

THE NEVADA BATTLE – Pitch Deck

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A sci-fi thriller by Staffan von Zeipel

Logline

A U.S. military unit is sent on a live-fire training mission in the Nevada desert—but when communications break down and the sky erupts with strange lights, the soldiers realize this is no ordinary exercise.

Short synopsis

During what appears to be a routine military training operation in the remote Nevada desert, a group of elite soldiers suddenly lose all contact with command. Unexplained lights fill the night sky, and strange disturbances unsettle the unit. As fear and confusion spread, loyalties fracture and trust erode. Are they under attack? By whom - or what? Time is running out, and the desert becomes a psychological battlefield where no one knows who - or what - to believe.

Genre & Tone

Psykologisk thriller med nordiskt vemod och klassisk whodunit-struktur. Mörk, stillsam, klaustrofobisk.

Theme

Sci-fi thriller in real time, driven by suspense and escalating paranoia.
Think The Thing meets Coherence.

Target Audience

International viewers 18–45. For fans of 10 Cloverfield Lane, The Vast of Night, Black Mirror.

Visual style

Bleached, sun-scorched exteriors contrast with dark, confined interiors. Naturalistic lighting and hand-held camera work enhance immediacy. The desert feels both infinite and suffocating.

Key Characters

- Charlie: Quiet soldier with strong instincts, trusted by most
- Greer: Commanding officer whose grip on reality is slipping
- Rivas: Hyper-alert, sees threats everywhere
- Porter: Tech specialist, analytical but increasingly unsure

About the writer

Staffan von Zeipel writes thrillers and sci-fi stories with a global edge and emotional core. Based in Sweden, he develops screenplays that explore fear, perception, and moral dilemmas.