

# **B.D.5.E.B** & Me

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### "I think everyone roots for the underdog" - Johnny Knoxville

# After his girlfriend kicks him out of the apartment...



# Luke Scott enters an all night hack-a-thon. But on...



#### **R.O.6.E.R** & Me

# the way home he falls asleep at the wheel and crashes into a tropical goldfish store...



### prompting a creative judge to sentence him to carry a goldfish with a GPS tracker ...



## for 30 days or else it's a one way ticket to the slammer...



# which starts our story.



#### The Protagonists



Luke Scott is an aspiring computer programmer stuck in a dead end job as a maintenance aide. After he catches his girlfriend Sha'relle Wright cheating with Bobby'the Cleaner' Santos he attends a all night hack-a-thon. Although he does well he leaves dead on feet, falls asleep at the wheel, and crashes into a tropical goldfish store.



Penny Thompson is Jr. **Programmer leading** the new patch update for Nanotech's new internal GPS product. Although she's great in her role, she wonders if there's more to life than eight dollar lattes and the shallow entitled corporate culture that she experiences on a daily basis.



Jackie Wang is also a Jr. Programmer at Nanotech Systems and Penny Thompson's best friend. Jackie is rarely seen without her phone or enjoying the life Nanotech affords her even if it means looking past some obvious character flaws of the company and those who work there.



Uncle Jimmy is Luke's boss and only living family member. Once an allstar linebacker at North Richmond High, Jimmy's physical feats now center on devouring whatever delectable foods come his way. Jimmy is 100% no nonsense but his good heart is why Luke and his workers respect him.

#### The Antagonists



Sha'relle Wright

Sha'relle hails from Richmond, CA, the only place she's been and the only place she knows. She met Luke after her mother mentioned she needed to find a "nice guy with a good job" so that's what she did. Despite the steadiness of their relationship, Sha'relle craves excitement and she's determined to find it by any means necessary.



Clarkson Miller is acting CEO of Nanotech Systems and a total prick. Born into an affluent family and raised in the hills of Los Altos, Clarkson no stranger to his designer jeans and tailored dress shirts. Clarkson feels he is superior to those who work under him. He enjoys attending Nanotech's parties as ways to bag as many girls looking for career advancement.



Bobby Santos is dim witted hooligan with dreams of becoming an MMA superstar. He adopts the name "The Cleaner" after Luke insults him saying he resembles the cleaning product - Mr. Clean. After meeting Sha'relle at the swap-meet Bobby sweeps her off her feet promising her riches and all of the excitement she can handle.



The Minions (Ren and Den) are Clarkson's #1 and #2 special assistants who are always vying for the number one spot. To them Clarkson is the next coming of Zuckerberg and they fight to the death to be his "number two". Wherever Clarkson is spotted you can see the minions following behind with a tablet and or cellphone in hand.



#### **GENRE:**

Romantic Comedy/Drama/Sci-Fi

#### LOGLINE:

After falling asleep at the wheel and crashing into a tropical fish store, a young Black coding savant from Richmond is sentenced to carry a live goldfish everywhere he goes for 30 days.

#### SYNOPSIS:

Luke Scott is an aspiring computer programmer working at a dead-end job in Richmond, CA. After a long day at work, he finds his girlfriend Sha'relle cheating on him with an aspiring MMA fighter. A brief agurement ensures and Luke is kicked out of the apartment. Enraged, he enters a late-night hack-a-thon event in nearby Oakland. Although he does well, he leaves the event dead tired, falls alseep and crashes into a tropical goldfish store! The next day Luke wakes up in the hospital and is later whisked before a judge who sentences him to carry a GPS embedded goldfish called R.O.G.E.R (*Radial Orbit Graphic & Encryption Radar*) made by a local tech startup called Nanotech. After leaving the courthouse, Luke thwarts a pickpockets attempt to steal a nearby woman's (Penny Houston) purse to which she thinks he's in on the scam and berades him causing Luke to storm off. Afterwards Penny heads to her employer, Nanotech and is invited to a 80's party by her creepy boss, Clarkson Miller who intends to sleep with her. Although not interested, her friend Jackie Wang encourages her to go. Later, Luke heads to a local bar for a beer but is informed the bar is closing for special event. He finishes his beer but forgets his keys at the bar. Moments later the bar closes and Nanotech employees start setting up for the party. Penny and Jackie arrive and run into Luke who's returned to collect his keys. Penny to Luke chat it up and hit it off much to the chagrin of her boss Clarkson. Furious that Luke is talking to Penny, Clarkson orders him to be thrown out of the party. A scuffle ensues and R.O.G.E.R is tossed off a by balcony one of the minons killing him instantly. Moments later, the police arrive and Luke is falsly arrested for inciting violence. Later that night, Penny and Jackie collect cellphone evidence detailing Luke's innocence and Clarkson's malfeasance. The next day Penny holds a video presentation showing Clarkson's wrongdoings and he is fired by the board of directors. Soon after Luke is released from jail and Penny lets him know he won the hack-a-thon event and will be offered a job at Nanotech.

#### R.O.6.E.R & Me

# A love letter to the Bay



Bay Area urban culture (Biking/Skater, Fashion, Lingo, etc...)



Amaeture wrestling (Hood slam)



Great locations Shots w/ BART in the background (Bay Area Rapid Transit)



Tech startup culture (Entitlement, Fashion, Parties, etc...)

# THEMES

Second Chances: Luke recieves a second chance after crashing into the tropical goldfish store.

True Love: Penny falls for Luke. Although he's not in her economic class or social circle.

**Perseverance:** Luke beats the odds going from disaster to achieving his goal.

Good vs. evil: We see the good in the common workers against the evil of the tech elites.

Justice: In the end, Clarkson is exposed and Luke is vindicated.

Materialism/capitalism: White collar vs. Blue collar and the perceptions and values associated.



I love films that are techically sound but don't take themselves too seriously. A few examples of this are "Groundhog's Day" (1993), "Real Genius" (1985) and "Clueless" (1995). In each of the films the pacing is solid, the filmmaking is quality and the acting great. As a viewer you're able to just sit back and enjoy each of these offerings and to me that's great filmmaking.

That's the goal for "R.O.G.E.R & Me". I want audiences to meet the characters and then follow them into their world. The world we're creating is a light offering. No violence, no heavy drama, no politics. I believe people mostly go to the movie theatres to escape the heaviness of life so in this film we'll focus on imagery that's light and uplifting.

#### R.O.6.E.R & Me

# WHY THIS FILM?

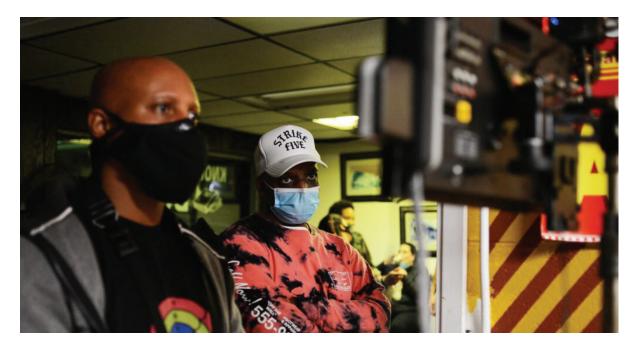
I don't know about you but I've grown tired of seeing superhero films and re imagined remakes. I grew up in the 80's and saw a multitude of iconic films like "Back to the Future", "Ghostbusters", "The Terminator" and others. I think what made these films great was the creative team placed great emphasis on telling a great story. Stories weren't overly political or tired to score points with certain groups. They just told the best story they could and followed it by casting great actors and passionate camera professionals. These days I feel filmmakers have gotten away from great storytelling relying on special effects, divisive material and virtue signaling. I don't want to do any of that.

So why this film? I firmly believe "R.O.G.E.R & Me" is a original concept with a great underdog story of perseverance. Each of the characters are based from authentic people I know or have met along my journey so I know they're relatable to audience who will view them. Also, dare I say, this is a sterotypical 'Black film' where the protagonist is trying to get out of the hood and ends up getting shot. There's no gun violence in this film which is something I believe we need to see more of in urban films.

# **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

Back in 2018, I was in the dumps. I had just broken up with my girlfriend and my once budding film career came to a resounding hault. It didn't matter how many film gigs I applied for; no one was hiring -- at least me anyway. So one day, while on a walk, I passed a tropical goldfish store and decided to go in. Once inside my eyes locked with a telescore goldfish. With his protruding eyes looking at me I knew I had to take him home. Four bucks later I hit the pavement carrying my new fish in a plastic sack headed home. That night I plopped him into a glass bowl , sat him on the coffee table and turned on the TV. It was Bond night on TNT and "A View to Kill" was playing. I ended up naming my goldfish Roger after Roger Moore after watching the film. Then over the next few months things started to turn around. I found steady work and got my passion back. Each morning I'd see Roger looking at me and I just felt I could carry on. I loved him. A few weeks later I woke up to Roger floating on his side. To this day I still don't know what happened. I watched all of the YouTube care videos and fed him appropatly but he just died. I was distraught. I decided to bury him in the forest and at that time decided I'd somehow honor his name. When I got home I wrote the outline what would be come this film, "R.O.G.E.R & Me".

# **THANK YOU!**



Jayson earned an MA in film production from Eastern Illinois University and then took a by chance interview which led him to work for legendary film director Francis Ford Coppola. Four years many successful wine and food projects later, Jayson took Coppola's advice to 'go out and become famous' by trying his hat as an independent film producer. Since that piece of advice, Jayson has gone on to write, direct and produce award-winning content for Discovery Networks, ABC and Amazon, Netflix and several other top brand companies. Jayson currently works full time as a writer/director/producer for Strike Five Films.

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