

# Saving Private Ryan: A Recap



Conflict: How do you find one  
soldier among thousands of  
soldiers?



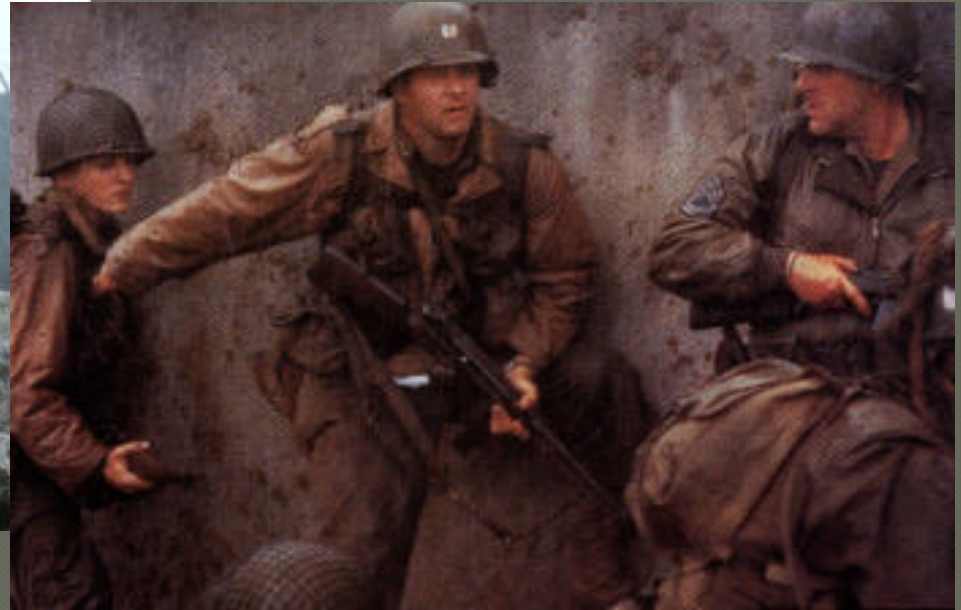
And how do you stay alive doing it?



# Spielberg's Direction

TO PROVIDE A "YOU-ARE-THERE" FEEL, SPIELBERG USES A LOT OF HAND-HELD CAMERAS.

---



He also chose to bleed the color out of the film by about 40%.

THE WASHED-OUT LOOK MAKES THE FILM SEEM MORE AUTHENTIC.



# The Battle Scenes

THE SCENES UTILIZE PYROTECHNICS, MAKE-UP EFFECTS, COSTUMES, PROPS, AND SCORES OF EXTRAS.



They also feature a level of realism unseen in prior films.

THE CLIMATIC BATTLE IS EVEN MORE DISTURBING THAN THE OPENING BATTLE, BECAUSE WE'VE GOTTEN TO KNOW THE CHARACTERS.



# He even works in “dogfaces.”

WWII “DOGFACE” AS PORTRAYED  
BY ROBERT MITCHUM

THE BEARDED HENDERSON





# The sound is amazing, too.

WHEN EXPLOSIONS GO OFF, SPIELBERG MUTES THE SOUND TO SIMULATE EAR DRUM DAMAGE.

---



MUSIC IS USED SPARINGLY.



# Set Design

THE ENTIRE BOMBED OUT BUILDING SET WAS BUILT BY TECHNICIANS.



Spielberg also fills the screen with haunting images.



# The Acting

TOM HANKS IS EXCELLENT  
AS MILLER.



HIS "EVERYMAN" QUALITIES  
EMBODY THE CITIZEN  
SOLDIER.



Irony: His compassion gets him killed.

THE GERMAN SOLDIER HE LETS GO ENDS UP FIRING THE SHOT THAT KILLS HIM.



# An Iconic Image: “The Greatest Generation” Never Quit...



# The Supporting Players

THE DEATHS OF CHARACTERS WE KNOW ARE HARD TO TAKE.



This is because Spielberg allows them to develop as characters.

CAPARZO'S COMPASSION  
MAKES HIM DROP HIS  
GUARD.



JACKSON DIES TRYING TO  
WARN PARKER.



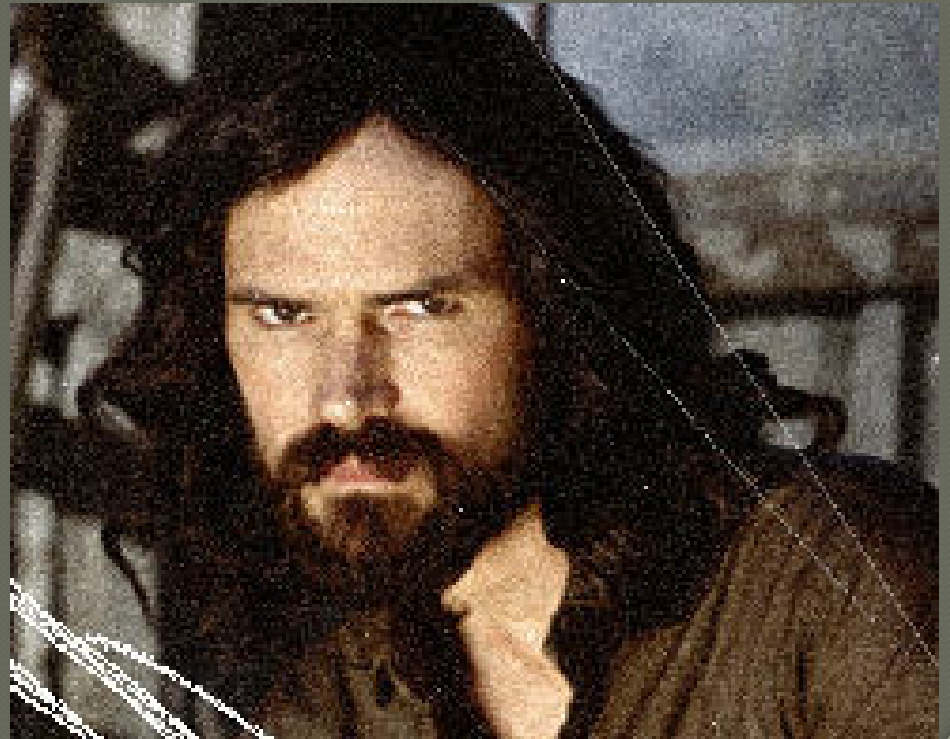


This can also be attributed to good acting.

WE HATE UPHAM FOR HIS COWARDICE.



THE SAME ACTOR WAS ABLE TO GENERATE FEAR AS CHARLES MANSON.



(By the way, the German Upham  
'saved' and the German who killed  
Mellish aren't the same guy).

“STEAMBOAT WILLIE”



THE GERMAN WHO KILLED  
MELLISH.



Good acting can also hide a troubled life.

SIZEMORE AS SGT. HORVATH EMBODIES EVERYTHING THAT'S AMERICAN.

IN REAL LIFE, HE'S HAD MAJOR TROUBLES.



Of course, they lucked out with  
Matt Damon.

---



Message: “Saving Private Ryan was the one decent thing we were able to pull out of this whole Godawful, shitty mess” ?



“Earn this” ?

---



# Brotherhood among warriors?

---



“Tell me I’m a good man” ?

---





# Reception

THE FILM WAS HAILED AS A  
MASTERPIECE FROM THE  
GET-GO.



SPIELBERG PICKED UP HIS  
SECOND BEST DIRECTOR  
OSCAR.



# Influence: The Battle Scenes

GLADIATOR (2000)



ENEMY AT THE GATES  
(2001)



## TROY (2004)



EVEN EASTWOOD DOES IT  
IN FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS  
(2006).



Spielberg and Hanks produced a related mini-series for HBO.

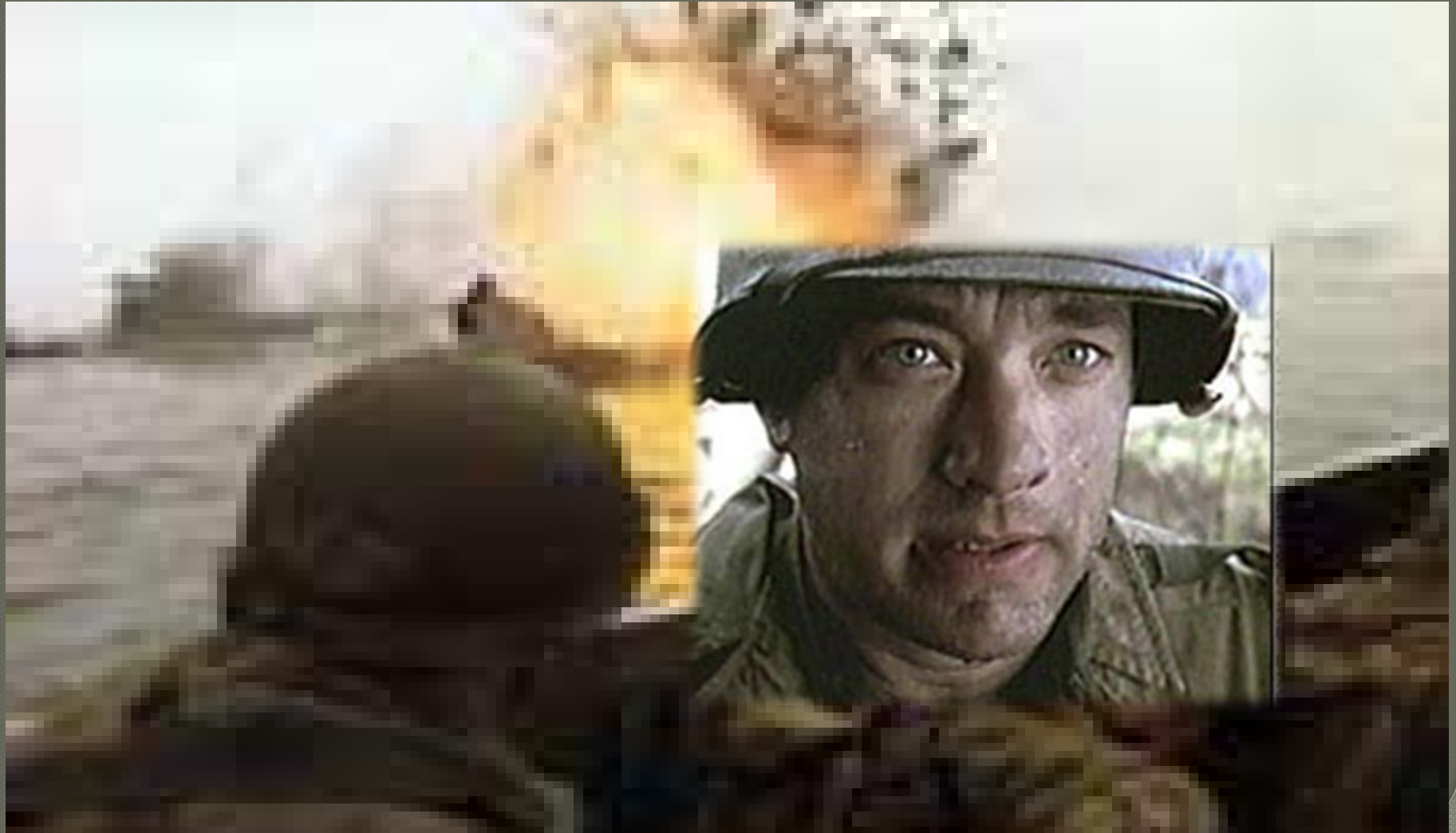


In 2010, they followed up with The Pacific



- This HBO mini-series tells the story of how the Marines fought the Japanese following the attack on Pearl Harbor

But nothing yet has matched  
Ryan's intensity.



I hope you liked the film.

---

