance of ensuring Soldiers are trained, ready, cohesive and well-led to send off to war and return home safely. She advocates for the *Art of Healing* by facilitating hiring opportunities for our Veterans and Wounded Warriors in the entertainment business, in both performance and off-camera roles.

Frances provides an insightful and unique perspective to her military action screenplays, RALLY POINT and DERAILED, which have been developed into a cable-network episodic series. Frances understands personally how incredibly powerful the entertainment platform is, how effective storytelling can entertain, and enlighten audiences.

As the Military Production Manager and Advisor on the film *JACKIE*, (2016) starring Natalie Portman, she recognized that the best way to bring authenticity to the film was to utilize the actual military assets that performed the funeral services for President Kennedy. Those assets came from the Military District of Washington, most notably the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment “The Old Guard”. This ensured accuracy, substantial savings to the production, and the opportunity for our service men to portray and represent all branches of the military with dignity and respect. A production agreement with the U.S. Army, the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington was negotiated, and the military assets were secured.

On the Netflix series *HOUSE OF CARDS* season 4, Frances was given a unique opportunity to intern in every department essential to the production. She learned the valuable details of their unique skill sets and the workings of the entertainment industry. In order to better understand the organization, she stepped back and looked at the production as a military operation. She built an organizational chart that clearly outlines the production structure and its chain of command, in order to visualize the enormous amount of unique talent needed to make House of Cards an EMMY award-winning NETFLIX series. She was also the military liaison for casting, placing 50+ active military and Veterans on set.

Frances was the producer of the National Cathedrals Veterans Day concert with 2,500 people in attendance and over 6,600 watching it online streaming. She was able to facilitate jobs for Veterans in production and performance. She was the contracted screenwriter for the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) Warfighter Resilience Forum. Four emotionally intense scenes were written based on her interviews with a dozen combat veterans and Wounded Warriors. Veteran actors at four bases performed them theatrically across the country for Sailors and their family members. Recovery care management, mental health care providers, and resources were readily available to the Navy service men and women and their families.

She co-produced an award-winning short at the GI Film Festival titled *MY VA EXPERIENCE*, and is showcased in the VA national campaign, “It Matters.” She serves on the Advisory Board for the GI Film Festival, is a member of the American Legion Post 43 Hollywood, Women in Film, Television & Video, and the George Washington Chapter, Association of the United States Army. Along with her fellow Veterans in Media & Entertainment, they aim to get their talents noticed and their “*Boot in the Door*”.

- Winner, *GI Film Festival PitchFest*
- Top-Ten Finalist, *GI Film Festival Screenwriting Competition*
- Best Screenplay, *First Thursday Film Festival*
- Top-Five Finalist, *Foundation for Military Veterans in Production*
- Spotlight Writer, *International Screenwriter Association*
- Spotlight on Screenwriters Catalog, *Women in Film & Video of Washington DC*
- Spotlight on Philanthropic Screenwriters, *Women in Film & Video of Washington DC*
- Featured Writer, Women’s History Month (2016), *Women in Film & Video of Washington*



Frances’ image is featured in Kent Twitchell’s Free Assembly mural at the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall in downtown Los Angeles. She continues to volunteer her time to support Veteran organizations that serve the greater good, such as the Gary Sinise Foundation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Frances A. Cheever
 DC/LA
 MajorAcheever@gmail.com
 240-604-7954

For consideration as a theme song.



https://youtu.be/rcX_n1RSr4k

We got the Same Blood
The Same Blood
Stay by your side, it's ride or die
We've got the Same Blood

We're the 'run toward the fire' kind
We're the fearless on the front line
We're the 'never leave each other
Always staying undercover
Take a bullet for your brother' kind

We're the heroes in the background
We're the brave who never back down
For the glory, for the honour
Tell the story when you're gone
What doesn't kill you makes you stronger now

'Cause you and me we are both soldiers
Ain't coming back 'til it's over
I'll carry you home on my shoulders

We got the Same Blood
And when the rain comes
Walk through the same mud
Stay by your side, it's ride or die
We got the Same Blood
Don't matter where you came from
'Cause when the day's done
We got the Same Blood

We're the...

Source: Musixmatch