

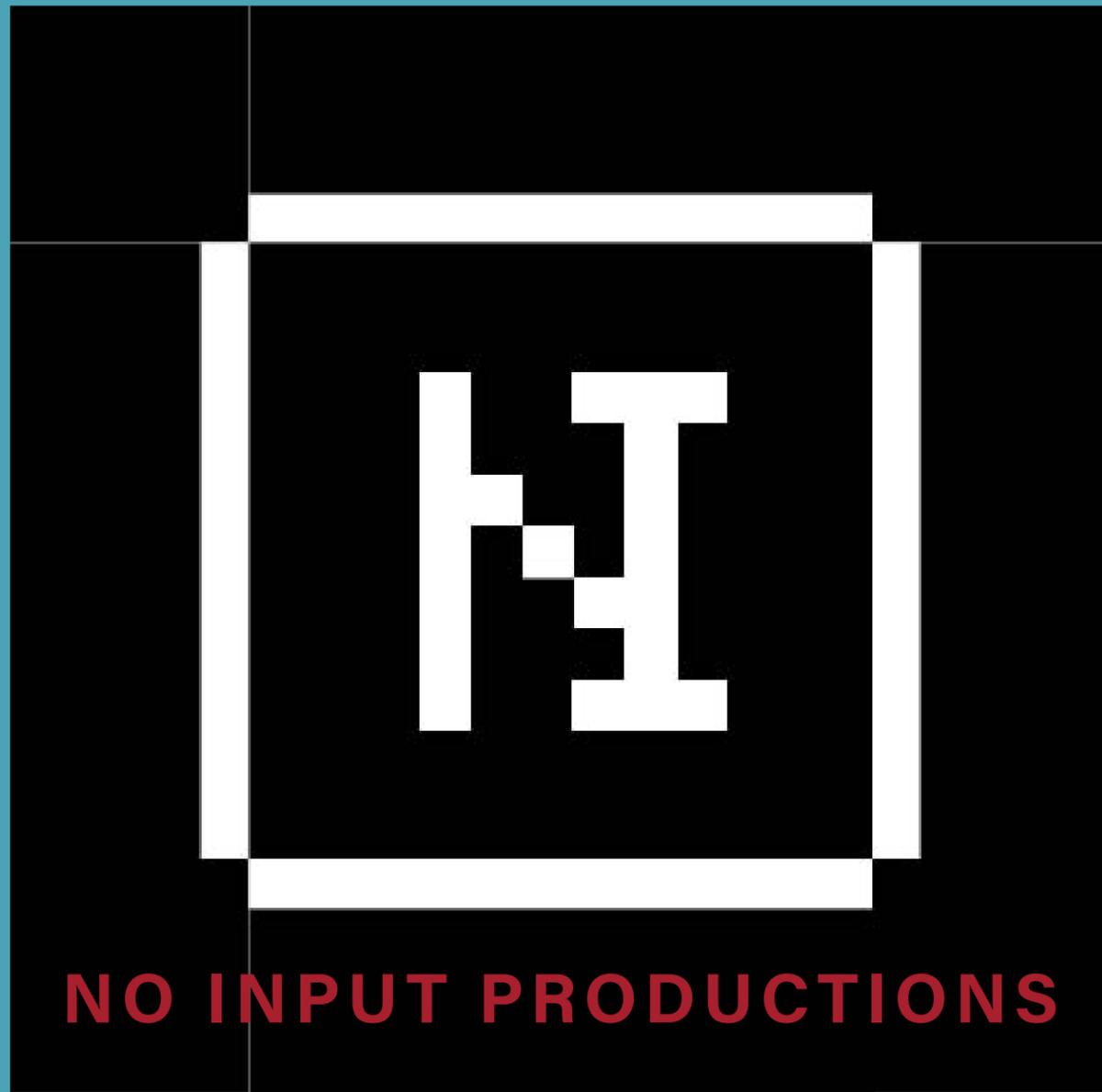


AQUA

THERE IS **BLOOD** IN THE WATER

**PROMOTIONAL
BOOKLET**

NO INPUT PRODUCTIONS



CONTENTS

4 **WHAT IS AQUA ABOUT?**

6 **OUR INSPIRATION**

8 **THE CHARACTERS**

What Is Aqua About?

The world's water supply has been contaminated with a deadly and incurable virus. There are measures to suppress the symptoms and prolong the life of a victim, but the virus is evolving, and it isn't long before those measures become redundant.

Aqua follows the struggle of a single father, as he tries to find a way to save his adopted son, who has been infected by the virus. He finds out that there is a cure, a very experimental one, but it's working, and he's determined to get it for his son, no matter the cost. The only problem is...it's in China.

More and more people are discovering this fact and will do anything to get their hands on it, so China has closed its borders. The only way in through those gates is by being rich and affording the necessary paperwork to get through, or by climbing those fences illegally.

Dylan has no other choice but to become an illegal immigrant, if he wants to save his son. The process is dangerous, and the less people in the party, the easier it is to get through. So, he has to leave the life he knew behind, while he, his son and a couple of good friends battle their way past other immigrants and other obstacles to get the cure.



OUR INSPIRATION

One of our main sources of inspiration is the likes of disaster movies, such as *Children Of Men* (2006) and *2012* (2009). We've also taken inspiration from the TV show *The 100* (2014-2020), to determine the aesthetics of the film.

Because of the nature of the film, we used the likes of these disaster movies, as inspiration to develop the script. With *2012* based on the idea that people will do what it takes to save their family and the innocent, we sought to do the same with ours. Dylan, the single father of his adopted son, Troy, will do what he can to save his son, even if it means crossing borders illegally. Thankfully, his friends Ray, Sai and Hali want to join him, so, he's able to actually get his plans moving. This premise is similar to that of *2012*, in that it is about a man who wants to save his child.

The Producer's Vision

The concept of *Aqua* is an interesting one. It started off with the idea of a cheesy zombie film, yet over time, I saw myself changing the story over and over again, due to the concept either being done or just boring. It was when I was having a conversation with my mother while making coffee, that we thought how lucky we were to have access to water every day. It was from that comment that I began to wonder "what if water was inaccessible?"

What if water was our greatest enemy?"

Thinking about the topic of pollution in our current day and how important it is to us, not only for survival but economically as well, I began to research more into the idea if our water supply being polluted or invaded by new bacterial infection that caused our immune

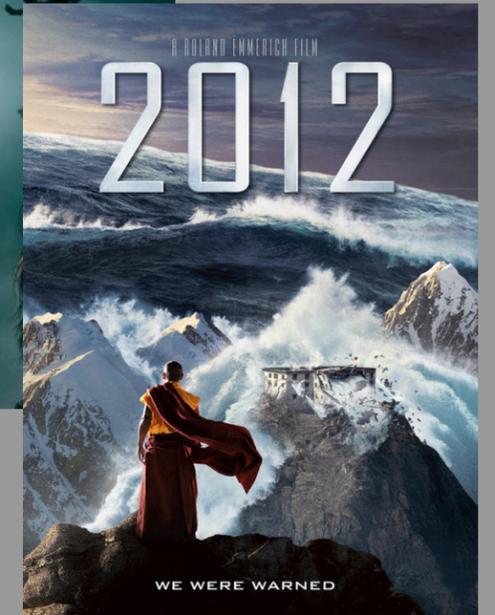
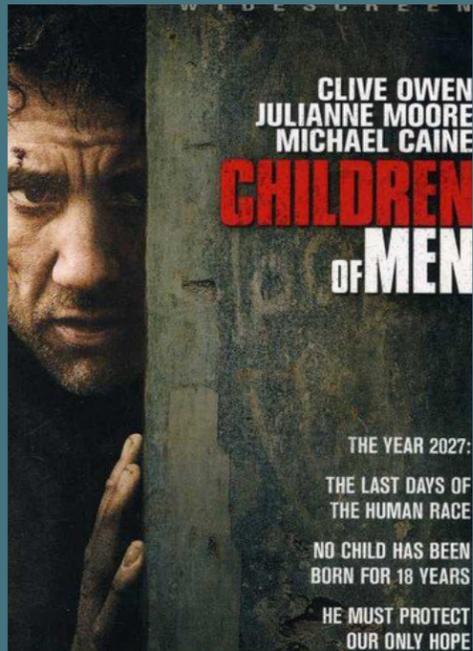
system to shut down at a rapid pace.

Thus, throwing the world into complete chaos as the human population began to plummet at a shocking rate. Yet though the concept was great, I felt that focusing on the average man and his family in this new world would be more interesting to focus on. As in writing all of the world are dealing with a new virus which has completely changed our lives. Its ironically how this small conversation I had with my mother, has slowly become a reality. The only positive is this is not *Aqua*, for if it was, we would be in serious need for a saviour.

I wanted to incorporate another idea into this film, due to it being such a relevant topic in society. The concept of immigrants and emigrating to a different land, but with a twist. Showing our western protagonist emigrating to the East, by all means necessary to provide his son a better life. I felt in an age where we are so divided, I wanted to show how, it is wrong to do, if we were in the situation, we as

parents and humans would do the same thing, especially if it gives our children a chance for a better life, and with *Aqua* if our protagonist doesn't do something, there won't be a next generation.

Finally, the most important element I wanted to show is the idea of family and the lengths parents and siblings go to, in order to protect one another, even if they are blood-related or not. In many films the is a norm where the families are torn apart due to some event and reunited at the end, going through a journey of self-discovery and testing family bonds. I wanted to show the characters always together and explore what it means to be one, while facing such hardships.



The Details

With the likes of films, such as *The Immigrant*, *2012*, *Children Of Men* and the TV show *The 100*, we have decided that *Aqua* should emulate these films. While the initial plot and situations in the films are completely different, the messages in them are the same. After all, with *2012*, the film is centred around a broken family that, under such extreme circumstances as they are in the film, finally resolve the issues between them, and are on the path to becoming that whole unit again.

In the case of *Children Of Men*, the infertility of humanity is a highly unlikely situation, but the fact that a country turns into a police state, where the military and police forces are the ones in control, because of natural and biological disasters was something we wanted to draw upon as well, since the initial scenes in *Aqua* are based in a military governed UK.

As *Aqua* is centred around the idea of illegal immigration, there is no doubt that *The Immigrant* would be another one of our inspiration. It is a story about an illegal immigrant going through difficult times, as she tries to become a part of a society she's always dreamed about, but ends up on the wrong side. While *Aqua* isn't quite in the same vein as *The Immigrant*, should the film become a feature, there will be elements of struggle, similar to the story in the film. If *Aqua* manages to become a feature, we would look into the struggles the characters would face, once they cross borders. It would look at the deeper impact of illegal immigration, not just on the countries facing immigrants, but on the immigrants themselves. While exposing the true nature of illegal immigration, we also wanted to show that even some illegal immigrants can be a boon to soicety, should they be given a chance.

Finally, we drew inspiration from *The 100*, not only because the TV show explores the idea of catastrophic events, but it explores the idea that children, even as young as eight years old, have to learn to defend themselves, and essential lose their childhood and innocence at a young age. As one of our main characters is a child himself, we drew inspiration from the children of the Ark, who were sent down to Earth, after nearly 100 years on a space station, who had to fight for their lives, without adult supervision, and essentially create their own society, to protect each other and fend off anyone or anything that threatens their safety.

A NO INPUT PRODUCTION

AQUA

THERE IS BLOOD IN THE WATER

THE CHARACTERS AND THEIR STORIES

Dylan - Troy's Father

The initial story revolves around Dylan and his adopted son Troy. Dylan was initially a family friend, but with the death of Troy's parents, he took on the child himself, and raised him as best he could, despite the disease that is slowly consuming the boy.

Dylan is a young man, in his late 20s and is Troy's sole carer. He's a freelance writer, who has written multiple award-winning books. He's a well-built man, who is introverted but is kind to the people he's close to.

Normally, he wants to be left alone, and tries to avoid any conflict and drama, thanks to the

trauma that the water crisis has wrought on him. Although he's smart, and is able to plan at least 5 steps ahead of his situation, he is finding it difficult to live peacefully, thanks to Troy's illness, and the ever worsening situation surrounding the water crisis.

Troy - Dylan's Adopted Son

Growing up, Troy was an outgoing and happy little boy, but after the sudden outbreak of the deadly virus, and the death of both his mother and father, he became more introverted, taking after Dylan's quiet nature.

Now in his early teens, he shows signs of depression and anxiety, as he begins to lose hope for himself since he too has contracted the disease. The only genuine smiles he gives are to the people closest to him, like his adopted father, Dylan, and his group of friends, Sai, Ara, Hali and Ray.

Although Dylan does his best to help keep his hopes up, Troy still finds out how grim the situation is and tries to pry more information from Dylan and his friends.

Ara - Hali's Daughter

An innocent young girl, Ara is Hali's daughter. She's a kind and gentle child, who is intelligent for her age, despite being able to easily trust others.

She sees Dylan and Troy as family since she doesn't know who her own father is, and is always being taken care of by the pair, when Hali can't.

Hali - Ray's Sister

Hali, Ara's mother and Ray's sister, is a motherly figure. Before the water crisis, she used to be taken care of by her own mother, but as soon as the outbreak of the water virus, Hali had to step in and take control.

Ever since her mother's death, Hali has been caring for those closest to her, including Dylan and Troy, thanks to their mental health issues.



Ray - Hali's Brother



Growing up, Ray had been a troubled youth, getting in trouble with local gangs, and causing fights, to the point where his sentence was either to serve time in jail, or serve in the military. Since his family needed the support, Ray decided to join the military, and served for nearly a decade, before returning home.

Thanks to his experience in the military, the rage and violence that drove his actions on the streets, were tempered and as a result, he now uses his expertise to protect those he loves. Ray is a focus driven young man, and will do anything to ensure all those he loves, including himself, survives.

His sarcastic humour and his reliance on drink is what he uses to cope with all the pain he's felt from his time in the military, and the memories from his time on the streets. And thanks to the physical training he received over the years, he has become somewhat of a weapon, in the eyes of his friends. Essentially, if anyone got in his way, there's no telling what Ray would do.

Sai - Ray's Comrade

While serving in the military, Ray made friends with Sai. The bond between both men can be described as something as close as blood brothers, and the two have been looking out for each other ever since. Unlike Ray, Sai is a quiet person. He calculates his next moves, where Ray jumps in guns blazing.

However, Sai does follow a code of honour, and will do what he can to keep his promises. Having grown up with a military background, Sai makes his decisions based on the odds of survival, something he's grown accustomed to, thanks to the lessons his dad had taught him since he was young. And even he values his bond with Ray, there are times when he considers the risks of being involved with the hot-headed man.

Nevertheless, after leaving the military, with his comrade, Sai continues to protect his friend as much as he can, along with his sister, Hali, who he secretly has feelings for.