

# Adieu

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I have spent my long and diverse career telling stories all over the world, embracing the ideal that film has the power to effect change. That sentiment has never held more significance than it does with “Adieu.”

While the story revolves around grieving and pain, it's also about finding the courage to begin again, to be willing to embrace change and discover how hope can rise even in life's most difficult moments. As such, at its core “Adieu” is a study in contrasts, both in people and in society: projecting a beautiful outward image while concealing dark secrets in the shadows behind closed doors. This concept of contrasts will be the guiding directive for every element, from cinematography to art direction to score.

The objective is to show the contrast between the stunning potential of a privileged life and the ravaging effects of the darkness of despair. As our characters struggle to find the balance in their own lives, so will the film be juxtaposing and colliding between hope and hopelessness in its visual language, lighting, color and sound — all supported by a driving musical landscape of soaring classical strings against the raw emotion of heavy metal music.

Underlining all of this is the need for deeply personal and vulnerable performances. Parental estrangement and depression are complex and important issues, requiring lead actors who can embody the subtle nuance of pursuing life with their head held high while walking on eggshells, constantly shouldering and concealing the deep wounds of the past. Crafting this story will require actors willing to explore genuine humility and risk emotional exposure. The opportunity to partner with performers to gently draw these characters into reality is one I greatly anticipate.

My personal experience with isolation and depression, forged in the fire of childhood epilepsy, has birthed in me the passion to craft this film with the focus to inspire actionable hope: one that could offer struggling people a path forward towards healing. Every step of the process, from script to screen, has been and is being driven by that desire.

Without honesty, without vulnerability, no story can truly leave a lasting impact. “Adieu” has an opportunity to be a film that does real, genuine good, leaving the audience different than it found them. I am committed to making that version of this story a reality, and seeking collaborators and partners who desire to do the same. Together, we can create a significant film that's able to shine a healing light in the dark places of this broken world.

  
James Meyer

