

#FIGHTFORNOAH — PROJECT BRIEF

Format

Feature Film

Genre / Tone

Dark Satire / Dramedy

Heathers meets *Network* in the age of TikTok grief culture.

Recognition

Grand Prize Winner — 30th Annual Fade In Awards Comedy Competition

Finalist — Great American Script Contest

Quarterfinalist — Finish Line Script Competition

Budget / Buyer Lane

Low-to-mid / scalable indie satire

A24, Searchlight, NEON, Topic, FilmNation lane

Core Hook

A dying high schooler becomes a viral inspiration — then secretly goes into remission and realizes everyone around him needs him to stay terminal.

One-Sentence Pitch

After an invisible teenager's cancer diagnosis turns him into a social-media martyr, his secret remission threatens the girlfriend who helped build his brand, the father monetizing his illness, and the grief economy that depends on him dying beautifully.

Why It's Timely

It satirizes social media grief, performative empathy, illness-as-identity, influencer culture, and the way tragedy gets turned into branding, content, and merchandise.

Main Characters

Noah Harrison — Invisible, cynical, genuinely sick at first. Once he becomes “the dying kid,” he is finally loved — and then he cannot give that identity up.

Belle — A sharp outsider who helps turn Noah's diagnosis into performance art, then realizes she helped build the machine she hates.

Maxwell Harrison — Noah's father, a failed day-trader who becomes the CEO of his son's cancer through The Noah Fund.

Maddie — Noah's fun-house mirror: a clout-hungry influencer whose fake trauma brand is destroyed by Noah's real tragedy.

Story Snapshot

1. Noah collapses during the PACER test and is diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer.
2. Belle helps him launch **@FightForNoah** as a satirical performance-art account mocking fake empathy.
3. The account explodes. Students shave their heads, Noah becomes a martyr, and Maxwell launches **The Noah Fund** to sell grief as merchandise.
4. Noah secretly goes into remission, but hides it because Belle, Maxwell, the school, and the whole town are now emotionally and financially invested in him staying sick.

5. At a televised charity gala, Noah confesses the fraud — but when he suffers a real medical collapse and dies, the town rebrands his confession as final humility and keeps selling the myth.

Ending / Final Image

Belle deletes the legacy accounts and walks away while the town mourns a boy they never actually knew — and Maxwell sells “Thoughts and Prayers” tote bags from the trunk of his car.

Theme in One Line

The only thing more profitable than a living hero is a dead saint.

Positioning

It's a dark satire about what happens when empathy becomes a brand — and the person at the center of the tragedy becomes the least important part of it.

Materials Available

One-pager and full screenplay available upon request or through the private script library.

RYAN CLARKE

Screenwriter & Playwright | Albuquerque, NM

Dark Comedy | Satire | Character Drama | Social Thriller

Ryan Clarke is an Albuquerque-based screenwriter and playwright whose work blends dark comedy, social satire, and intimate character drama. Across a slate of 20+ feature scripts, his stories often follow deeply flawed people pushed into impossible situations, finding humor, tension, and humanity in characters who are entirely in over their heads.

His screenwriting recognition includes Grand Prize Winner, 30th Annual Fade In Awards Comedy Competition (*#FightForNoah*); Semifinalist, 30th Annual Fade In Awards Comedy Competition (*The Trencherman*); 2026 Top 10 Finalist, ISA Table Read My Screenplay at Cannes (*A Walking Shadow*); 2026 Quarterfinalist, Finish Line Script Competition (*#FightForNoah*); two-time Semifinalist, ISA Emerging Screenwriters Competition (*Flashbang* and *Ghost of the Highway*); and four additional 2026 Honorable Mentions from Finish Line (*The Finalists*, *How to Be a Human: A Musical with No Songs*, *Ghost of the Highway*, and *Dead Signals*).

As a playwright, Ryan is a three-time winner of FUSION Theatre Company's short works festival, “The SEVEN”, in 2024, 2025, and 2026. The stage version of *A Walking Shadow* was also selected in 2026 for The Road Theatre Company's 17th Summer Playwrights Festival.

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