

Noon to Nowhere screenplay

Synopsis

Set in the sweltering waterways of the Mekong Delta, *Noon to Nowhere* follows the crew of Alpha 7, a patrol boat thrust into the chaos of riverine warfare during Vietnam. Tom, a nineteen-year-old coxswain fresh from training, joins a ragtag crew led by Gene, their weary captain. Alongside Mike, John, and Harlan - each carrying their own reasons for being there – Tom learns that the river offers: no safety, only ambush, silence, and the constant threat of annihilation.

The film unfolds in tense, episodic encounters: mines hidden beneath brown water, firefights flaring from the jungle, the discovery of a downed Huey with its crew still inside, drifting corpses that rise unbidden to the surface, and villages burned to ash in the crossfire. Each mission blurs the line between survival and futility, between duty and despair.

On the opposite shore, Thanh, a Viet Cong commander, leads his cadre with equal resolve, his scenes echoing the same exhaustion and endurance. Both sides are locked in a war of attrition, outlasting rather than overcoming.

Stripped of sentimentality, *Noon to Nowhere* captures the claustrophobic rhythm of patrol life: boredom punctuated by violence, gallows humor alongside fear, young men hardening under impossible choices. By its end, the crew of Alpha 7 has not triumphed so much as endured—haunted, changed, and carried ever deeper upriver toward the next unknown.