

## TECH SPECS – THE BLACK VEIL

**English Title:** The Black Veil

**Arabic Title:** الخمار الاسود

**Running Time:** 16:35 minutes

**Picture Format:** Color

**Aspect Ratio:** 2:35:1

**Camera:** RED EPIC X

**Genre:** Drama, Women

**Country of Production:** Qatar

**Language:** Arabic (English subtitles)

**Vimeo:** <https://vimeo.com/399713012>

**Password:** TBVshortfilm

**Director:** A.J. Al-Thani

**Producer:** Vibhav Gautam

**Executive Producer:** Justin Kramer

**DOP:** Christopher Moon

**Main Cast:** Sana Al Habib as Reem; Ahmed Al-Nowfal Al-Tamimi as Ahmed

### **Director's Bio:**

A.J. Al-Thani is an award-winning Qatari filmmaker. She graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in Communications and a concentration in film. She began to pursue her dream of being a filmmaker with the launch of the Doha Film Institute (DFI). Her relationship with the Institute began in 2010 when she participated in one of its first film workshops, which opened the door for many local filmmakers to pursue their passion. For almost 10 years, she has been developing her skills with the help of the Institute. A.J. Has made two short films 'Kashta' (2016) & 'The Black Veil' (2019).

### **Logline:**

Reem a young Iraqi woman escapes her home in the middle of the night. She lives in Mosul after being forced to marry an ISIS soldier. Reem finds help in a taxi driver named Ahmed to help her escape Mosul and find her family again.

### **Synopsis:**

Reem is a young Iraqi woman who has been forced into marriage to an ISIS soldier in ISIS controlled Mosul. She was taken away from her family and home on the outskirts of Mosul. Reem finds help in a young Taxi driver named Ahmed to help her escape. She promises him a chest full of gold in exchange for his service. Reem and Ahmed journey out of Mosul and try to escape the harsh violent reality by posing as his wife. When she finds out that her family's home is destroyed, Ahmed convinces her to leave Mosul and gives her hope that they might have escaped as well. Reem and Ahmed drive into the dangerous barren dark desert where they will meet the very face they tried to escape.

**Director's Note:**

I wanted to make The Black Veil because there was a lot of instability in our region at the time I was conceptualizing the idea. While I was doing my research I found a documentary that showed women who had escaped ISIS from areas they controlled in Iraq. The image of the women removing the veil and placing it on the fences were so powerful to me. As a muslim, Arab and woman, I felt so empowered because I believed it was symbolic for how we are always told to be who everyone wants us to be instead of who we choose to be. I hope that people who watch this film will feel as brave to be themselves as the women who inspired me to write and make this movie.

**Contact:**

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