

MESSENGER DOGS

BY CLARK RANSOM

A HISTORICAL DRAMA
BASED ON TRUE EVENTS

ONE BOY
ONE DOG
FIFTY DYING SOLDIERS
NO MAN OR DOG IS LEFT BEHIND





LOGLINE

A rebellious orphan escapes to the army, finds the devotion he's longed for in a war dog he trains, and together they risk their lives to save over 50 Allied soldiers during the final months of WWI.

SCRIPT SYNOPSIS



At only 10, Henry is left at an orphanage, where he saves an abandoned dog, instinctually trains her, and in one of many brutal encounters with another orphan named Trevor, the dog saves Henry's life. Trevor later kills the dog and forever bears the heavy canine-inflicted scar across his face. Trevor vows revenge. At 17, Henry escapes both orphan life and Trevor's wrath to join the British army. But Henry's inability to make human friends has him sent as a "volunteer" to the War Dog training camp where the army hopes he can better blend in.

At the camp, Henry discovers that Trevor has also been assigned to his camp as a dog trainer. Henry befriends a mistreated dog named Dodger. The two bond and Henry fiercely competes on the training course with Trevor. While training, Henry meets Claire, the Veterinarian at the camp, and the two quickly fall in love.

Trevor's deep resentment toward Henry comes to a final head in the chaotic and unruly back trenches of the Western Front. The stage is set for a bloody end to the conflict between these two young men, their dogs, and those they have come to love. In the final hours of the Great War, only one boy and one dog make it home.

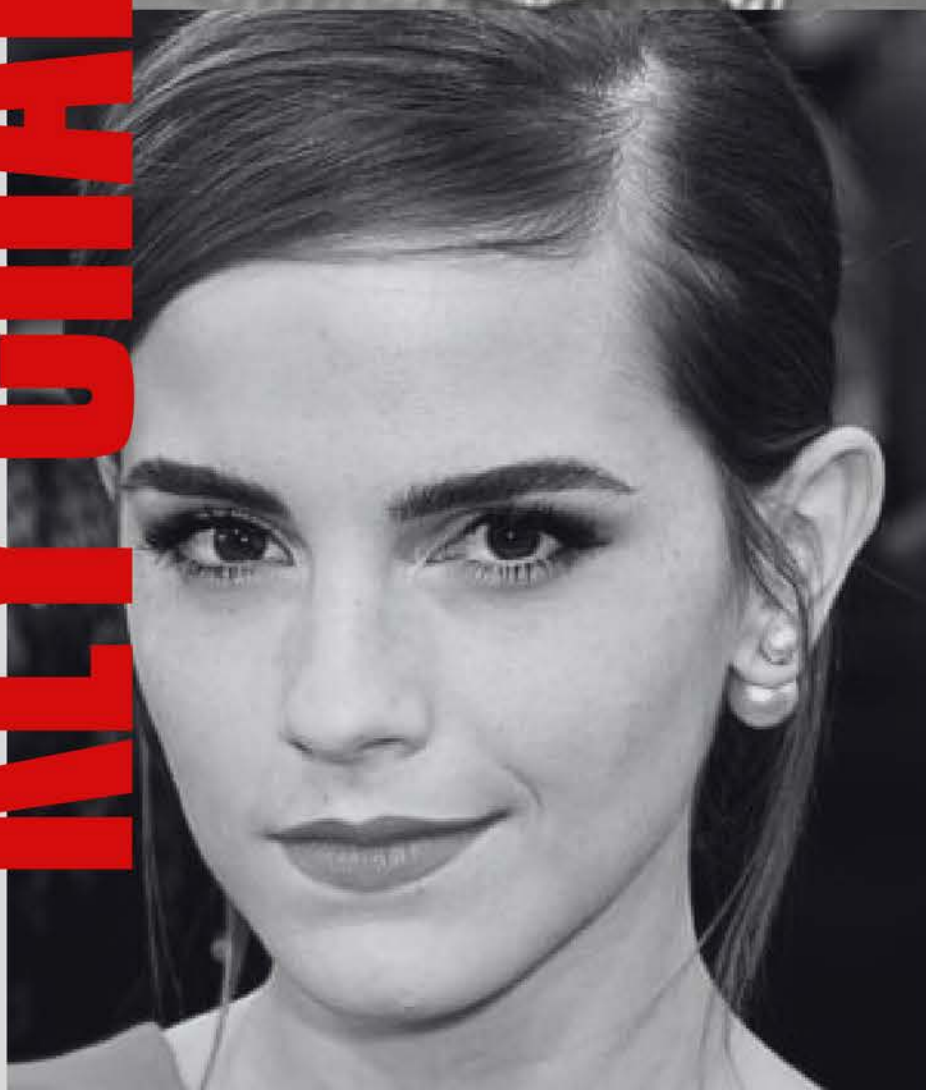


KEY CHARACTERS



HENRY CRESSWELL

Henry "Evelyn" Cresswell, a British orphan since the age of 10, he has already witnessed more horror than most men do in a lifetime. His lack of social ability with people is overshadowed by his innate sensitivity and understanding of dogs. His dedication to his training will make him one of the most beloved and respected soldiers on the Western Front.



CLAIRE PRESCOTT

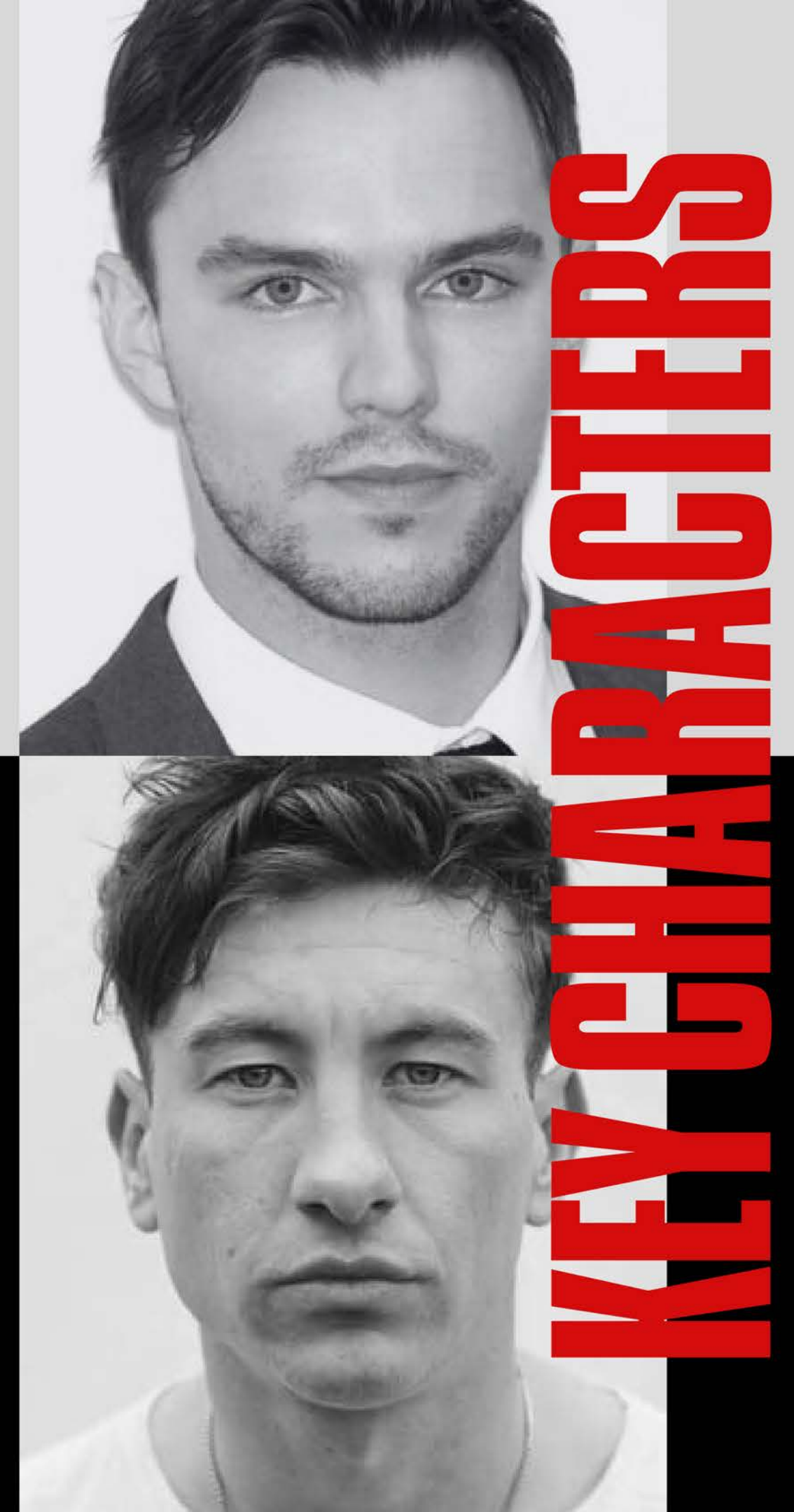
A volunteer Veterinarian for the war in France, she is small in stature but tall with intelligence. She knows her mind and is not afraid to share that with you. Having already lost her first love to the ravages of war, she hesitates to fall in love with Henry, fearful of a second broken heart.

LAWRENCE PRESCOTT

Claire's older brother, he becomes Henry's most trusted friend, he's a physically fit young man, with slicked-back hair, and a crisp uniform, while his upper-crust, English society background shapes his naive outlook on life. His belief that the War is a short-term distraction creates a sense of invincibility in his daring approach to battle and life.

TREVOR WEXLER

Henry's childhood nemesis from the orphanage, Trevor is all things bully and has no room for kindness to anyone or any animal. He will stop at nothing to ensure that Henry and Dodger never make it home from the war.



ADDITIONAL CAST



Miss Rogerson

"There'll be none of your codswallop here, Mr. Creswell. And no gallivanting about. I've but two rules. Neither lying, cheating nor thievery. If I catch you breaking that rule, you'll be punished. That clear?"



Major Wallins

"Captain Wexler, you are formally charged with gross insubordination, falsifying His Majesty's orders, and endangering the life of one rather overweight soldier. Albeit the hike back did him some good. You are hereby reduced in rank to second Lieutenant."



Percy

"Nope, we're going to Whitechapel to gets us some proper lovin', and that's the end of it."



Dodger



Dr. Ashford

"There are over two hundred dogs of varying breeds in the school at any given week. Many of them arrive with disease or some other malady that requires us to quarantine and treat prior to allowing them in the general population."

tone

- Intense
- Emotional
- Dramatic
- Adventurous
- Focused on Character relationships





A WORD FROM THE WRITER

Thank you for taking the time to consider this thoroughly researched historical story inspired by true events from 1917. I am passionate about our world history, especially the unsung heroes from the early 20th Century. This is one story about the young men who volunteered to give their lives for their country, their uncommon bravery, and the bonds that form during the horrors of war. The locations, the characters, and the methods used to train their heroic war dogs are based on public accounts and historical research. This story focuses on a young boy, his dog, and their journey to find acceptance and love in a time of war.

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THANK YOU!