

Theeb

Directed by Naji Abu Nowar

Jordan, UK, UAE, Qatar 2014, 100 minutes

Arabic with English Subtitles



Orizzonti Award, Best Director, Venice Film Festival

Toronto International Film Festival

Special Mention, Sutherland Award (First Feature Competition), London Film Festival

UK release Spring 2015

In the Ottoman province of Hijaz during World War I, a young Bedouin boy, Theeb (Jacir Eid), experiences a greatly hastened coming of age as he embarks, uninvited but eager for adventure, on a perilous desert journey with his elder brother Hussein (Hussein Salameh) to guide a British officer Edward (Jack Fox) and his guide Marji (Marji Audeh) to their secret destination.

'Immersed in a way of life that has endured for centuries, the brothers are unaware of the tremendous upheavals taking place at the fringes of their world: the First World War is raging in Europe, the Ottoman Empire is coming undone, the Great Arab Revolt is brewing, and the British officer T.E. Lawrence is plotting with the Arab Prince Faisal to establish an Arab kingdom.

The ensuing journey, filled with danger and hardship, will result in Theeb's greatly hastened maturation in a culture where a man's honour and righteousness determines his inclusion or expulsion from the community.

Shot entirely on location against the ravishing landscape of Wadi Rum and Wadi Araba, and cast with non-professional actors from one of the last of Jordan's nomadic Bedouin tribes to settle down, Naji Abu Nowar's understated gem is a remarkable accomplishment for a small crew working on a shoestring budget. Radiating passion from every frame, *Theeb* is a skilful, genre-crossing blend of a coming-of-age drama and a western.' (Rasha Salti, TIFF)



'A classic adventure film of the best kind, boasting stunning locales in a well-told story about a young Bedouin boy outwitting potential enemies in the desert.'

Jay Weissberg, *Variety*

'A spectacularly epic film with a wonderfully intimate human story. It possesses everything that allows me fall in love with cinema, again and again... *Theeb* is a jewel.'

E. Nina Rothe, *The Huffington Post*

CREDITS

Director Naji Abu Nowar

Screenplay Bassel Ghandour, Naji Abu Nowar

Cinematography Wolfgang Thaler

Editor Rupert Lloyd

Sound Dario Swade

Music Jerry Lane

Production Design Anna Lavelle

Executive Producer Nadine Toukan

Producers Bassel Ghandour, Rupert Lloyd

Co-Producers Laith Al-Majali, Nasser Kalaji

Produced by Immortal Entertainment, Bayt Al Shawareb, Noor Pictures

CAST

Jacir Eid Theeb

Hassan Mutlag the Stranger

Hussein Salameh Hussein

Jack Fox Edward

Marji Audeh Marji