



a film by

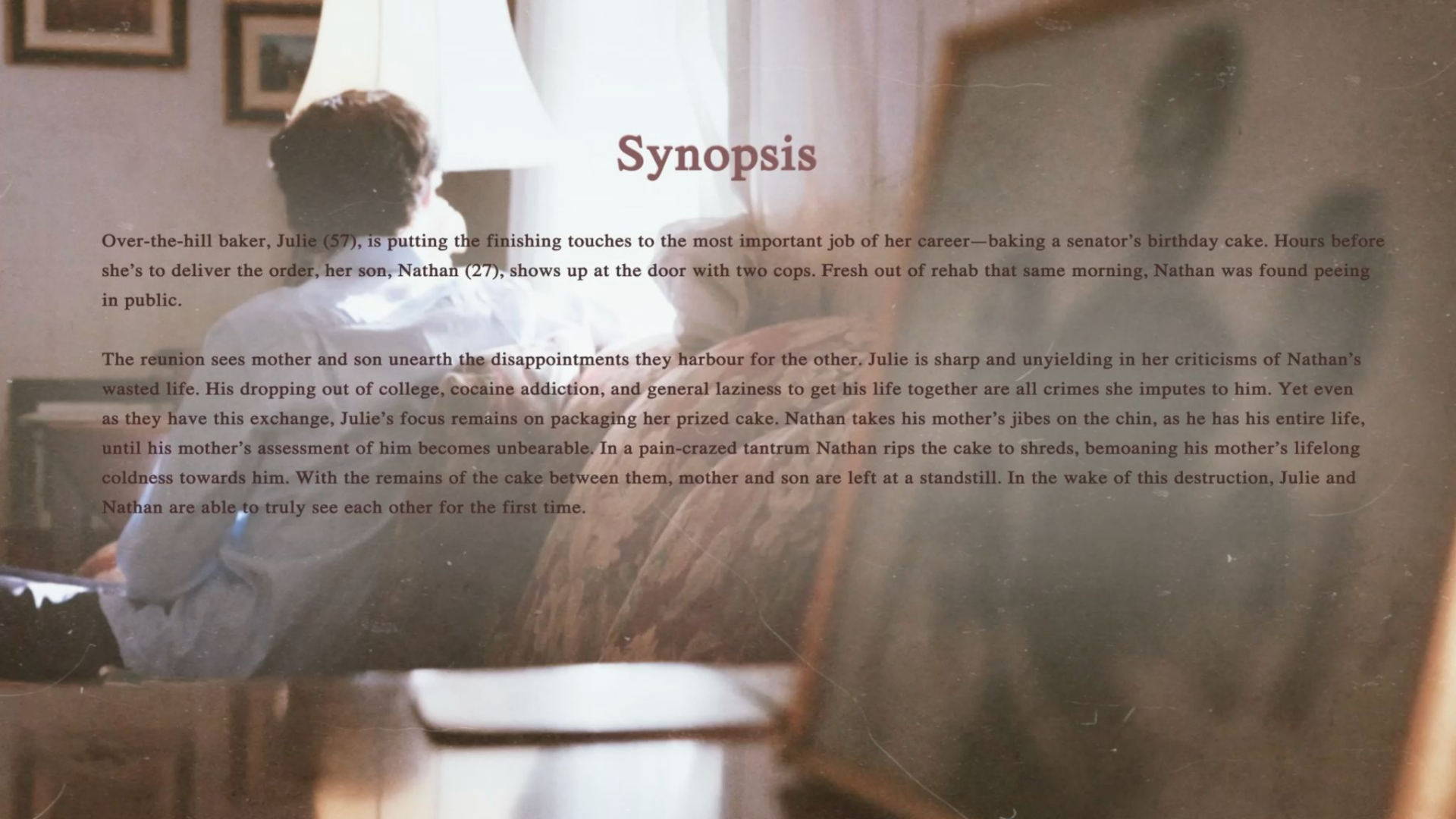
Winnie Soldi

Nathaniel Sylvester

Logline

When a pastry chef's big day coincides with her son's release from rehab, mother and son are forced into a confrontation that will unveil the disappointments they each harbour for the other.



A man in a white shirt is seen from behind, working at a table in a kitchen. The scene is dimly lit, with a lamp providing light from the left and a window with curtains in the background. The overall atmosphere is warm and intimate.

Synopsis

Over-the-hill baker, Julie (57), is putting the finishing touches to the most important job of her career—baking a senator's birthday cake. Hours before she's to deliver the order, her son, Nathan (27), shows up at the door with two cops. Fresh out of rehab that same morning, Nathan was found peeing in public.

The reunion sees mother and son unearth the disappointments they harbour for the other. Julie is sharp and unyielding in her criticisms of Nathan's wasted life. His dropping out of college, cocaine addiction, and general laziness to get his life together are all crimes she imputes to him. Yet even as they have this exchange, Julie's focus remains on packaging her prized cake. Nathan takes his mother's jibes on the chin, as he has his entire life, until his mother's assessment of him becomes unbearable. In a pain-crazed tantrum Nathan rips the cake to shreds, bemoaning his mother's lifelong coldness towards him. With the remains of the cake between them, mother and son are left at a standstill. In the wake of this destruction, Julie and Nathan are able to truly see each other for the first time.

Julie



A 57 year old baker with a deep love for her craft; built her bakery from the ground up, after a failed marriage; Pristine, composed, and unapologetically efficient; strong willed; an old soul with high standards for those she loves.



Nathan



A 27 year old ex-addict fresh out of rehab; a college drop-out, terrified of the future; Disheveled, directionless, impulsive, and sometimes unhinged; a lost puppy; desperate for his mother's love and support.



Visual Language

The approach to filming will seek to accompany the emotional state of the two characters. At the beginning, the camera-work will be as neat and controlled as Julie's attention to detail. Use of tripod and stable camera movements will be used to achieve this.



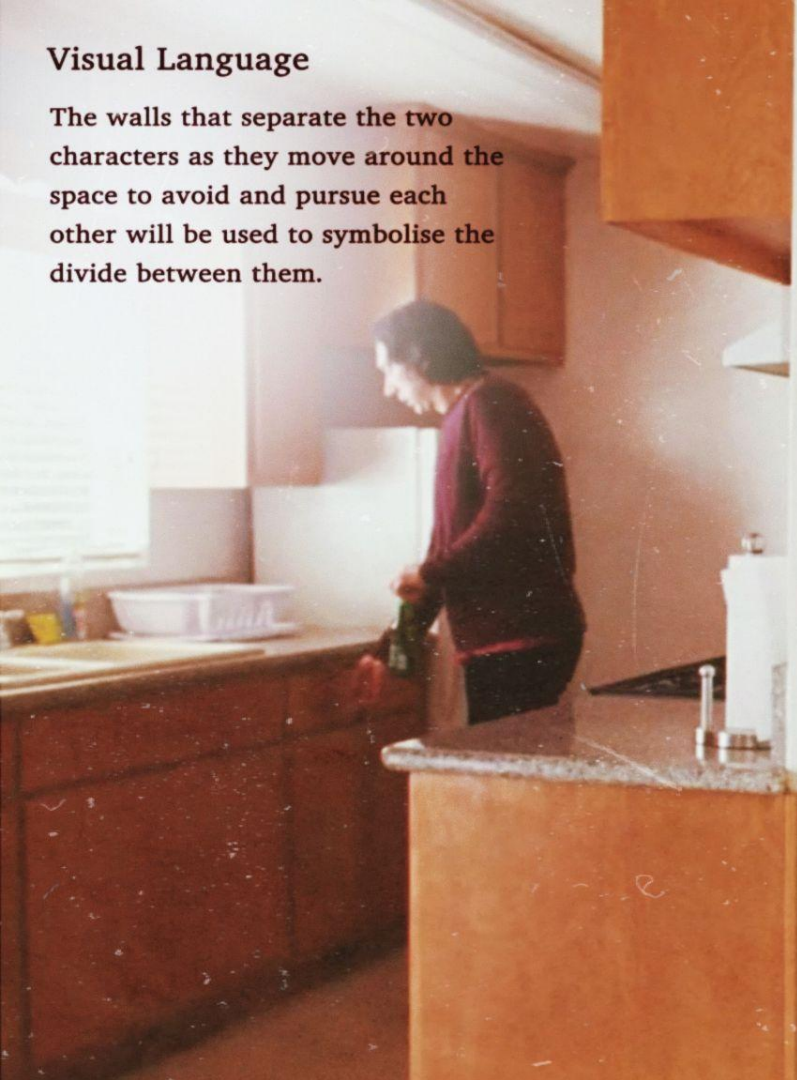
Visual Language

But as Nathan enters her space and the characters' guards are whittled down, the more visually volatile the piece will become. This is an effect we intend to achieve by transitioning to handheld.



Visual Language

The walls that separate the two characters as they move around the space to avoid and pursue each other will be used to symbolise the divide between them.



Visual Language

Mirrors both in the space and on Julie's person will be used as dampeners to their ability to truly see one another and communicate honestly.



Key Team

Nathaniel Sylvester - Director

Nathaniel Sylvester is a multimedia artist in NYC who specializes in directing, performing, and music composition. In 2016 he formed his own production company called "Strange Eventful History" and has directed and produced over 18 short films as well as other content. He worked for Starz from 2017-2018 and also works as an independent freelance editor, musician, composer, and director. He graduated from NYU Tisch with BFA in Drama in 2018.

Genai Cavender - Production Designer

Genai Cavender has cultivated credits both on and off screen since graduating with honors from NYU Tisch's Bachelor of Fine Arts acting program, whereupon she was awarded a full-tuition paid scholarship. Starting with a foundation as a theatrical performer, her 20 years of experience have since expanded beyond acting, singing, and dancing. As a founding member of the subversive channel "Strange Eventful History", Genai has since worked her way into the role of Managing Director while solidifying in-house positions as a content creator, co-editor, production and set designer, and performer.

Winnie Soldi - Writer

Winnie is a bilingual Italian-American writer and actor. Originally from Florence, Italy, he moved to NYC to earn a BFA in Drama at NYU Tisch School of the Arts. He trained at the Atlantic Acting School and Stonestreet Studios. Most recently, he won 'Best Screenplay' at the San Benedetto FF and 'Best Actor' at Amarcort Film Festival for the short film 'NAM' which he wrote, produced, and starred in. His feature script 'BLOOD THIEF' has been selected in this year's Wescreeplay and Screencraft competitions.

Nicholas Kalajdzic - Cinematographer

Nicholas Kalajdzic, a recent graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts BFA program has a background in Cinematography and Producing. He has worked on feature films such as Captain America: Civil War, the Trial of the Chicago 7 and Television shows like Law & Order. After working at both Panavision and Light Iron, he works as a freelance cinematographer with a focus on short narrative content.

Thank You