



# noori

DULCINEA PRODUCTIONS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RUMI ROAD PRESENTS A WILL AGEE FILM "NOORI"

FEATURING AHMAD KHALID NOORI ABDUL POPALZAI MICHAEL "ROD" RODRIGUEZ LUKE FOCER GEN (R) SCOTT MILLER CINEMATOGRAPHY BY WILL AGEE ETHAN NAGEL MARIA CARUSO AND JORDAN BRYON



SOUND RECORDED BY NICK DUCKO MUSIC BY STEPHEN LOREK EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY GENO PALUSO PRODUCED BY LYLA KOHISTANY DIRECTED BY WILL AGEE



“The wound is where  
the light enters”

JALĀL AL-DĪN MUHAMMAD RŪMĪ





**After escaping the Taliban, an Afghan Special Operations soldier haunted by war searches for peace and belonging in America as he connects with veterans and everyday people before his daughter is born.**

As America's longest war drew to a close, a new battle began

- to heal the invisible wounds borne by U.S. and Afghan

Special Operations Forces (SOF) who fought together on the

front lines. Noori honors the enduring bond between these

warriors while exploring the deeply personal journey of

transition and rebuilding a life after war.

Embark on a compelling road trip with two Afghan soldiers, Khalid Noori and Abdul Popalzai, as they connect with U.S. SOF veterans and everyday Americans. For Noori, his journey carries an even greater weight - he is about to become a father. With the shadows of war behind him and his daughter's future ahead, his search for peace is no longer just his own - it is the fight to give his family a fresh start.

Witness America through the Afghan's eyes as they grapple with their identities and strive to reconcile a tumultuous past with the dreams of a brighter future as American citizens. As Afghans and Americans exchange stories, they discover unexpected common ground - finding connection and bridging cultural divides through their shared struggles, resilience, and aspirations.

This groundbreaking film illuminates the triumph of the human spirit, not only through the warriors who fought in Afghanistan but also through the friendships that light the way in the darkest of times. Noori is a testament to the promise of a new beginning, honoring both the sacrifices of the past and the possibilities of the future, and sparks a timely dialogue about what it means to be an American.

BY WILL AGEE

USA, 2025, 88 MIN

A photograph of two men in profile, facing each other and shaking hands. The man on the left has braided hair and a tattoo on his neck, wearing a white t-shirt. The man on the right has a beard and is wearing a grey t-shirt. They are outdoors at night with city lights in the background.

# OFFICIAL TRAILER

WATCH HERE





PRODUCTION

FEATURE

RUNTIME

88 MINS

GENRE

DOCUMENTARY

COMPLETION DATE

11.11.25

LANGUAGES

ENGLISH  
DARI  
PASHTO

LOCATION

USA

**FORMAT** 3840 X 2160, 23.98 FPS, 16X9, REC. 709, STEREO, DCP AVAILABLE





DARI WORD NOOR (نور) MEANS  
"LIGHT," "RADIANT," OR "BRIGHT"  
DERIVED FROM THE ARABIC WORD NUR  
(نور), WHICH MEANS "LIGHT" OR  
"ILLUMINATION"



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I first met Khalid Noori in 2022 and I was instantly captivated by his story. His determination to press on despite encountering unimaginable tragedy and seemingly insurmountable obstacles was profoundly moving.

Following our first conversation over dinner, I was reminded of a phrase by Ernest Hemingway on which I often reflect, "the world breaks everyone and afterward many are strong at the broken places."

---

WILL AGEE, DIRECTOR

From that moment forward, I felt a calling to help share Noori's inspiring journey with a world in desperate need of true role models. Every film that I have had the privilege to work on has a common thread - the indomitable strength of the human spirit. Noori is no exception.



# PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

My favorite quote about the U.S. comes from President Ronald Reagan: "...any person with the courage, with the desire to tear up their roots, to strive for freedom, to attempt and dare to live in a strange and foreign place, to travel halfway across the world..." is welcome here.

In 1982, my family fled Afghanistan and sought refuge in the U.S. My brother and I joined the U.S. Navy, our small way of giving back to the country that gave us our freedom. During my deployments, I was always in awe of our Afghan Special Operations partners. Americans always had a ticket home. Afghans lived in danger every single day.

Khalid Noori, one of our best partners and the heart of this film, embodies Reagan's quote. He had the courage to strive for freedom and the determination to build a better life for his family. As Afghan Special Operators embrace life in America, Noori will help audiences see them as American veterans do - as teammates, as equals who have earned a life of dignity and peace.

Both in and out of uniform, I have spent my life building bridges between cultures. This documentary is another bridge, inviting you to see life, loss, love, and liberty through a different set of eyes.

---

LYLA KOHISTANY, PRODUCER



# CASE





## Khalid Noori

Former Afghan Army Ktah  
Khas Counterterrorism Unit

## Wida Popal

Noori's wife  
Women's Rights Activist

## Michael Rodríguez

Retired U.S. Army  
Special Forces

## Luke Focer

Former U.S. Marine  
Raider Sniper

## Abdul Popalzai

Former Afghan  
Army Commando

## General Scott Miller

U.S. Army Special Forces

## Sam Kim

Former Afghan Army  
Ktah Khas

## Arshida Noori

Noori's daughter









Will Agee

Director  
Cinematographer  
Editor



Lyla Kohistany

Producer  
U.S. Navy Veteran



Geno Paluso

Executive Producer  
Retired U.S. Navy SEAL  
Captain



Ethan Nagel

Cinematographer  
Former U.S. Marine  
Scout Sniper



María Caruso

Cinematographer  
Production Designer  
Craft Services



Cam M Goggins

Assistant Director

Line Producer

Craft Services



Nick Ducko

Field Audio Recording



Benissoot Gue

Production Assistant



Michael Pierre  
Decoufle

Production Assistant



# PROLOGUE

[DOWNLOAD](#)

TRAILER

[DOWNLOAD](#)

POSTERS

[DOWNLOAD](#)

FILM STILLS







NOORIFILM@DULCINEAPRODUCTIONS.COM

415.413.3480

@DULCINEAPRODUCTIONS | IMDB

CONTACT

