



EMILY, A SCHOOL TEACHER NEAR THE END OF HER BABY-MAKING YEARS, WANTS



BUT SHE DOESN'T WANT A BABY DADDY IN THE PICTURE.



WHEN HER MULTIPLE ATTEMPTS AT ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION FAIL, SHE STARTS TO LOSE HOPE.

JESSE IS A YOUNG, HEARTTHROB ACTOR WHO HAS TAKEN THE WORLD BY STORM...





BUT HE WANTS MORE OUT OF HIS CAREER THAN TO ONLY ACT IN SEXY CHRISTMAS MOVIES.



THEN, A CHANCE ENCOUNTER AT A NIGHT CLUB BETWEEN THE FAMED ACTOR AND THE UNAWARE SCHOOL TEACHER LEADS TO....





...AN UNPLANNED PREGNANCY.



NOW EMILY FACES A DILEMMA: SHOULD SHE GO **AGAINST WHAT IS ETHICALLY AND LEGALLY** RIGHT BY NOT TELLING JESSE, OR ATTEMPT TO TRACK THE STAR DOWN AND GIVE UP BEING THE SOLE DECISION-MAKER FOR HER CHILD, FOR A **CHANCE AT THE FAMILY** SHE'S BEEN LONGING FOR.



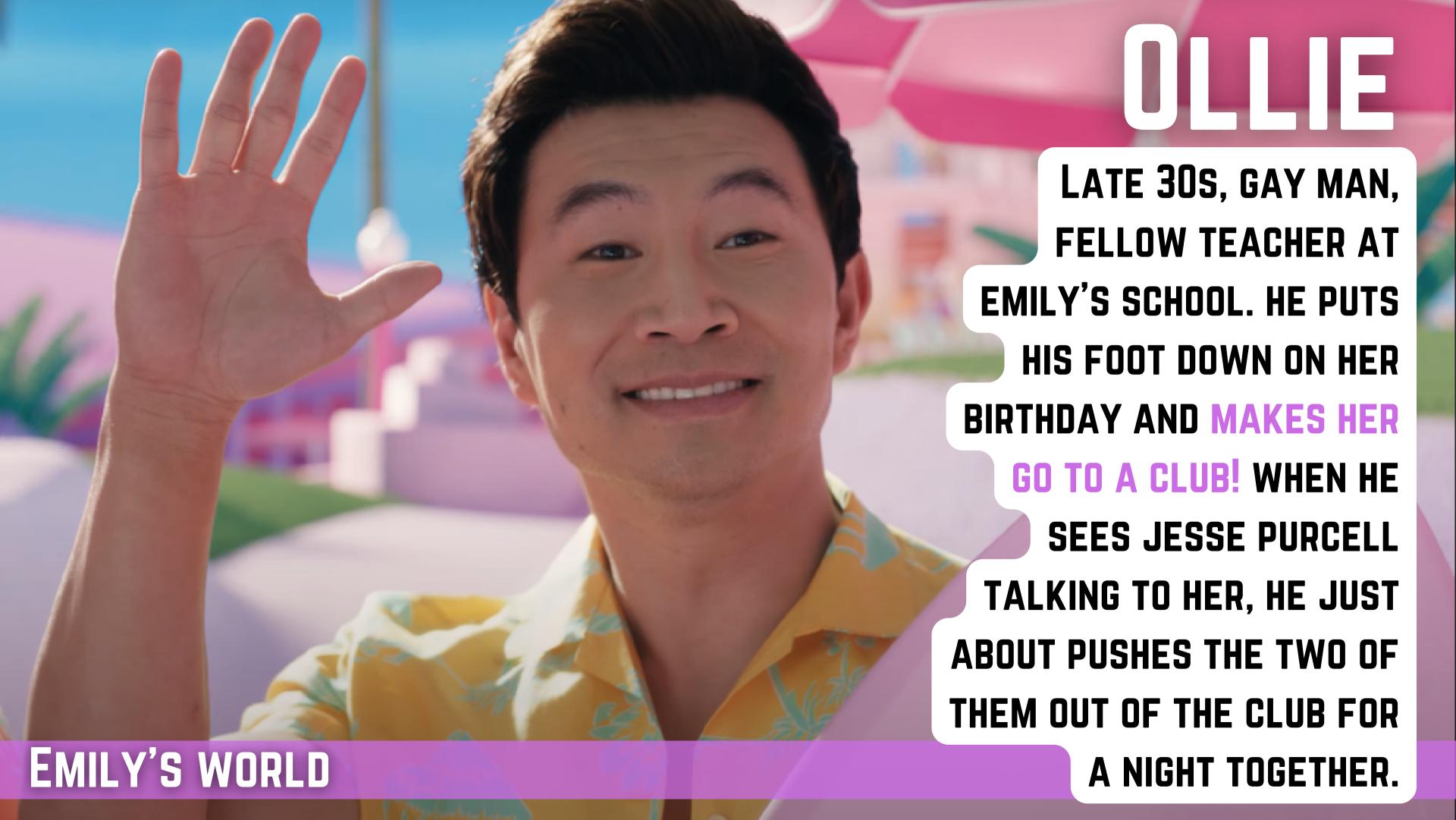


JACINDA

LATE 30S. OBGYN, AND THE ONE DOING THE INSEMINATING. SHE DISCOURAGES EMILY FROM TRYING TO DO EVERYTHING BY HERSELF, **BUT WILL HELP HER GET PREGNANT** IF SHE PROMISES TO STOP ASKING CHATGPT WHAT TO DO AND RELIES ON AN ACTUAL DOCTOR -- HER.



EMILY'S WORLD





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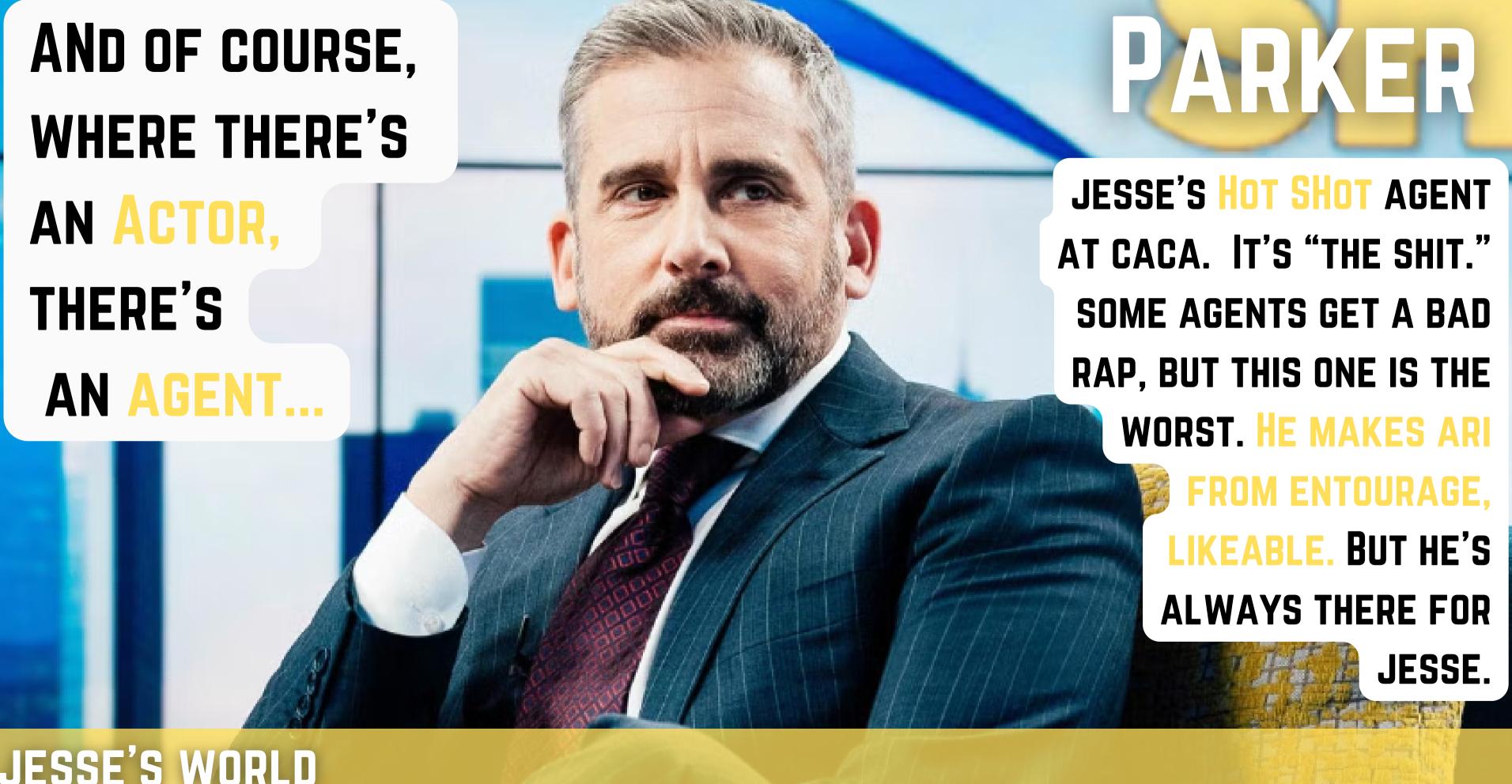
EARLY 40S. JESSE'S BODY **GUARD AND CLOSEST** FRIEND. JESSE FREQUENTLY JOINS IN HIS FAMILY DINNERS, AND BO MAKES SURE JESSE MAKES IT TO ALL OF HIS APPOINTMENTS. EVEN WHEN HE'S IN THE THROES OF PASSION...



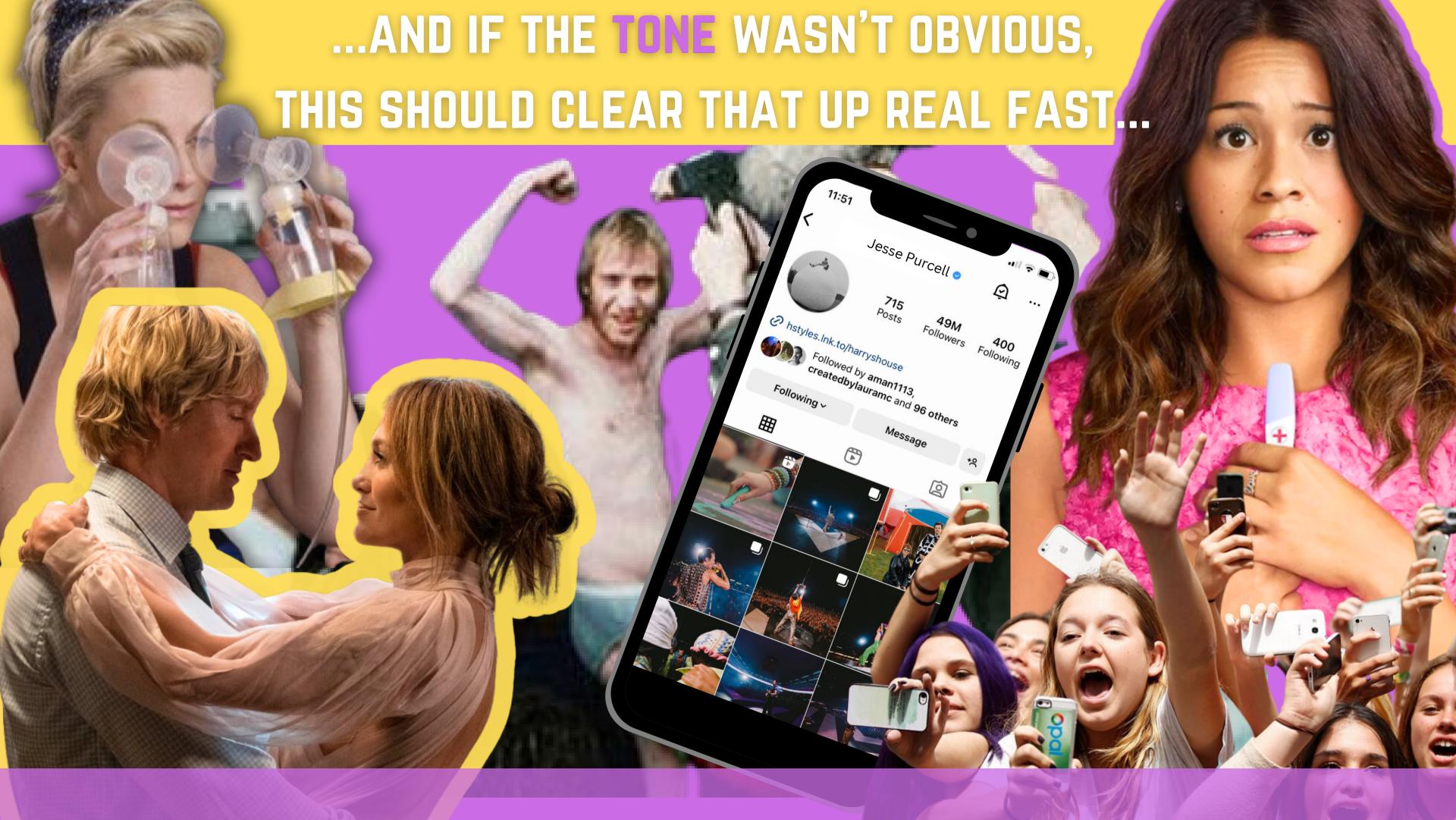
JESSE'S WORLD



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WRITER'S STATEMENT

WRITERS'/DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

NAOMI ODES AYTUR

WHEN I BECAME A MOTHER, MY IDENTITY CHANGED OVERNIGHT. I SUDDENLY FELT INVISIBLE, OTHER THAN TO THE TINY PERSON WHO NEEDED ME AT EVERY MOMENT. IT WAS A BIZARRE PARADOX TO BE IN LOVE WITH MY BABY, AND YET FEEL SO LONELY AND ISOLATED. I WATCHED THE "TWILIGHT" PHENOMENON EXPLODE ON MY LAPTOP WHILE ENDLESSLY NURSING ON MY COUCH IN THE DARK. THOSE VIBRANT PEOPLE ON THE SCREEN, SAILING DOWN THE RED CARPET, DODGING SCREAMING FANS, WERE LIVING IN A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WORLD. BUT, THEN I THOUGHT: WHAT IF THAT MANDSOME MOVIESTAR WHO IS SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE WHO ADDRE HIM, IS JUST AS LONELY AS I AM RIGHT NOW?

AT THE SAME TIME, MANY OF MY SINGLE FRIENDS WERE ALSO EXPERIENCING LONELINESS, BUT WEIGHTED WITH THE URGENCY TO START A FAMILY. THEY WERE CONSIDERING THEIR OPTIONS: ADOPTION? SPERM DONORS? OR "JUST GO TO A BAR, MEET A GUY, AND GET KNOCKED UP!" AND THUS, THE CHARACTERS OF EMILY FREEDMAN AND JESSE PURCELL WERE BORN.

MIRANDA BAILEY

MIRANDA IDENTIFIED WITH THESE IDEAS, AS WELL AS WITH THE STORY OF AN INDEPENDENT SELF-MOTIVATED WOMAN WHO WANTS TO START A FAMILY ON HER OWN. EMILY FREEDMAN DOESN'T NEED A MAN TO ACHIEVE HER GOAL OF HAVING A FAMILY. HOWEVER, SHE ULTIMATELY LEARNS THAT HELP AND LOVE FROM THE RIGHT PERSON ARE WORTH HAVING IN YOUR LIFE. WHILE SINGLE AND DIVORCED WOMEN ARE A CLICHÉ OF LONELINESS, PEOPLE DON'T OFTEN THINK OF CELEBRITIES AND NEW MOTHERS IN THAT SPACE. A DESIRE TO ESCAPE LONELINESS MOTIVATES BOTH JESSE AND EMILY ON THEIR PATHS. EMILY IS EVERY WOMAN. WE CAN ALL RELATE TO HER ON SOME PART OF HER JOURNEY.



MIRANDA BAILEY IS AN AWARD-WINNING WRITER AND DIRECTOR. HER DIRECTORIAL DEBUT GREENLIT – A HUMOROUS DOCUMENTARY EXAMINING THE HYPOCRISY INHERENT IN HOLLYWOOD'S "GREEN" MOVEMENT – PREMIERED AT THE 2010 SXSW FILM FESTIVAL TO CRITICAL ACCLAIM AND WAS ACQUIRED BY IFC INTERNATIONAL. FOR HER SECOND DOCUMENTARY, THE PATHOLOGICAL OPTIMIST, BAILEY SPENT SEVEN YEARS FOLLOWING ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST CONTROVERSIAL PEOPLE, DR. ANDREW WAKEFIELD, WHO LAID CLAIM TO VACCINES CREATING AUTISM IN CHILDREN. THE FILM WAS RELEASED THEATRICALLY BY THE FILM ARCADE AND ON VOD BY GRAVITAS.

VENTURING INTO COMEDY, BAILEY WROTE AND DIRECTED THE AWARD-WINNING SHORT, <u>ANOTHER HAPPY</u> <u>ANNIVERSARY</u>, WHICH WAS PICKED UP FOR DISTRIBUTION BY MOUSETRAP FILMS AND FILM FESTIVAL FLIX.

BAILEY'S DIRECTORIAL NARRATIVE FEATURE DEBUT <u>BEING FRANK</u>, AN OFFBEAT FAMILY DRAMA/COMEDY, PREMIERED IN THE SPOTLIGHT SECTION AT THE 2018 SXSW FILM FESTIVAL, AND WAS THEATRICALLY RELEASED JUNE 2019. BAILEY DID AN UNCREDITED DIRECTOR'S REWRITE, INCORPORATING HER OWN LIFE EXPERIENCES OF HAVING DISCOVERED CERTAIN SECRETS ABOUT HER OWN FATHER. SHE ASSEMBLED A DECORATED CAST, INCLUDING GRAMMY-NOMINATED COMEDIAN, ACTOR, WRITER, PRODUCER AND NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR JIM GAFFIGAN, TWO-TIME EMMY-WINNING ACTRESS ANNA GUNN, SAMANTHA MATHIS AND LOGAN MILLER. KAREN KEHELA SHERWOOD OF IMAGINE ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCED THE FILM ALONGSIDE BAILEY'S COLD IRON PICTURES. THE FILM WENT ON TO PLAY THE FESTIVAL CIRCUITS FOR A YEAR, AND WON NUMEROUS BEST FEATURE AND AUDIENCE AWARDS AT FESTIVALS SUCH AS VAIL FILM FESTIVAL, NAPA VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL, AND THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL.

WHEN IT COMES TO DIRECTING, BAILEY LEARNED FROM THE BEST, HAVING WORKED WITH AWARD-WINNING DIRECTORS, INCLUDING DANIELS', MIKE BIRBIGLIA, OREN MOVERMAN, LAKE BELL. AND MARIELLE HELLER.

MIRANDA BAILEY

NAOMI ODES AYTUR IS A WRITER, PRODUCER AND ACTOR BASED IN LOS ANGELES. HER FIRST SHORT FILM, MISSES PICKLES, WHICH SHE WROTE, PRODUCED AND STARS IN, JUST WRAPPED POST-PRODUCTION AND WILL HIT THE FESTIVAL CIRCUIT LATER THIS YEAR. HER BIOPIC FEATURE, A DAMNED OLD FOOL LIKE ME, INSPIRED BY MUSICIAN GEOFF AGISIM, WAS A SECOND ROUNDER IN THE NYWIFT WRITERS' LAB, AND A FINALIST IN THE THE SCRIPT LAB, TABLE READ MY SCREENPLAY, AND FEMALE VOICES ROCK COMPETITIONS. NAOMI WROTE, PRODUCED AND STARRED IN THE STAGE PLAY THE BITCHES' BREW AT THE LILLIAN THEATRE IN HOLLYWOOD AND THE ONE-WOMAN SHOW GIRLS ARE FANCY AT THE SANFORD MEISNER THEATRE, NYC. SHE WAS A REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO BABBLE, THE PARENTING WEBSITE. NAOMI IS A FORMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER WITH A MASTER'S IN **EDUCATION FROM PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY AND A BACHELOR'S** DEGREE IN THEATRE ARTS FROM SKIDMORE COLLEGE. SHE SINGS, PLAYS PIANO, UKULELE AND GUITAR, IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE LANDLIGHTS COMMUNITY CHOIR AND SECONDDRAFTLA.



NAOMI ODES AYTUR

