

# TUFF



*"Sometimes there's a line the state can't cross."*

**Genre:** Action/Thriller

**Written by:** Sebastian MacLean

**Executive Producer:** Thomas E. Kelly, John Taylor

**Producers:** Sebastian MacLean, Julie Campbell, Kandy Bagley

**Status:** Script

**Seeking:** Financing/ Distribution

**Synopsis:** Tufford Shepherd, nicknamed Tuff, arrives in a small rural town after serving in Afghanistan, where he faced traumatic experiences that haunt him. Struggling to adapt to civilian life and provide for his family, Tuff's challenges escalate when he confronts Jack Decklin, the new principal of his son Eric's school, over objectionable reading materials.

Initially cordial, the relationship deteriorates as Tuff's requests for exemptions are dismissed, culminating in a heated school board meeting where he is arrested. Amid this turmoil, Tuff's old school mate, Kyle Laceman who is now serving as a public defender, steps in to offer his support. He reflects on how Tuff once defended him from bullies during their youth. As tensions rise, Principal Decklin paints Tuff as a dangerous parent, attempting to influence Tuff's wife, Jessica, to convince him to relent.

As circumstances spiral out of control, Tuff takes drastic action, immobilizing the police station to escape and retrieve his children. Meanwhile, Kyle attempts to mediate the situation, urging Tuff to surrender. However, a physical confrontation with Decklin triggers deeper emotional turmoil, leading to a dangerous chase as Decklin wrongly seizes Tuff's son.

The climax unfolds in a friend's cabin in the woods, where Tuff must confront not only Decklin's unraveling sanity but also make a harrowing choice that could determine the fate of his son and family. The film explores themes of sacrifice, parental love, and the struggle against bureaucratic systems.

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