
TWELVE MINUTES
BASED ON TRUE EVENTS



LOGLINE

A Marine-turned-teacher battling cancer loses everything—his health, his girlfriend, his faith—until a desperate prayer typed into his phone summons a mysterious woman who seems to know exactly how his story ends.

INTRODUCTION

TWELVE MINUTES is a raw, emotionally uplifting inspirational drama with powerful elements of faith. A former Marine turned teacher struggles to rebuild his life amid trauma, loss and unanswered questions about belief. Grounded in authenticity, it is a human story of hope, grace and the courage to keep going through life's hardest moments.



STORY OVERVIEW

Anthony Delgado is a high school football coach, beloved teacher, and Marine veteran haunted by the death of his best friend O'Malley in Afghanistan. When he's diagnosed with testicular cancer, his carefully constructed life collapses. His girlfriend Jennifer, traumatized by watching her own father die of cancer, abandons him. His faith—already fractured since the war—shatters completely.

Alone during a violent storm, too sick to drive, Anthony stumbles through the rain toward Jennifer's house. He collapses on her lawn after her new boyfriend shoves him off the porch. In his final conscious moment, he texts himself four words: Lord, please help me.

A woman appears. Warm presence, impossible calm. Grace brushes rain from his face. "We got your message."

Anthony survives. He fights back. When the school moves to force him out, Anthony proposes a desperate bet: the Cooper Run. Two miles. Twelve minutes. He failed it once—because he stopped to help O'Malley.

At the final run, Grace appears one last time. She hands him a wooden cross—the same cross O'Malley gave him in Afghanistan, lost in the explosion that killed his friend. On the back, an inscription Anthony has never seen: "Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee... Great run!"

Grace was never just a name.



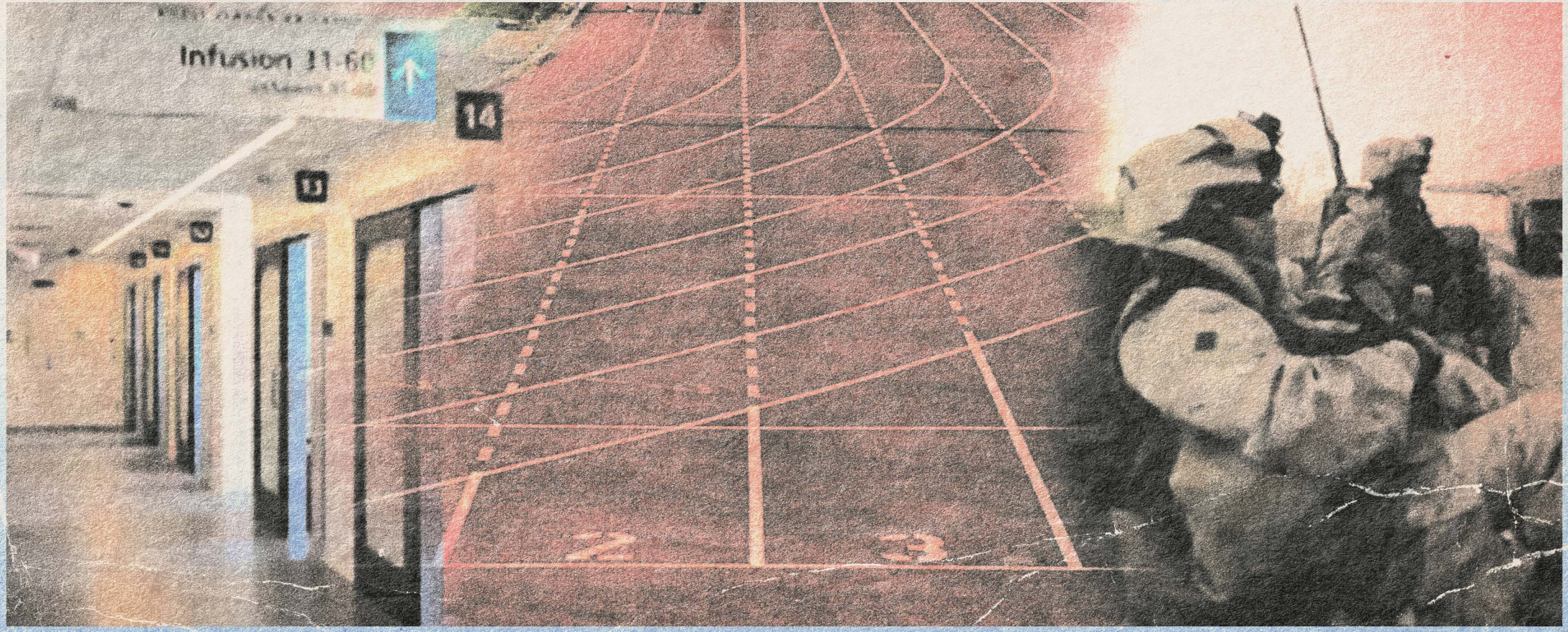
SETTING & TIME PERIOD

PRESENT DAY — NORTHERN VIRGINIA / WASHINGTON D.C. METRO AREA

The story unfolds across two worlds: the fluorescent purgatory of hospital infusion rooms, and the sun-drenched fields of high school football. The contrast is deliberate—life at its most vital against life at its most fragile.

Flashbacks to Afghanistan (2009-2010) punctuate the present, revealing the bond between Anthony and O'Malley, the explosion that haunts Anthony's dreams, and the cross that was lost in the sand.

The climax takes place on a high school track—ordinary, unglamorous, packed with hundreds of students, teachers, and community members who've shown up to witness one man's impossible run.



COMPARABLE FILMS

TWELVE MINUTES SITS AT THE INTERSECTION OF FAITH-BASED DRAMA AND MAINSTREAM CROSSOVER APPEAL, FOLLOWING THE PATH OF PROVEN SUCCESSES:



MEN OF HONOR 2000

A military veteran overcomes physical limits and institutional resistance to reclaim his purpose - echoing Anthony's fight back.

ANTHONY DELGADO

PROTAGONIST

MARINE. TEACHER. COACH. DYING.

Anthony is the guy everyone leans on—the mentor who gives the halftime speech that turns games around, the veteran who carries his dead friend's memory like a stone in his chest. He's spent his whole life being strong for others. Cancer takes that from him.

Conscious Desire: Survive. Keep his job. Prove he's not broken.

Unconscious Desire: To find his footing amid overwhelming loss, rediscover hope, and believe again.

Arc: Protector → Broken → Surrendered → Restored

Comparable to: Mel Gibson's Graham Hess in Signs—a man so broken by loss he's abandoned his faith, only to discover that every seeming coincidence was part of a divine design all along.







Casting images are for visual reference only. No actor attachments or commitments are implied.



GRACE

THE MYSTERY

SHE KNOWS HOW THIS ENDS.

Hospital records show no employee named Grace. No one remembers seeing her. The inscription on the cross—"Hail Mary, full of Grace"—was always there. The message was always meant for him.

Not an arc—a presence. Grace doesn't change. She is constant, like the thing she represents.

Comparable to: Clarence in It's a Wonderful Life, the divine presence in The Shack—someone who was watching over him all along, waiting for him to ask for help.





COMPARABLE FILMS

TWELVE MINUTES SITS AT THE INTERSECTION OF FAITH-BASED DRAMA AND MAINSTREAM CROSSOVER APPEAL, FOLLOWING THE PATH OF PROVEN SUCCESSES:



MIRACLES FROM HEAVEN 2016

A medical crisis becomes an uplifting journey of faith, mystery and hope - echoing the heart and spiritual mystery of TWELVE MINUTES.

JENNIFER

THE ONE WHO LEAVES

SHE'S NOT A VILLAIN. SHE'S A MIRROR.

Jennifer watched her father waste away from cancer. Bald, thin, unrecognizable. She swore she'd never go through that again. When Anthony gets diagnosed, she doesn't leave because she doesn't love him. She leaves because she does—and she can't survive watching it happen twice.

Conscious Desire: Self-preservation. Distance from pain.

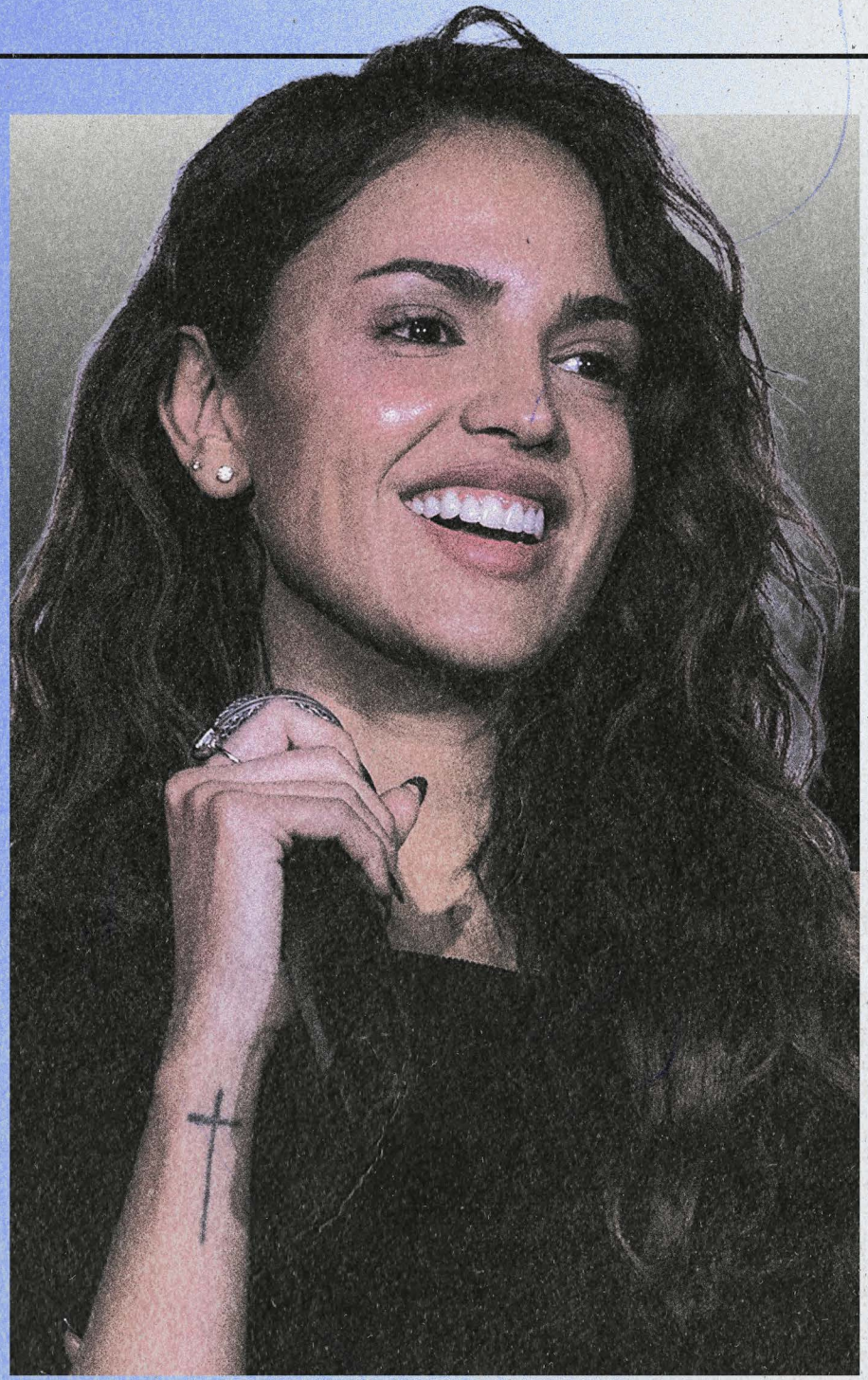
Unconscious Desire: To be the kind of person who stays.

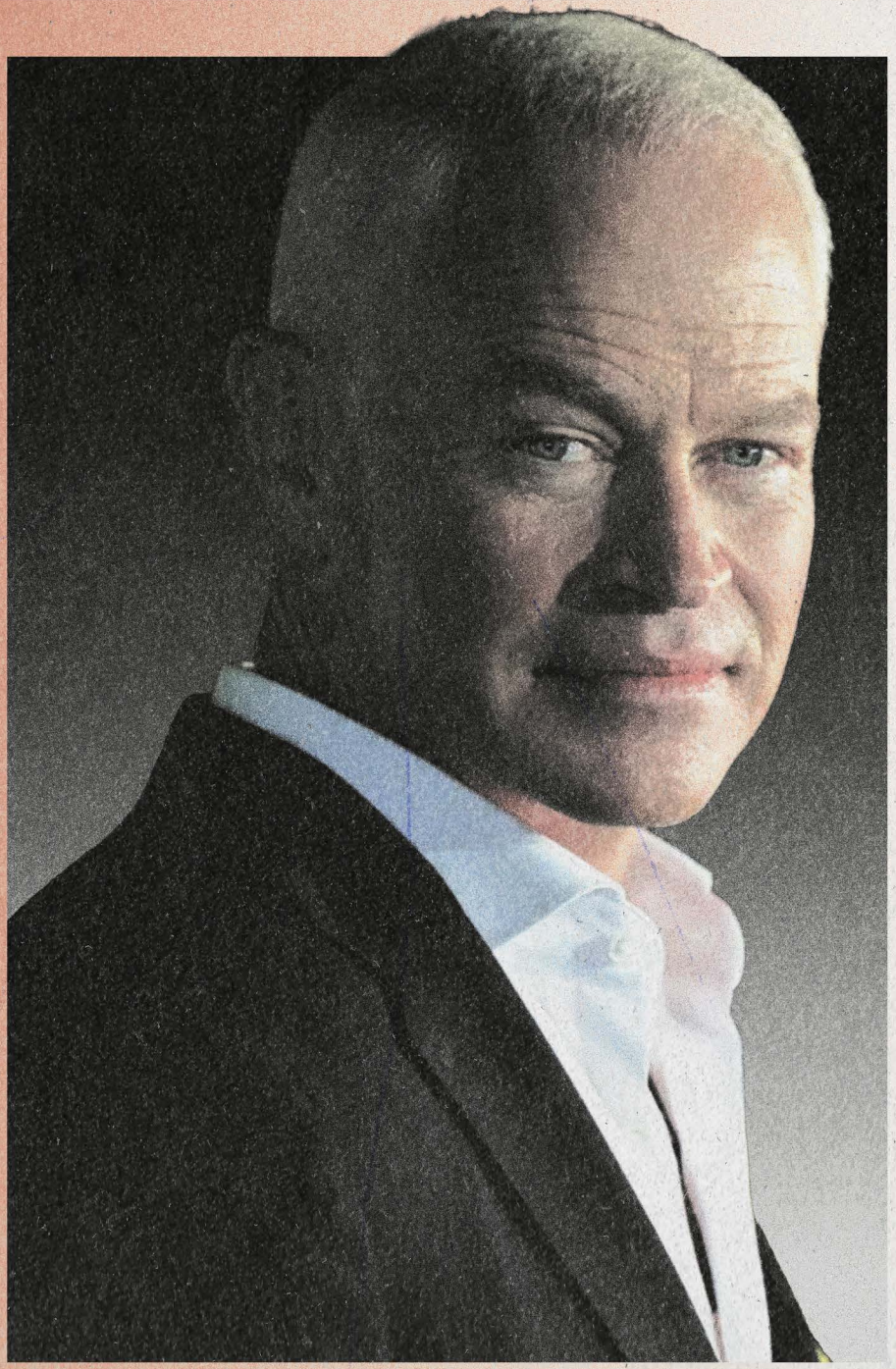
Arc: Guarded → Overwhelmed → Fled → Regretful

Comparable to: The family members in Breakthrough who struggle to hold faith when miracles seem impossible—human frailty in the face of suffering.









CHAD

• • • THE ANTAGONIST WHO ISN'T • • •

HE'S NOT THE ENEMY. HE'S THE SYSTEM.

Chad was at OCS with Anthony. He crossed the finish line when Anthony stopped to help O'Malley. He's been carrying that shame ever since—not because he was wrong, but because Anthony's choice revealed something about his own.

Now Chad is the high school principal, pressured by the superintendent to remove Anthony after the house fire incident, the police report, and his "chemo fog" moment in class. He delivers the ultimatum—run the Cooper test or resign—not because he wants to, but because he has to.

Conscious Desire: Protect the school. Protect himself.
Unconscious Desire: Redemption for the man he didn't become.

Arc: Bitter → Adversarial → Conflicted → Redeemed
At the final run, with Anthony fading, Chad whispers under his breath: "C'mon, Marine."

Comparable to: The authority figures in Hacksaw Ridge who oppose Desmond Doss until his faith proves stronger than their doubt.

COMPARABLE FILMS

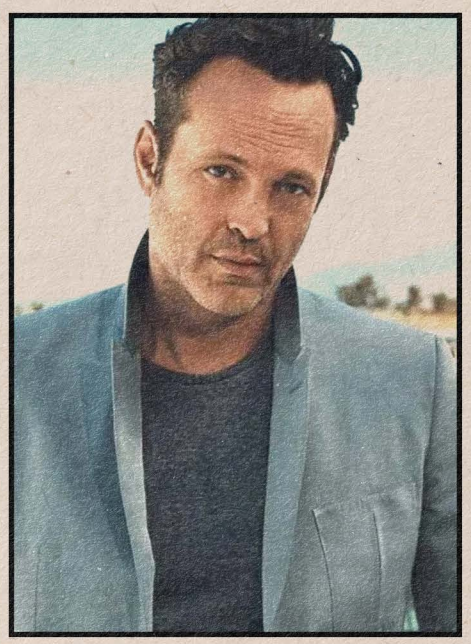
TWELVE MINUTES SITS AT THE INTERSECTION OF FAITH-BASED DRAMA AND MAINSTREAM CROSSOVER APPEAL, FOLLOWING THE PATH OF PROVEN SUCCESSES:



50/50 2011

Cancer is balanced with humor, friendship and humanity - paralleling Anthony's uplifting fight to reclaim his life.

SUPPORTING CHARACTERS



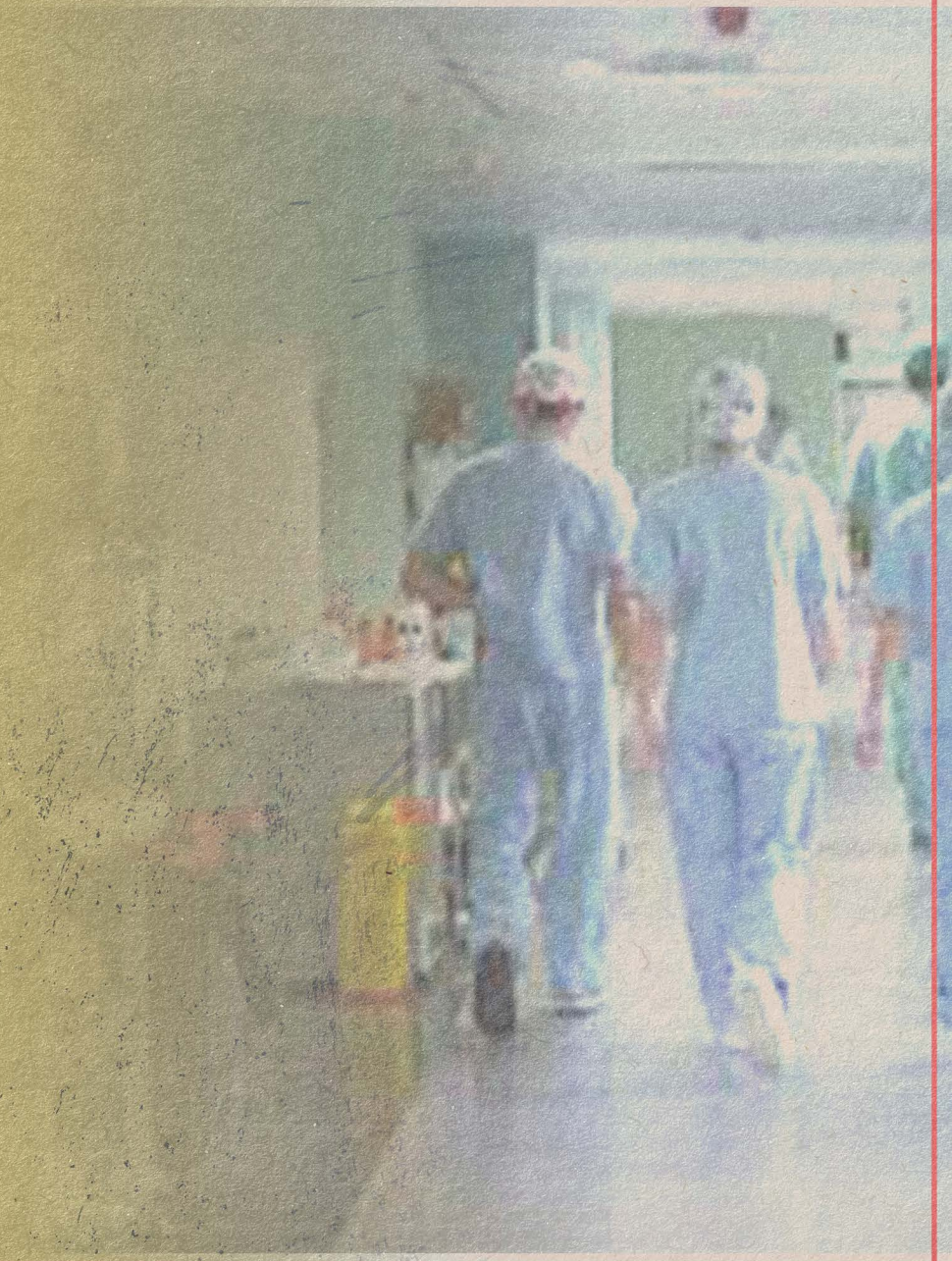
JP, Steve, Fernando

The brotherhood. Anthony's friends since childhood. They show love the way men do: through jokes, insults, showing up without being asked. They fight about how to help him, then arrive at his door together anyway—with food, movies, and absolutely zero emotional vocabulary. "You scared the hell out of us."



Isabella

The nurse who saves Anthony's life during his allergic reaction. Calm, competent, present. She represents the unsung heroes of cancer treatment—the ones who actually keep you alive while everyone else prays. This is a tribute to the nurses who saved Jimmy Sanabria.



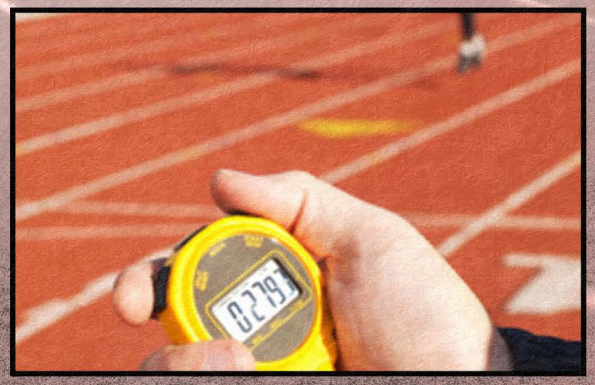
GENRE & CONCEPT

Genre: Inspirational Drama / Sports Drama / Faith & Redemption

Concept: A man who has abandoned God types a desperate prayer into his phone—sent to no one but himself—and receives an answer he can't explain.

The Hook: This isn't a story about a man finding faith. It's a story about faith finding him—at his lowest, most broken moment.

The Twist: The mysterious woman who saves him—Grace—is revealed through the inscription on a cross: "Hail Mary, full of Grace." She was always there. The message was always meant for him.







THEMES & TONE

PRIMARY THEMES

Surrender is not defeat. Anthony's lie is that he must be strong. His truth is that God meets us in our weakness, not our strength.

Brotherhood as church. When Anthony abandons institutional faith, his friends become his congregation. They don't talk about feelings. They show up.

The prayers we can't speak. Anthony has forgotten how to pray. The film builds to desperate words typed into a phone: Lord, please help me. This is the testimony—not the healing, but the surrender.

TONE

Grounded. Raw. Authentic. This is not a Hallmark movie. Anthony struggles. He doubts. He questions God before he asks for help. The faith is earned, not assumed.

Think: What if Rocky was about a man fighting cancer instead of Apollo Creed—and what if, in the final round, an angel handed him the gloves?



AUDIENCE & MARKET OPPORTUNITY

SURVIVAL / FAITH / RESILIENCE / THE COMEBACK

CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

18.6M
Americans living with a history of cancer (2025)

2.1M
New U.S. cancer cases projected for 2026

FAITH & SPIRITUAL CROSSOVER

62%
U.S. adults who identify as Christian

79%
U.S. adults who believe in a spiritual reality beyond the natural world

MILITARY & SPORTS-COMEBACK AUDIENCE CROSSOVER

Military-centered dramas and inspirational sports films share universal themes of courage, resilience, determination, and personal triumph. TWELVE MINUTES combines a Marine veteran's personal struggle with the suspense of an extraordinary athletic comeback.

An identifiable adult crossover opportunity beyond military households, sports fans, and cancer-related communities.

DOG (2022) / OPENING WEEKEND

53%
Age 35+

54%
Women

Sources: National Cancer Institute (2025 survivorship); American Cancer Society (2026 projections); Pew Research Center (2023-24 religious landscape); reported Dog (2022) opening-weekend audience research. Audience categories overlap and should not be added together.

THEATRICAL & PRODUCTION STRATEGY

FINANCIAL PRECEDENTS / DISCIPLINED PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION

RELEVANT THEATRICAL COMPARABLES

50/50

2011

$41.1M

WORLDWIDE BOX OFFICE

PRODUCTION BUDGET: $8M

Cancer, friendship and humor

MIRACLES FROM HEAVEN

2016

$74.1M

WORLDWIDE BOX OFFICE

PRODUCTION BUDGET: $13M

Medical adversity, faith and hope

PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION

$8.5M
Preliminary budget

NEW JERSEY
Proposed filming location

UP TO 35%*
Potential NJ incentive

THEATRICAL
& streaming strategy

THE OPPORTUNITY: With a preliminary budget near that of 50/50, TWELVE MINUTES combines the emotional power of survivorship with friendship, spiritual mystery and the cinematic payoff of an inspirational comeback.

Sources: The Numbers / Box Office Mojo. Box-office gross is not investor revenue. *NJ incentive subject to eligibility and NJEDA approval; all production figures preliminary.

AUTHOR'S JOURNEY / PERSONAL CONNECTION

Jimmy Sanabria is a first-generation Latino-American filmmaker, producer, and educator raised in the immigrant community of Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in History and Social Science from Radford University and a graduate degree in Educational Administration from George Mason University.

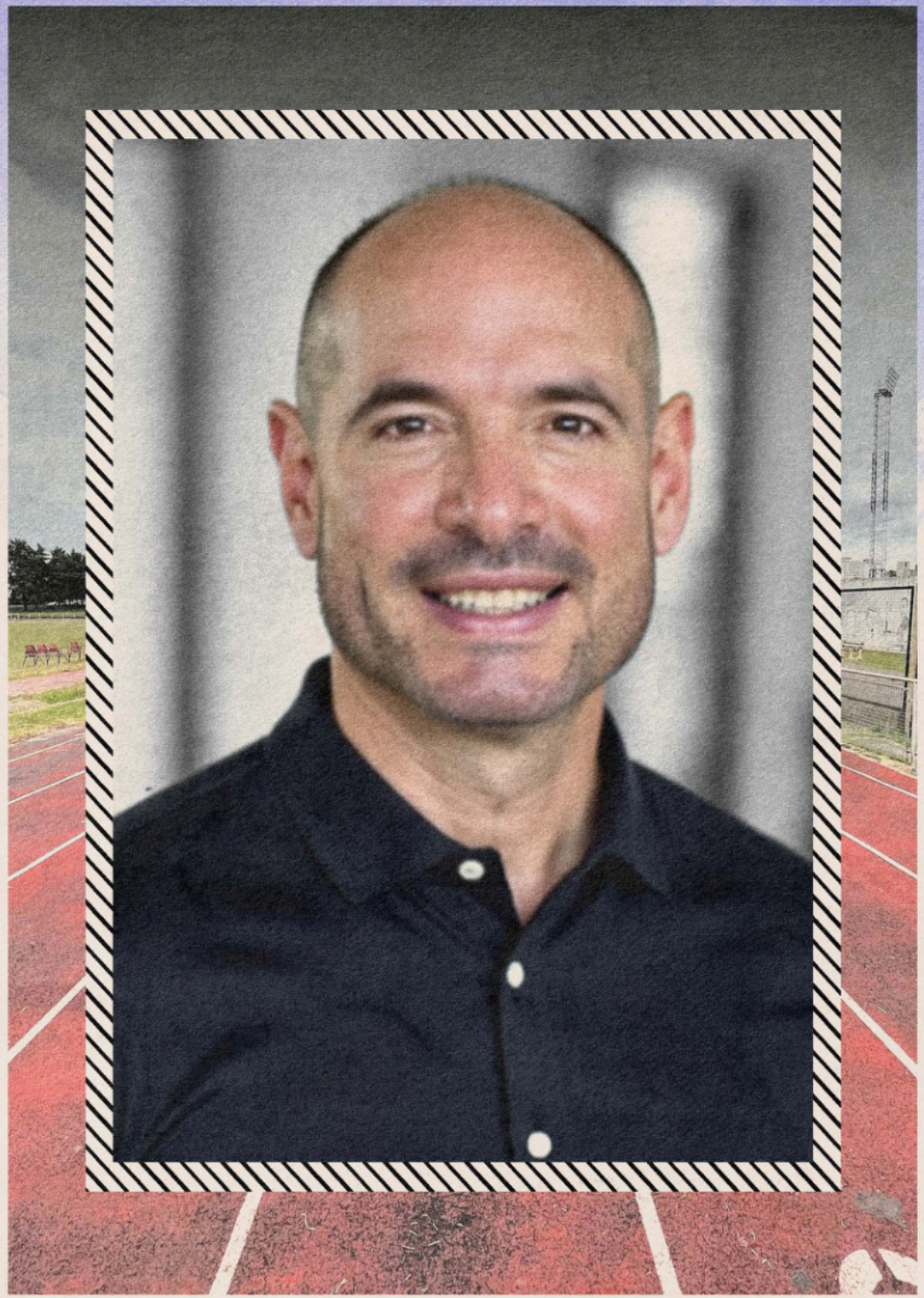
In entertainment, Jimmy worked as a cast member for The Walt Disney Company at Epcot before building a career as an actor, producer, and live-event marketer. His acting credits include the films First Lady, The Light Between Us, and At The Top of the Pyramid, along with appearances on Investigation
Discovery and the music video "SUPASTAR" for musical artist Reyn. As a producer and event strategist, Jimmy helped produce a 2012 Obama reelection rally in Virginia and later produced the premiere of At The Top of the Pyramid, leading a marketing campaign that generated a sold-out red-carpet premiere and packed theatrical release. His innovative sports marketing efforts also led to ESPN broadcasting the first nationally televised high school football game in Washington D.C. area history.

For more than a decade, Jimmy has directed major Virginia state and regional athletic championships, becoming the first director in over 15 years to turn the Virginia State Gymnastics Championships into a profitable event through sponsorships, branding, and strategic marketing.

As a cancer survivor who endured life-threatening chemotherapy complications, Jimmy experienced firsthand the fear, exhaustion, and uncertainty of treatment. Through it all, compassionate medical professionals and loyal friends helped carry him forward.

For years before cancer, Jimmy marked his birthdays by running two miles in twelve minutes or less. After treatment and a difficult recovery, he set out to reclaim that personal milestone. Six months after becoming cancer-free, he did it.

That run was more than a test of endurance. It symbolized getting his life back. TWELVE MINUTES draws on Jimmy's real experiences of survival, friendship, faith, and second chances, told through fictional characters and dramatized events.



CONCLUSION

Twelve Minutes is an inspirational drama with powerful elements of faith and broad audience appeal—grounded in raw authenticity and anchored by a mystery that reframes the story in its final moments.

It's a film about a man who stopped talking to God, sent one desperate message, and discovered that God had been answering all along.

The market is proven. Based on true events. The script is ready.

"Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee... Great run!"

