

# upstage SPOTLIGHT

## ★★★★ A ★★★★★ SOLDIER'S PLAY

By Charles Fuller  
Directed by Kenny Leon

1944. A Black Sergeant is murdered on a Louisiana Army base, and one tenacious investigator must race against his white leadership to unravel the crime before they unravel him.

TECH/SERGEANT  
VERNON C. WATERS

a Black Sergeant who manages the baseball team

PFC  
MELVIN PETERSON

a Black man in his late twenties, wearing glasses, a model soldier to the other men

CAPTAIN  
RICHARD DAVENPORT

a Black lawyer and military officer attached to the 343d Military Police Corps Unit

CORPORAL  
BERNARD COBB

a Black man in his mid to late twenties, closest to CJ and unmoved by Waters's death

PRIVATE  
TONY SMALLS

a Black man in his late thirties, a career soldier

PRIVATE  
C.J. MEMPHIS

a young Black man from Mississippi; a musician

PRIVATE  
JAMES WILKIE

a Black man in his early forties, a career soldier, dressed in fatigues from which the stripes have been removed by Waters

CORPORAL ELLIS

a Black soldier who is simply always "spit and polish," thorough and detailed

LIEUTENANT BYRD

a white, spit and polish soldier in his twenties

PRIVATE  
LOUIS HENSON

a Black man his late twenties or early thirties. Pitcher on the baseball team

CAPTAIN  
CHARLES TAYLOR

a white man in his mid to late thirties who resents Davenport's assignment and rank

CAPTAIN WILCOX

a white medical officer