

BOXES



STATISTICS

There are over 1.4 million students (6-18 years old) experiencing homelessness.

TEACHER

The idea began as a play script written for my high school theatre students to produce. We didn't get to it before the program was cut.

IN HONOR OF...

The students who I taught that lived through homelessness and achieved success.



**CAN YOU BREAK
OUT OF THE BOXES
YOU ARE PUT IN?**

LOGLINE

A teenage girl struggles to navigate her senior year of high school - friendships, romances, and college applications - while hiding the fact she and her family are also facing homelessness.



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▶37A

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▶33A



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▶38A

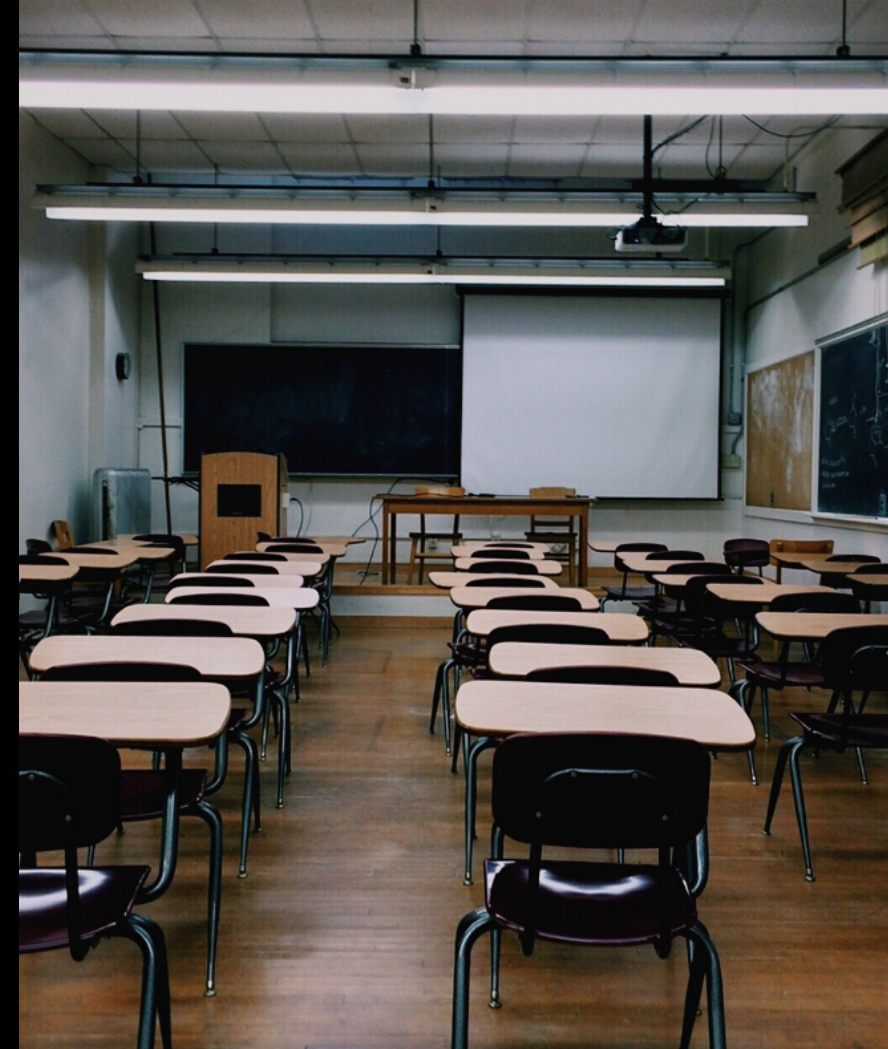
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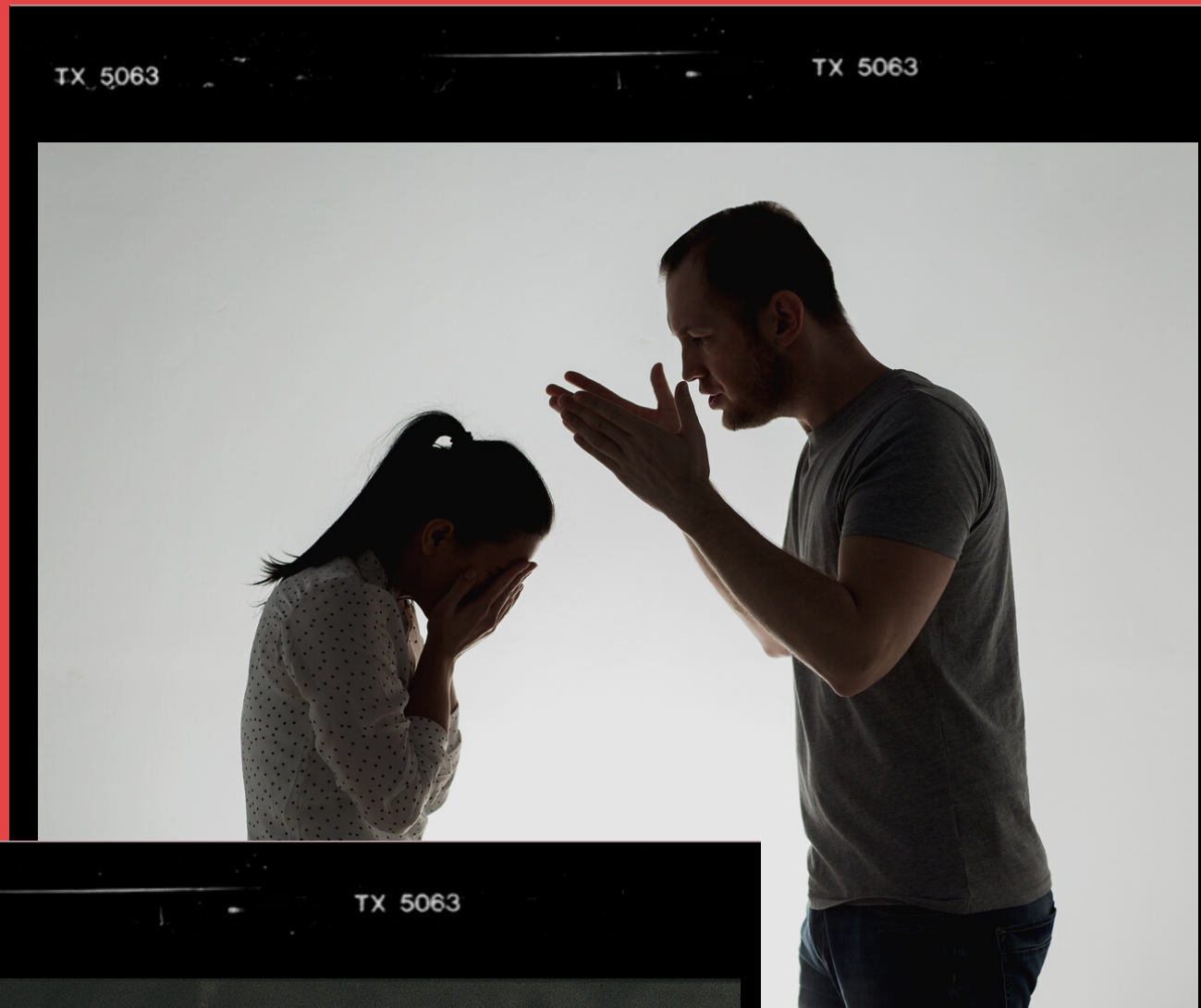
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ABBY STAFFORD, a high school swimming standout, is homeless. Her family squats in houses her real estate father is trying to sell.

She learns that the school scholarship committee has decided that they are going to offer only one scholarship for the swimmers.



In her Social Evolution class, the topic of homelessness is debated and the final class project will be a Shantytown.

JARED, her scholarship competitor makes snide comments about the homeless in the community .



Abby does not want people to pick up on the fact that her family occasionally lives in houses that are for sale. She wants to keep the truth hidden from everyone, even her best friend, Lauren.

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▶ 39A

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Lauren invites Abby and her brother to her family's lakehouse for spring break.



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While staying in their van in the Walmart parking lot, Abby convinces her father that taking MAX (her 10-year-old brother) along on the trip will give her father much more time to look for a job without having to worry about the kids.

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I believe that all
of our lives
we're looking for home
and if we're really lucky,
we find it
in someone's loving arms.

I think that's what
life is-
coming home.

-Anita Krizzan-

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Abby boxes up her few
belongings, taking a
vintage dollhouse she's
been working to
restore - the only
thing remaining from
her childhood.

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▶ 29A



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▶ 30A



At the lake house Lauren's cousin, Oliver Braydon "OBI" agrees to teach Max how to swim and Abby soon crushes on Obi.

This crush and her friendship with Lauren are tested as the class-rich bully...

JARED nearly drowns Max while jet skiing.



When the police show up to file a complaint against Jared, Abby can't provide a proper home address which adds to Jared's suspicions about her.

She immediately wants to go home.

But where is home? Walmart?
A fake address that her dad gives to the police?

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LIVE

HAPPENING NOW

"HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS OVERNIGHT"

CINCINNATI HILLS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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Back at school, her friendship with Lauren, her budding romance with Obi, and her scholarship chances are tested once again when the Shantytown project turns from homeless awareness to a glamping trip.



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▶ 29A



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When Jared and his cronies confront Abby at the Shantytown, she loses her cool and announces that she's homeless.

She's risked her scholarship because she has been giving false information about her home address to the school counselor.

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TX 5063



▶ 32A

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▶ 33A

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With only days remaining in the school year, on what looks to be her last day at the school, Abby is fighting against her family's homelessness just as fiercely as she's fighting her growing feelings for Obi.

WILL ABBY BE BOXED IN AGAIN?

▶ 28

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WISH LIST CAST



HALEY LU RICHARDSON

as Abby

There's something incomprehensible about her, perhaps it's her unfortunate past or perhaps it's a feeling of joy, or it's simply her sense of comradery.

WALKER SCOBELL

as Max

There is something extraordinary about him, perhaps it's his humor or simply his goodwill.

DEIGO TINOCO

as Obi

There is something enticing about him, a feeling of comfort. He treats people like family, while thinking of ways to become their friends.

WISH LIST CAST



SKAI JACKSON
as Lauren

There's something captivating about her, perhaps it's her disposition or simply her reputation.



TY SIMPKINS
as Jared

There's something misleading about him, perhaps it's a feeling of indifference, or perhaps it's simply a feeling of shame.



LEE PACE
as Brian

There's something captivating about him, perhaps it's his persistence, or perhaps it's simply his sympathy.

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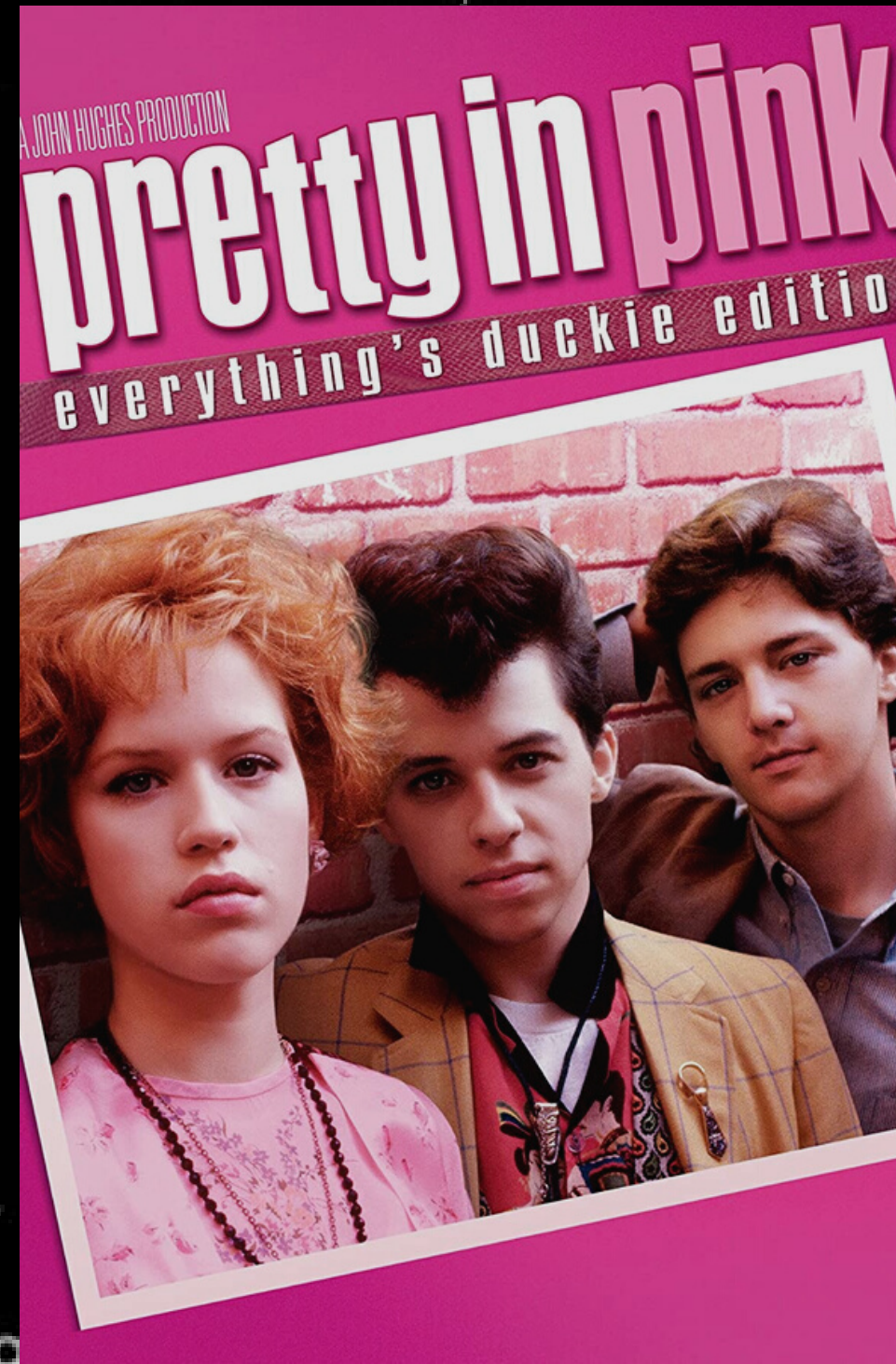
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COMFORABLE FILMS

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ACCOLADES



"This is a poignant coming of age story detailing the life of a high school student experiencing homelessness - we do not often hear stories about teenagers currently in school facing homelessness, and this story is a refreshing fill for that hole in mainstream media."

--Screencraft competition judge

About the Screenwriter

Screenwriter, producer, theater reviewer, playwright, and life adventurer.

He has produced three other short films, including indie film circuit favorite "Living Under Linda's Desk," written numerous screenplays and theatrical plays, and has been recognized for his video production work by the Iowa Motion Picture Association and the National School Public Relations Association Ohio chapter.

He is the co-founder and artistic director of Cincinnati Radio Actors Theatre dedicated to keeping the art of radio theatre alive for future generations.

He holds a BFA in Electronic Media from the College-Conservatory of Music and an MFA in Screenwriting at the David Lynch School of Cinematic Arts. He is currently teaching at Miami University's College of Creative Arts.





**READY TO
BREAK OUT
OF THE
BOX?**

GET IN TOUCH!

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