

THE EDGE

Growing up isn't a kid stuff

coming of age // Dramedy
original feature film project by

FLOW

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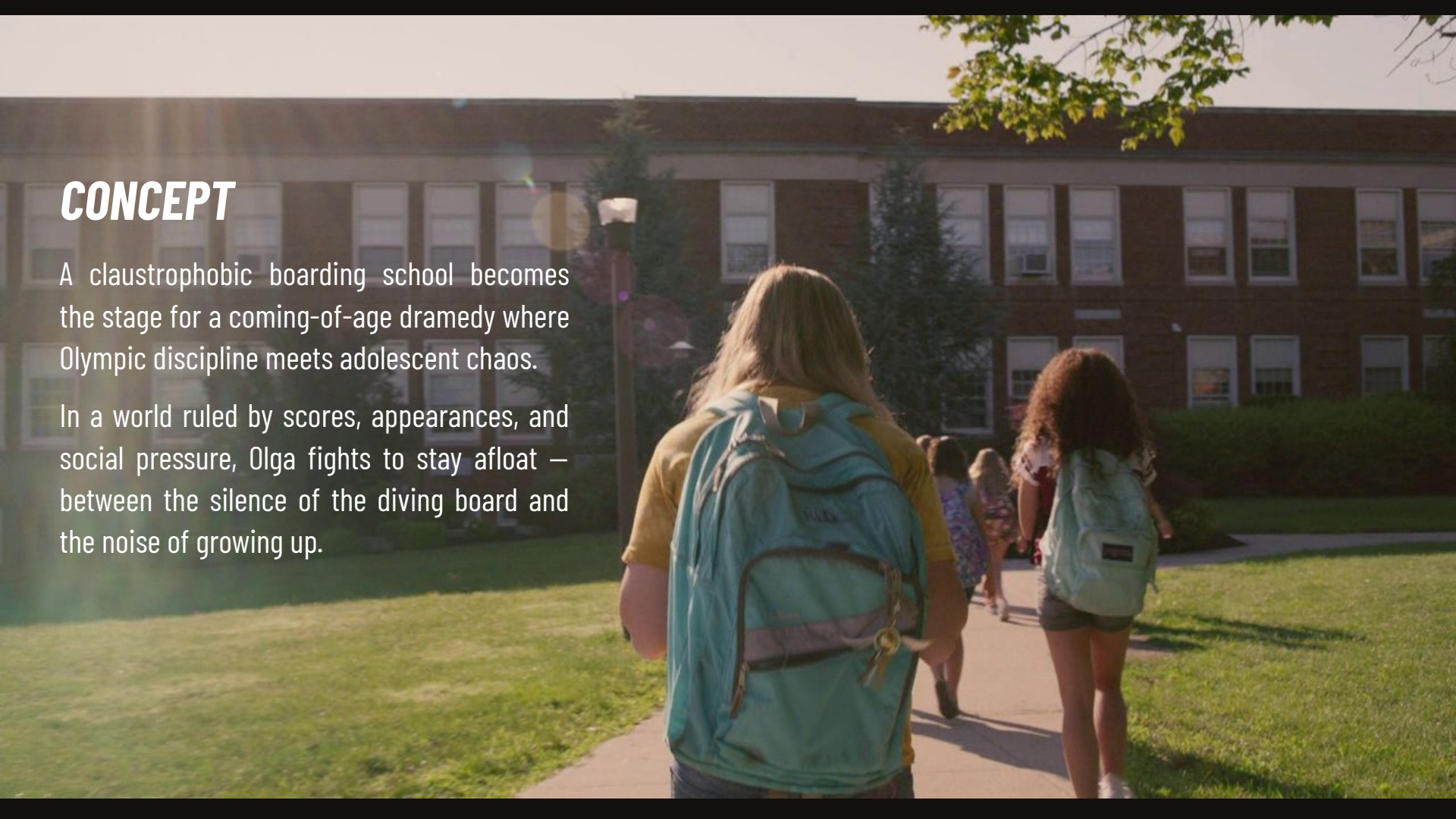
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CONCEPT

A claustrophobic boarding school becomes the stage for a coming-of-age dramedy where Olympic discipline meets adolescent chaos.

In a world ruled by scores, appearances, and social pressure, Olga fights to stay afloat — between the silence of the diving board and the noise of growing up.





LOGLINE

Olga (12) has a hectic but happy life, she is popular among friends and on social media, diving is her great passion and she is about to become the youngest Italian champion ever. The chaos of adolescence and a relentless viral shitstorm relegate her to the margins, making her a victim of bullies and unable to dive in until she wishes she died.

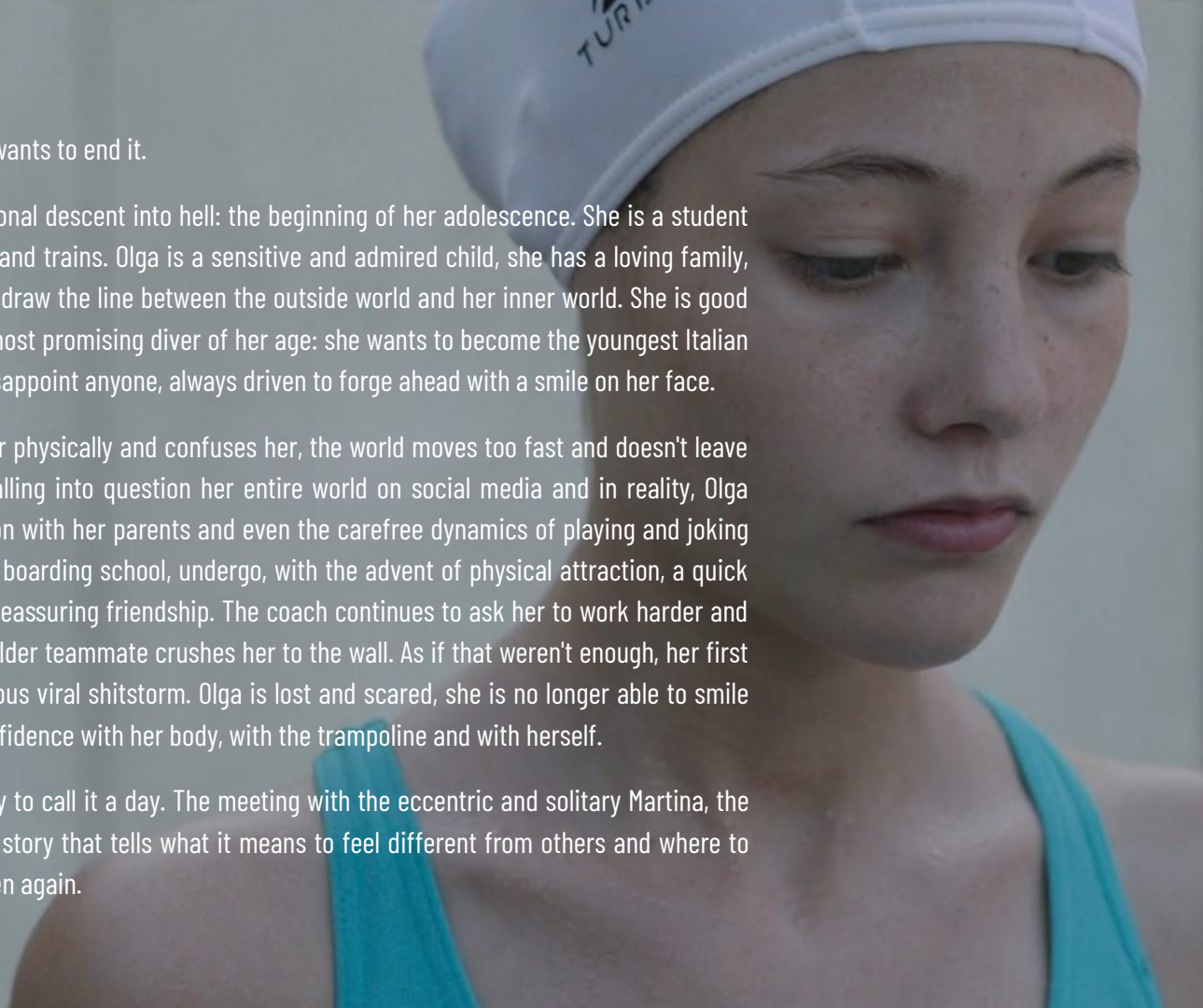
SYNOPSIS

Olga, 12 years old, is poised in front of the void and wants to end it.

The Edge is a teen dramedy focused on Olga's personal descent into hell: the beginning of her adolescence. She is a student at a sports college where she studies, eats, sleeps and trains. Olga is a sensitive and admired child, she has a loving family, friends, numerous followers and has not yet had to draw the line between the outside world and her inner world. She is good at school and is considered by everyone to be the most promising diver of her age: she wants to become the youngest Italian champion of all time and trains hard so as not to disappoint anyone, always driven to forge ahead with a smile on her face.

But the impact of puberty is a shock, it changes her physically and confuses her, the world moves too fast and doesn't leave her time to reflect. The girl's balance implodes, calling into question her entire world on social media and in reality, Olga experiences first-hand a new lack of communication with her parents and even the carefree dynamics of playing and joking with Davide and Uma, the inseparable friends from boarding school, undergo, with the advent of physical attraction, a quick and brutal swerve that tears apart that triangle of reassuring friendship. The coach continues to ask her to work harder and harder and the no-holds-barred antagonism of an older teammate crushes her to the wall. As if that weren't enough, her first doubts about her sexuality exposed her to a ferocious viral shitstorm. Olga is lost and scared, she is no longer able to smile and recognize the context around her, to regain confidence with her body, with the trampoline and with herself.

Olga is standing on the edge of a ledge and is ready to call it a day. The meeting with the eccentric and solitary Martina, the school gardener, could save her life. The Edge is a story that tells what it means to feel different from others and where to find the strength to dive in again. And again. And then again.





WHY TELL THIS STORY

«Globally, according to the World Health Organization, suicides rank second among the causes of death in the 12-29 age group».

// From a study by the University of Milan.

In this stage of life, public image plays a key role in shaping identity, especially within social groups marked by coded gestures, slang, and status rituals. The awakening of sexuality adds inner turmoil, triggering questions that feel urgent but remain unanswered.

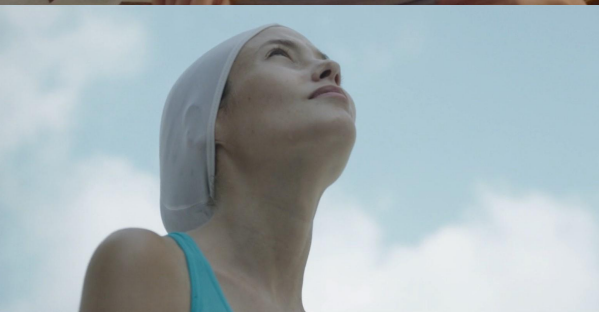
The pressure intensifies in the virtual realm, where image and reputation dominate — a heavy burden for those not yet equipped with critical tools but deeply dependent on social media. Teenagers are overexposed, emotionally fragile, and pushed at full speed through a phase of life that would require more time and care. It's a dangerous balance — one misstep away from isolation, bullying, or worse. A moment where the lack of support can lead to devastating consequences.

THEME

How important is the opinion of others?

The Edge tells how difficult it can be to extricate yourself from social relationships, continue to feel worthy of yourself and the expectations of others, how simple it can be to go from riches to rags on social media and how suddenly it can be to find yourself alone and desperate. But it also talks about the importance of learning to listen to our own voice and figure out that difficulties are a fundamental step in understanding who we are and building what we will be.





OLGA Sunny, curious, and determined, Olga is a young diving prodigy. She had a happy childhood, surrounded by the love of her family, and discovered her passion for the diving board at an early age: every time she takes flight, she feels an overwhelming sense of freedom.

Supported by loving parents, loyal friends, and a coach who sees her as his star pupil, Olga trains hard to become the youngest athlete to compete in the national championships. But the arrival of puberty throws her balance into crisis: her body begins to change, her first desires emerge, and her relationships with Uma and Davide — friends and first loves — become tangled, feeding her confusion about who she is.

As the pressure around her intensifies, Olga starts to lose clarity, focus, and self-confidence. Isolation, a stolen kiss, and a viral shitstorm overwhelm her to the point of paralyzing her even on the diving board. In a moment of despair, the idea of stepping into the void begins to take hold.

It will be an unexpected encounter with Martina — the quiet school gardener — that offers her a way out. Olga comes out scarred, but alive. She doesn't have the answers, but she's learned to live with the questions. And most importantly, to trust her own voice.



UMA (13) is Olga's great friend. Since she arrived in Italy from India with her family, she has formed a strong bond with the protagonist. Uma is shy but would like to free herself from the family yoke, she sees in sport the possibility of an independent and autonomous life. The relationship with Olga has always been sincere and spontaneous but the arrival of adolescence and the change in her feelings towards her friend will put their relationship and her path to emancipation to the test.



DAVIDE (13) is a handsome boy of African origins, a talented sprinter and compulsive TikToker, he is the most popular in the institute. A great friend of Olga and Uma, he is as passionate about video games as they are and never misses an opportunity to organize parties and gatherings of friends in his room. The love story that blossoms with Olga will also make them the most popular couple on social media and will push them beyond the limits of what is permissible in the boundary between private life and online life.

FEDERICA (13) is the latest arrival in the group of divers and immediately stands out for her great athletic abilities, she is an orphan and grew up among foster families and institutions. He has an aggressive and arrogant attitude especially towards Olga who he sees as the biggest obstacle to achieving the successes he expects to have. He would do anything to excel in diving and in the eyes of the coach. The unfair methods she will adopt to reach her goal will force her to deal with her conscience.

MARTINA (33), silent and solitary, always hidden beneath a gardener's uniform and a pair of headphones, Martina is an enigmatic, unsettling presence to the students. She walks with a limp, avoids eye contact, and is often mocked. For years, she has tended a flowerbed that is, in truth, a small botanical masterpiece — a hundred square meters of harmony, color, and care, cultivated with obsessive precision.

Her past is marked by extreme choices: a former foreign fighter, she fought for money and fear, fleeing from a teenage pregnancy she didn't feel ready to face. Now, nurturing life has become her way of making peace with herself.

Martina and Olga have passed each other countless times without a word — one trying to save a collapsing future, the other haunted by a broken past. Until, one day, their solitudes finally meet.

What follows is a quiet, sincere bond. Martina speaks little, but when she does, her words land with weight. She has learned — the hard way — that running from pain without understanding it can be fatal. And that is the truth she'll try to share with Olga.





MASSIMO (40) is the coach of the institute's women's diving team. As a young man he was a promising athlete but an injury soon removed him from competitions. He pushes his students beyond belief to win the Italian championships, he must seize the last opportunity of his career to become the coach of the national team. He pushes the girls into fierce competition with each other but his plans are jeopardized by his inability to manage the complicated transition from childhood to adolescence.

BRUNO (44), is the cheerful and charismatic father, he is the CEO of a small sportswear company founded by Giordana's family. Deeply in love with her and her calm, grounded rationality, he is now facing a professional crisis that threatens to shut down the business. He sees Olga not only as a beloved daughter, but also as a potential hope for reviving the family brand.

GIORDANA (40), is the rational, kind, and pragmatic mother, she inherited the family business when Olga was born. She runs the company alongside Bruno, with whom she shares balance and deep mutual understanding. Torn between her responsibilities as a mother and entrepreneur, she lovingly allowed her daughter to leave home to follow her passion — yet she underestimates just how little she truly knows about Olga's inner world.







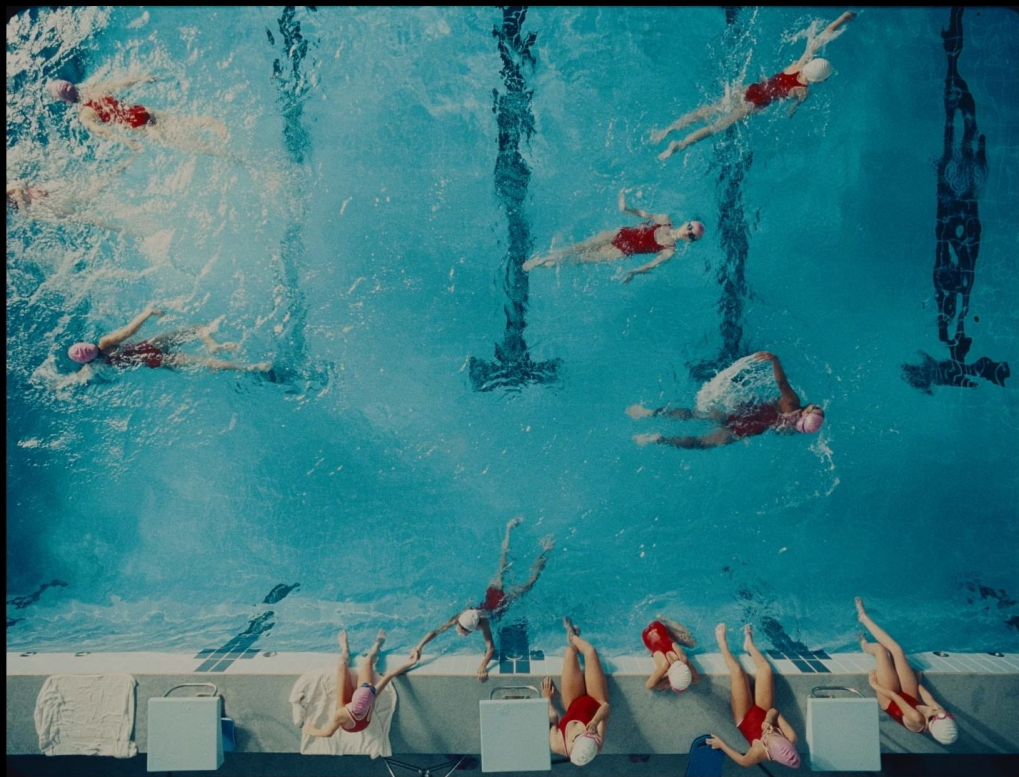
WHEN AND WHERE

Set over five intense months of these days — from March to August — the story takes place in the most prestigious sports boarding school in the capital, a multicultural junior high that trains future Olympic athletes aged 11 to 14. Life inside the school is rigorous and disciplined, structured like a military academy.

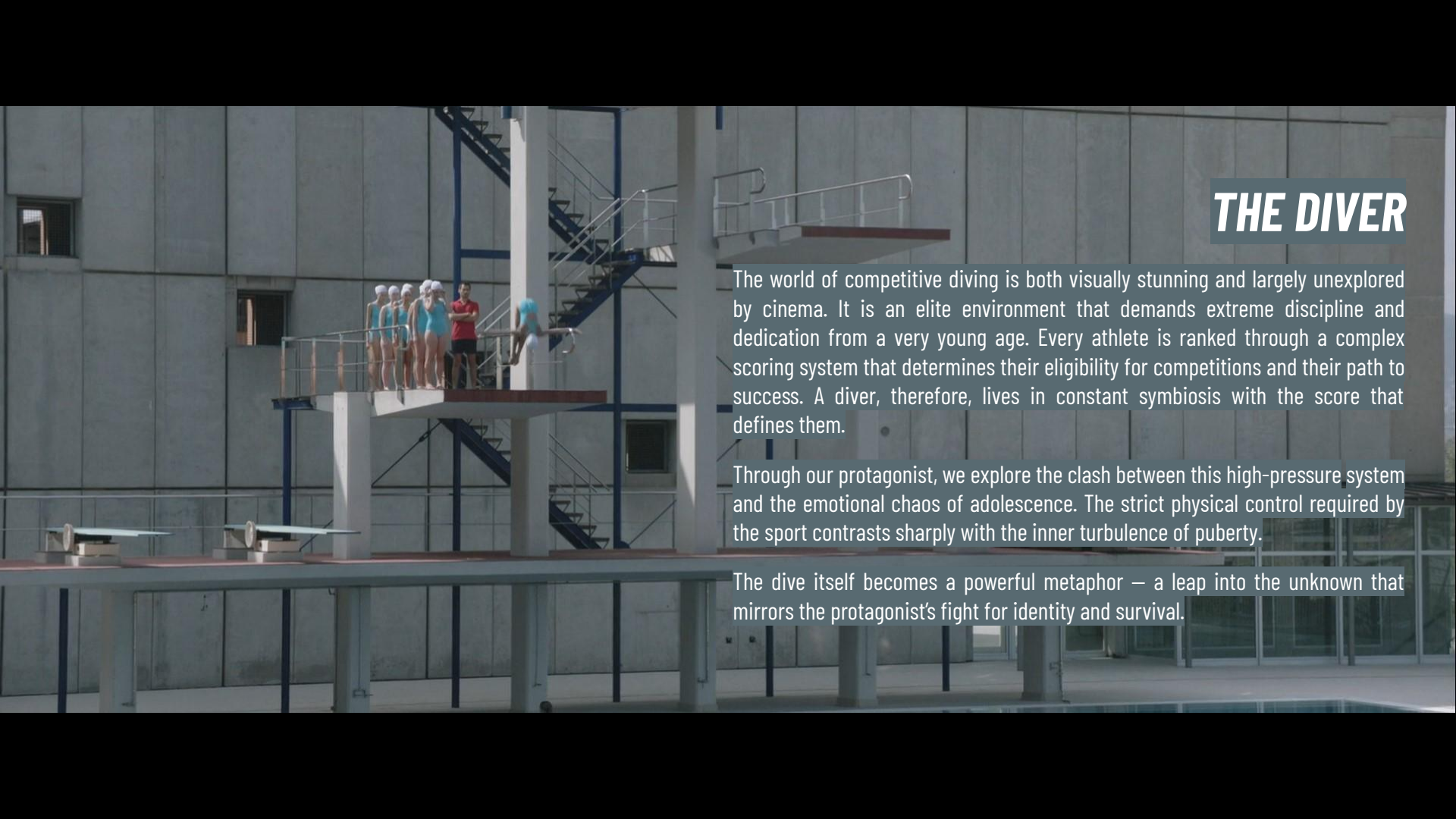
Parallel to this real-world intensity runs a hidden digital universe: chats, profiles, and secret social groups form a complex web where identities are shaped — and sometimes distorted — away from adult eyes.

Weekend visits with parents are the only connection to the outside world.

The narrative unfolds in familiar teenage spaces — classrooms, locker rooms, dorms, cafeterias — which shift from warm and open to tense and oppressive, mirroring the emotional turbulence of adolescence.





The background image shows a modern aquatic center with a large concrete building. A group of young divers, mostly women in blue swimsuits and white caps, are standing on a diving platform. One person in a red shirt is also visible. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting daytime. The diving platform has blue railings and stairs. The overall atmosphere is one of a professional training environment.

THE DIVER

The world of competitive diving is both visually stunning and largely unexplored by cinema. It is an elite environment that demands extreme discipline and dedication from a very young age. Every athlete is ranked through a complex scoring system that determines their eligibility for competitions and their path to success. A diver, therefore, lives in constant symbiosis with the score that defines them.

Through our protagonist, we explore the clash between this high-pressure system and the emotional chaos of adolescence. The strict physical control required by the sport contrasts sharply with the inner turbulence of puberty.

The dive itself becomes a powerful metaphor — a leap into the unknown that mirrors the protagonist's fight for identity and survival.



VISUAL TONE AND MOOD

A realistic and fast-paced coming-of-age dramedy.

The bittersweet tenderness of *Eighth Grade* and *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl* meets the sharp, analytical gaze on adolescence found in *Elephant*. The downward, paranoid spiral of *Whiplash* collides with the social and media pressures of *Gossip Girl*.

The film embraces a raw, intimate realism — handheld camera, natural lighting, and an urgent pace that captures the emotional volatility of adolescence.

Color palettes shift from sterile institutional whites and grays to saturated blues and bruised purples, mirroring Olga's inner turbulence.

Spaces like classrooms, locker rooms, and dorms start off familiar and bright, then gradually constrict, becoming oppressive — visual metaphors for the tightening grip of social judgment and internal pressure.

Reality and digital life bleed into each other through layered visual language, reflections distort identity, and virtual group dynamics echo in real-world consequences.

Moments of stillness — on the diving board or on the rooftop — suspend the viewer between gravity and release, grounding the film in a poetic tension that holds us, like Olga, on the brink.



David_lui
But do you like me???

Massimo_allo.
If you continue like this we'll forget the
title!
22:24

WHERE ARE YOU!!!!????
22:23

Mother
How are you?
22:23

David_lui
I can't help but think about you...
22:22

Cat311275
Answer me!
22:21

Are you bleeding so much too?!
22:23

Uma_inlove
Tomorrow will be a great day!
22:23

Lazyghost-77
BITCH!
22:23

Rocketgirl_98
Shitty lesbian!
22:22

Mother
How did the math test go?
22:21

Gretalin3
Did you kiss?
22:23

Mother
R Y crazy????
22:21

Cat311275
Are you the bitch in the
writing?
22:21

Luchino
Can you give me science?
22:21

Cat311275
I WILL FIND YOU!
22:21

Genny_sil
But did you touch it to him?
22:21

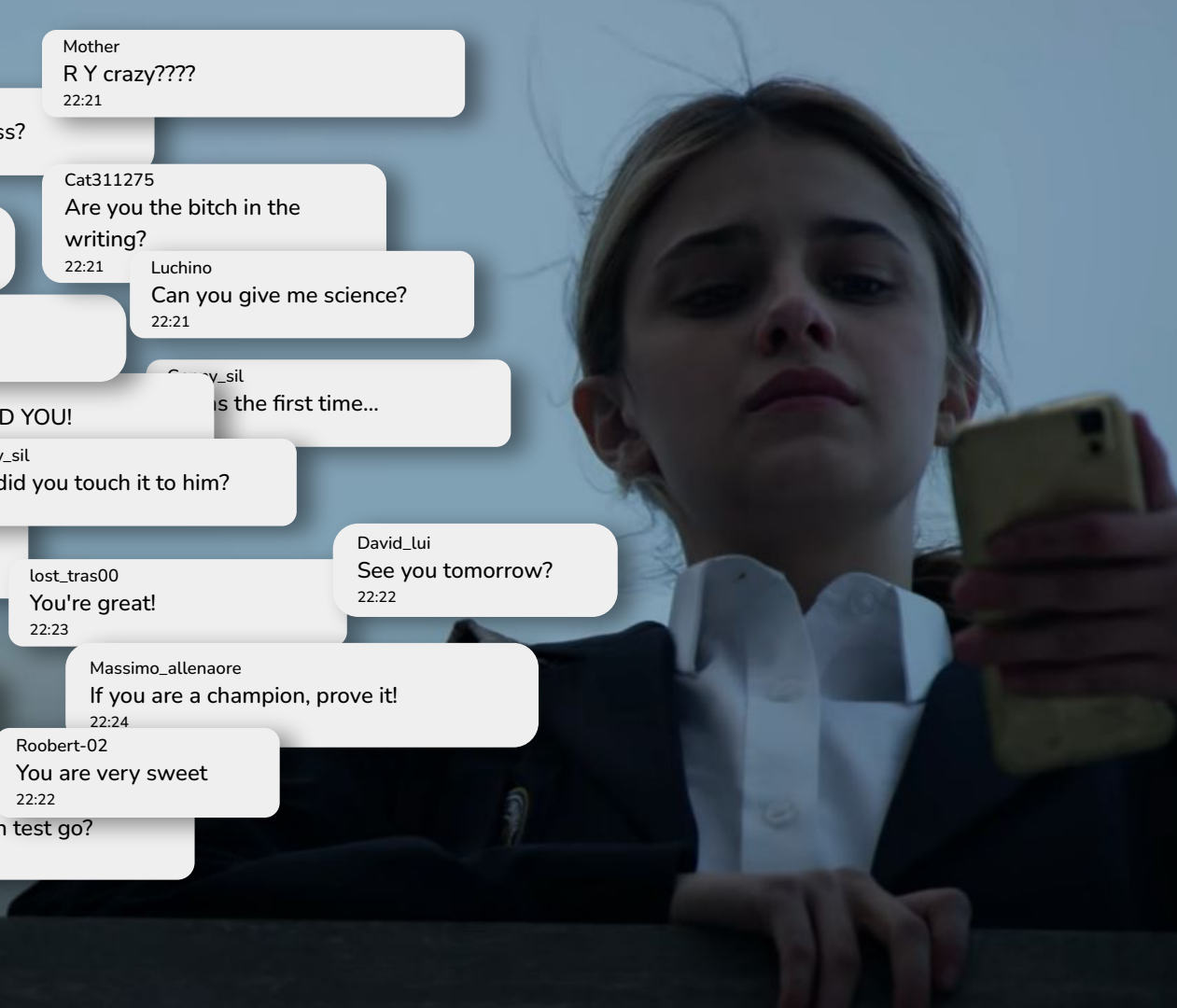
Genny_sil
Is the first time...

lost_tras00
You're great!
22:23

David_lui
See you tomorrow?
22:22

Massimo_allenaore
If you are a champion, prove it!
22:24

Roobert-02
You are very sweet
22:22

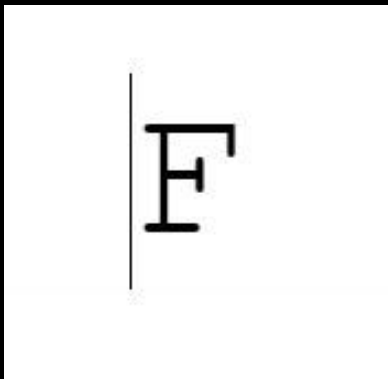








THE CREATORS



FLOW is a collective founded by Cristiano, Enrico, and Nicolò – a director and two screenwriters – who write, discuss, and work together. They are the creators of the short films [BIGLOVE](#), [Interno 116](#), and [US](#) selected and awarded at international festivals, including two **Oscar-Qualifying** and **BAFTA** festivals: the Festival de Cine de Alcalá de Henares and the Flickerfest International Short Film Festival.

Their original project [Hitler The Pusher](#) received funding from the **selective writing fund** of the **Italian Ministry of Culture**.

In 2023, [Fanum – Terrore dal Passato](#), a thriller produced by Play Entertainment, was released, having received the **MIBACT selective funding** for production and the **Lazio Cinema International** grant.

