

# THE AMERICAN WIFE

## Original Story and Screenplay

By Stephen Fife and Ralph Pezzullo

**LOGLINE:** A 35 year old San Diego housewife goes on a journey into the heart of international darkness with an Associated Press reporter in search of the truth about her soccer coach husband, who has been arrested in the USA as an enemy combatant and shipped to an overseas prison in Kabul, Afghanistan.

### BRIEF SYNOPSIS

Karen Ruiz (formerly Karen Jones) is a 35 year old housewife who has been living a very normal middle-class life in sunny San Diego with her two children, Kyle (7) and Rafael (16 months), and her husband Eduardo Ruiz, formerly a soccer star in Spain, now a much-beloved high school soccer coach. She and her family are preparing to leave for Phoenix AZ, where Eduardo has gotten a better-paying soccer coach job, when Eduardo suddenly disappears. In short order Karen is informed that he has been arrested by American authorities as an enemy combatant, part of an Al Qaeda sleeper cell. Karen—besieged by a mob of reporters—is joined by her father in an attempt to find out more information. She is befriended by an Associated Press reporter named Mark Loomis, who informs her that her husband is currently being transported to a prison at Bagram Air Force base in Kabul, Afghanistan. He promises her that he will get her a face-to-face meeting with her husband in prison if she gives him exclusive rights to her story. Frustrated at every turn by the authorities, Karen finally agrees. She and Loomis take off on a flight for Kabul.

Loomis does indeed make good on his promise, and Karen does indeed meet with Eduardo in prison. But in the course of her journey to find the truth, Karen will be stripped (quite literally) of all middle-class American amenities and plunged into the heart of a barbaric and cryptic darkness. She will have to develop survival skills that she never knew she possessed. And in the end she will discover truths that will impact not only her own life, but also the fate of the free world.

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