



PETER

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screenplay by **Paul Fagen**
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LOGLINE

Peter's got lots of
QUESTIONS
But absolutely
no answers



SYNOPSIS

SHOULD HE GO TO THE
ROLLER RINK WITH STACY?

WHY DOES HE LIKE THE
MALE NURSE SO MUCH?

IS HE A SMART KID
OR A CLASS CLOWN?

WHY IS MOM MAKING HIM
HAVE HIS BAR MITZVAH AT
HIS GRANDPARENTS' HOME
IN FLORIDA AND WILL SHE
LET HIS DAD COME?

Peter goes through his 7th grade routine of home, school, Hebrew school, and alternating weekends at Dad's house. With the help of a few understanding adults (and a musical daydream landscape to keep him sane), Peter starts on the long path to making sense of it all.



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51999



Peter



11-2-1981

Protagonist

Age 12

Finding himself

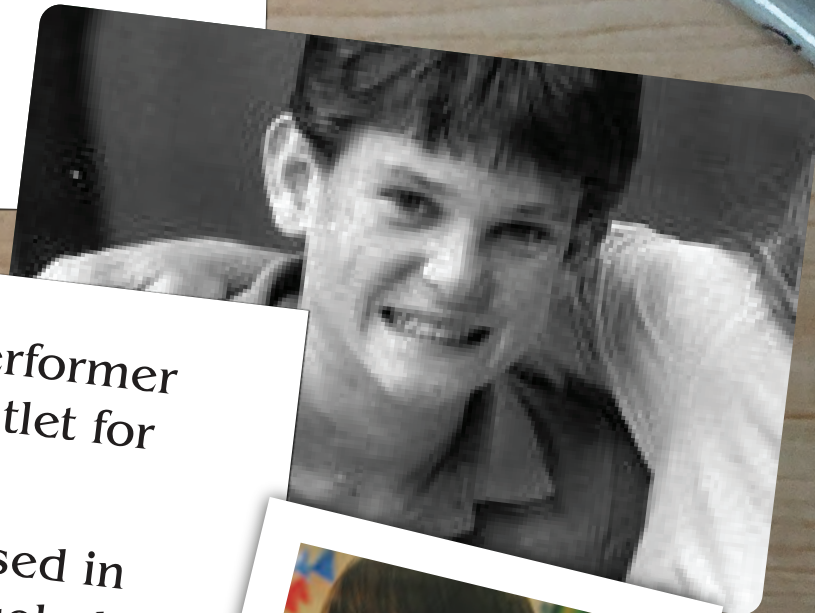
Timid at home

Boisterous at school
(& often in trouble)

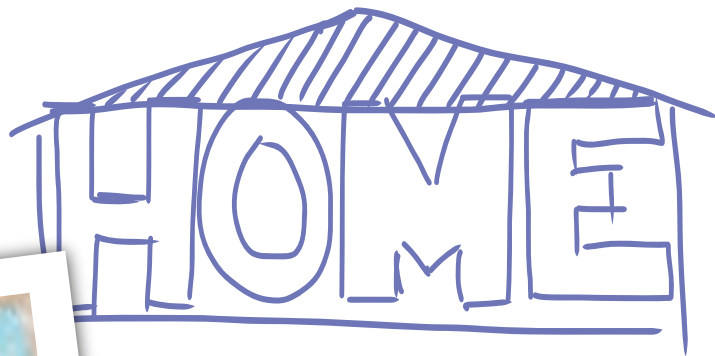
Natural performer
with no outlet for
his talent

Jewish, raised in
mixed household

Gay, but doesn't
know it yet



3-3-1982



Mom

Mom
Brooklyn-bred
Jewish
Chain-smoker
Over-worked
Divided loyalty

Leah
16 years old
Older sister
Self-involved
Sweet
Scheming



Leah



Jim

Jim
Step-father
Non-Jewish
Insecure
Controlling

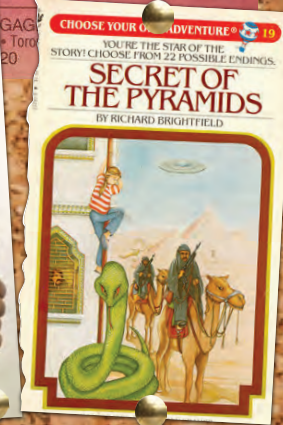


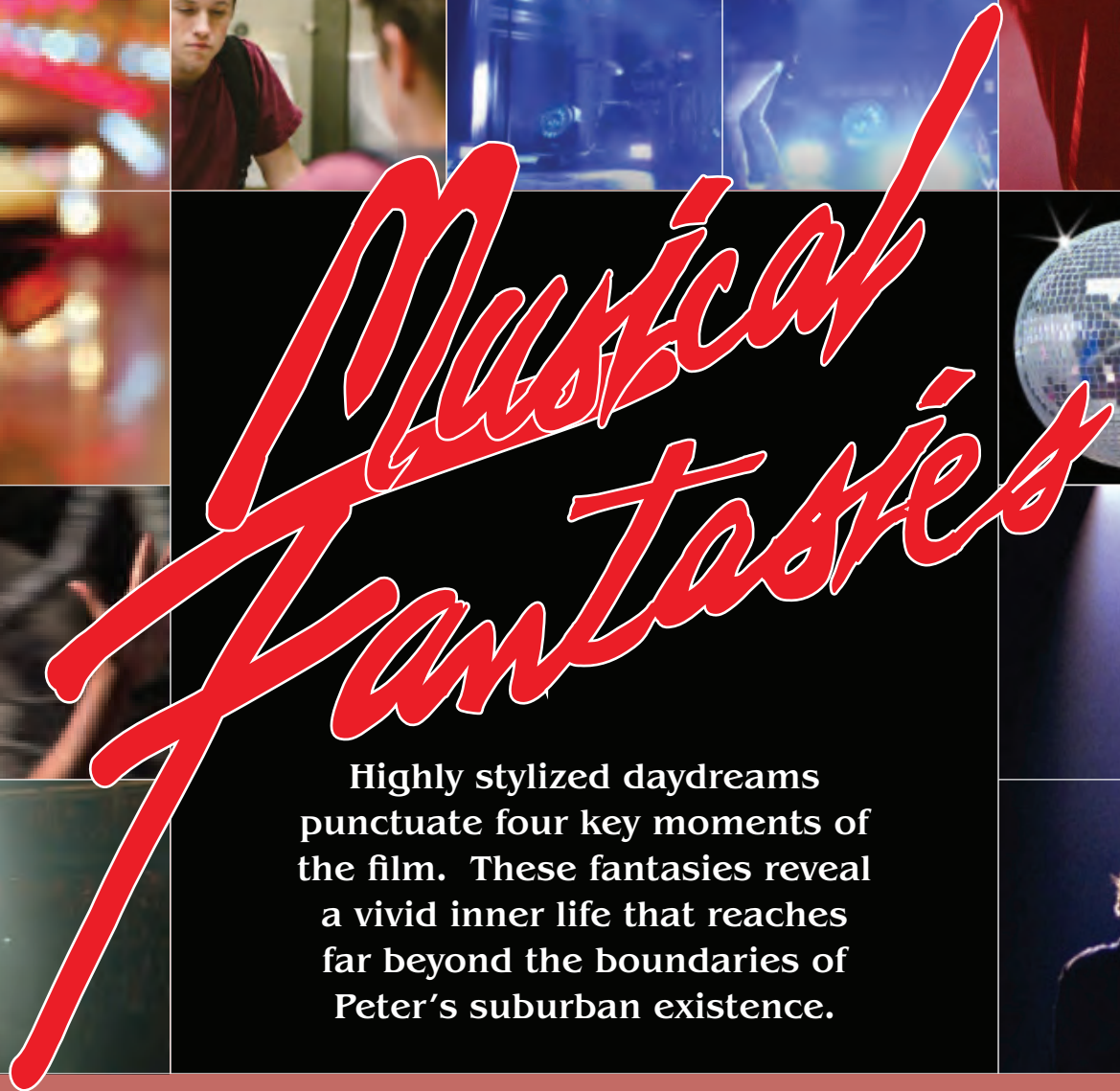
PETER'S ROOM



If they've really got what it takes, it's going to take everything they've got.

Fame





• SUPPORTING CHARACTERS •

SCHOOL



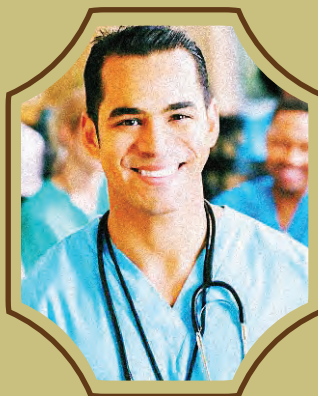
Ms. Taylor
PETER'S TEACHER



Mrs. Crawford
OFFICE CLERK



Ms. Adkins
DRAMA TEACHER



Nurse



Mike
PETER'S FRIEND



Stacy

SYNAGOGUE



Mrs. Singer
HEBREW TEACHER



Rabbi Weinberg



Seth, Josh & Lori

DAD'S HOUSE



Dad



Youngest Boy

LOCATIONS



HOME



EARLY 1980s SUBURBIA



SCHOOL



SYNAGOGUE

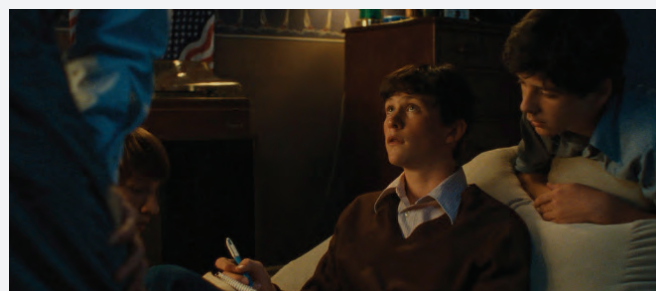
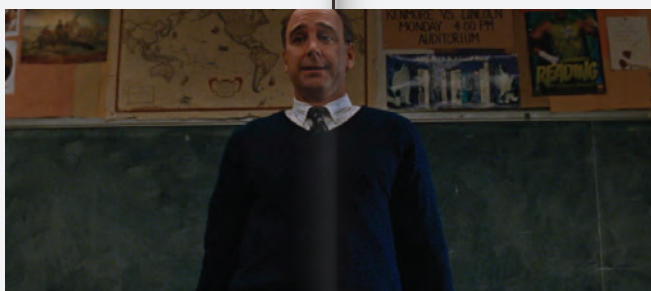
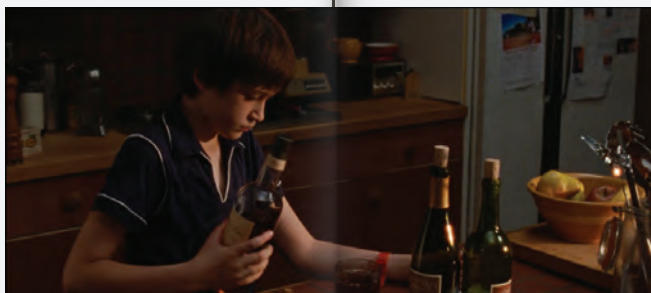


DAD'S PLACE



COLOR & GRADE

Like the muted tones of *The Squid and The Whale* and *The Virgin Suicides*, Peter's life is unfocused, hazy, and often uncertain.



Creative Team



Paul Fagen

WRITER & PRODUCER

Paul started telling stories and performing in elementary school. This interest in narrative eventually led him to social work and he has worked with adolescents for the last 20 years. He decided to turn his clinical lens into a cinematic one and started writing short scripts a few years ago.

Peter, Peter is his first full-length feature and was a Quarter Finalist in the Chicago International Screenplay Festival. Paul is also a SAG-AFTRA AEA actor represented by Big Mouth Talent.

DIRECTOR

Leah is an award-winning filmmaker and interdisciplinary performing artist. Leah directed and produced the short film *Lee Baby*, which earned "Best LGBTQIA+" & "Best Drama" at Hollywood New Directors Festival. Leah was the inaugural (2022) recipient of CinemaFemme's *Halyna Hutchins Producer Award* for their work building a safe, inclusive set on the short film *Rough River Lake*. From 2022-2024, Leah was Drama Faculty Chair at The Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts. Leah was awarded a 2025 artist grant and residency from KY Foundation of Women to support research and development on creative writing projects. They hold a BFA in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul. More at www.LeahRaidt.com



Leah Raidt

Production Team



John Benam

CREATIVE CONSULTANT

John Benam is an Award-winning director of photography. His documentaries *Assassins* (2020) and *This Is Home* (2018) both premiered at Sundance Film Festival. His crime documentary *Charm City* was shortlisted for the Oscars, and earned global theatrical release in 2018. He also served as DP on Netflix's Emmy-nominated documentary series *The Keepers*. He works with National Geographic, HBO, PBS, and Oprah Winfrey's OWN.

He's currently shooting a PBS doc about the progressive millennial Mayor of Baltimore, Brandon Scott. A lifelong Maryland resident, John resides in Baltimore with his wife, Angela, and their two sons.



Erik Hall

COMPOSER

A musician since childhood, Erik has gone on to play, record and tour solo as In Tall Buildings, plus with NOMO, Wild Belle, His Name is Alex and Lean Year at top festivals like SXSW and Lollapalooza.

As a film composer, Erik scored and produced music for *The Night Clerk* (2020) and contributed music to *The Mountain* (2018)

He's released three albums as In Tall Buildings (Western Vinyl), and in 2020 the same label released his solo re-creation of Steve Reich's *Music for 18 Musicians*, which won the 2021 Libera Award for Best Classical Record. He has worked on numerous records for other artists.

FESTIVAL WISH LIST

SAN
FRANCISCO
JEWISH
FILM
FESTIVAL

TRIBECA
FILM
FESTIVAL

BFI LONDON
FILM
FESTIVAL



FIRSTGLANCE **film**
FESTIVAL
PHILADELPHIA • LOS ANGELES

OUTFEST
CREATING CHANGE. ONE STORY AT A TIME.

siff seattle international
film festival

REELING
THE CHICAGO **LGBTQ+**
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

COMPS



FISH TANK (2009)

COMMON THEMES:
Coming of age,
family dysfunction

BOX OFFICE GROSS:
\$5,900,000

FESTIVALS:
Cannes, Toronto Int'l Film
Festival, Telluride

STREAMING:
Amazon

AWARDS:
Jury Prize - **Cannes**
Outstanding Film - **BAFTA**
Best Director, Outstanding
Performance -
British Independent Film Awards



WE THE ANIMALS (2018)

COMMON THEMES:
Gay identity, coming of age,
family dysfunction

BOX OFFICE GROSS:
\$434,000

FESTIVALS:
Sundance, SF Film Festival,
LA Outfest

STREAMING:
Amazon, Hulu, Netflix

AWARDS:
Grand Jury Award - **LA Outfest**
NEXT Innovator Award -
Sundance
Critics Prize - **Americana Film Fest**



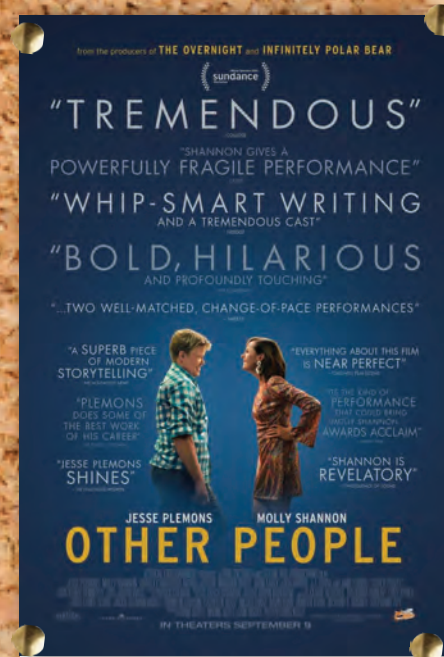
WILDHOOD (2021)

COMMON THEMES:
LGBTQ themes, coming of age

FESTIVALS:
Sundance

STREAMING:
Hulu

AWARDS:
Best Actor -
Canadian Screen Award
New Voices - **Palm Beach Film Fest**
People's Choice -
Kingston Canadian Film Fest



OTHER PEOPLE (2016)

COMMON THEMES:
LGBTQ themes,
mother/son relationships

FESTIVALS:
Sundance, **OUTFEST**,
San Diego Film Fest

STREAMING:
Netflix

AWARDS:
Best Supporting Female -
Independent Spirit Awards
Outstanding Film -
GLADD Media Awards
Audience Award,
Best Narrative Feature -
Nantucket Film Fest