Women in Movie Fight Scenes

by Christine M. Hopkins originally appeared in "tiny poetry: macropoetics," May 2016

perhaps there is a city somewhere, an island nation, to which all the nameless women characters are exiled when their husbands and brothers and fathers are invited to fight on camera, similarly unimportant, yet infinitely more visible

where are the women?

millions, just outside the frame, waiting, killing each other for a single role in a single film in a single shot, as male directors and producers and writers wait for the carnage to end, for their battle-torn shewarrior to emerge from the chaos they have created