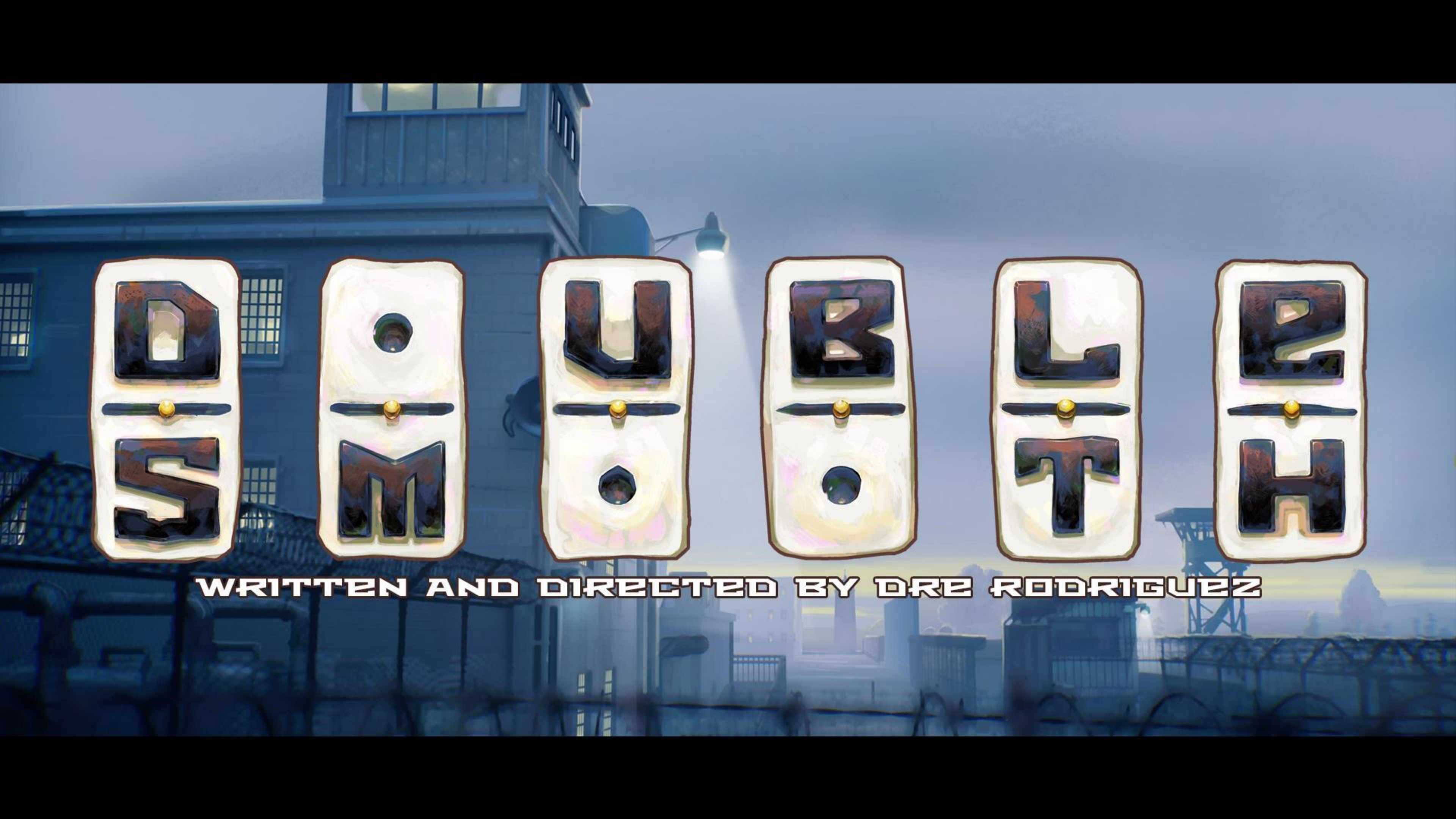


The title 'SOMERLAP' is rendered in a stylized, hand-drawn font. Each letter is contained within a white, rounded rectangular frame with a brown outline. The letters are arranged in two rows: 'S' and 'O' on the top row, and 'M', 'E', 'R', 'L', 'A', and 'P' on the bottom row. The letters have a dark, textured interior. The background is a blue-toned illustration of a city at night, with a building on the left and a street lamp illuminating the scene.

SOMERLAP

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DRE RODRIGUEZ

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



How does one maintain their humanity in a place that is designed to kill all humanity upon entry?

This statement is most apparent when seen from the perspective of the convict; the only individual that is still a legal slave according to the 13th amendment of the constitution. Individuals, set in an environment that is built for punishment with miniscule pockets of corrective instruction. It's suffocating; even out on the yard.

But behind those walls, there are those that have the mental fortitude to nullify the noise, find steadiness and conduct themselves in a dignified manner. I met many of these folks while inside. Those convicts taught me how to stay sane, how to move with purpose and most importantly, how to use my time, not do my time.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



The relationship between myself and these amazing human beings is the inspiration behind Double Smooth; a story that pays homage to those that come before us and take the bullets so hopefully, we don't have to.

It's a salute to those like Juice, who work tirelessly to help the short timers better understand how the system works so they can avoid the traps moving forward. It's a nod of affirmation to youngsters like Omari, who are worth the time, care and tutelage it takes to transform and transcend their circumstances.

It's a reminder that "each one teach one" isn't a catchy line, but **the seam that reinforces the resilience of our humanity.**

LOGLINE

A final Domino game becomes an unlikely life lesson and lifeline for a shotcaller and a short timer in the throes of the prison system.

Genre: Drama/Thriller

Runtime: 12:44

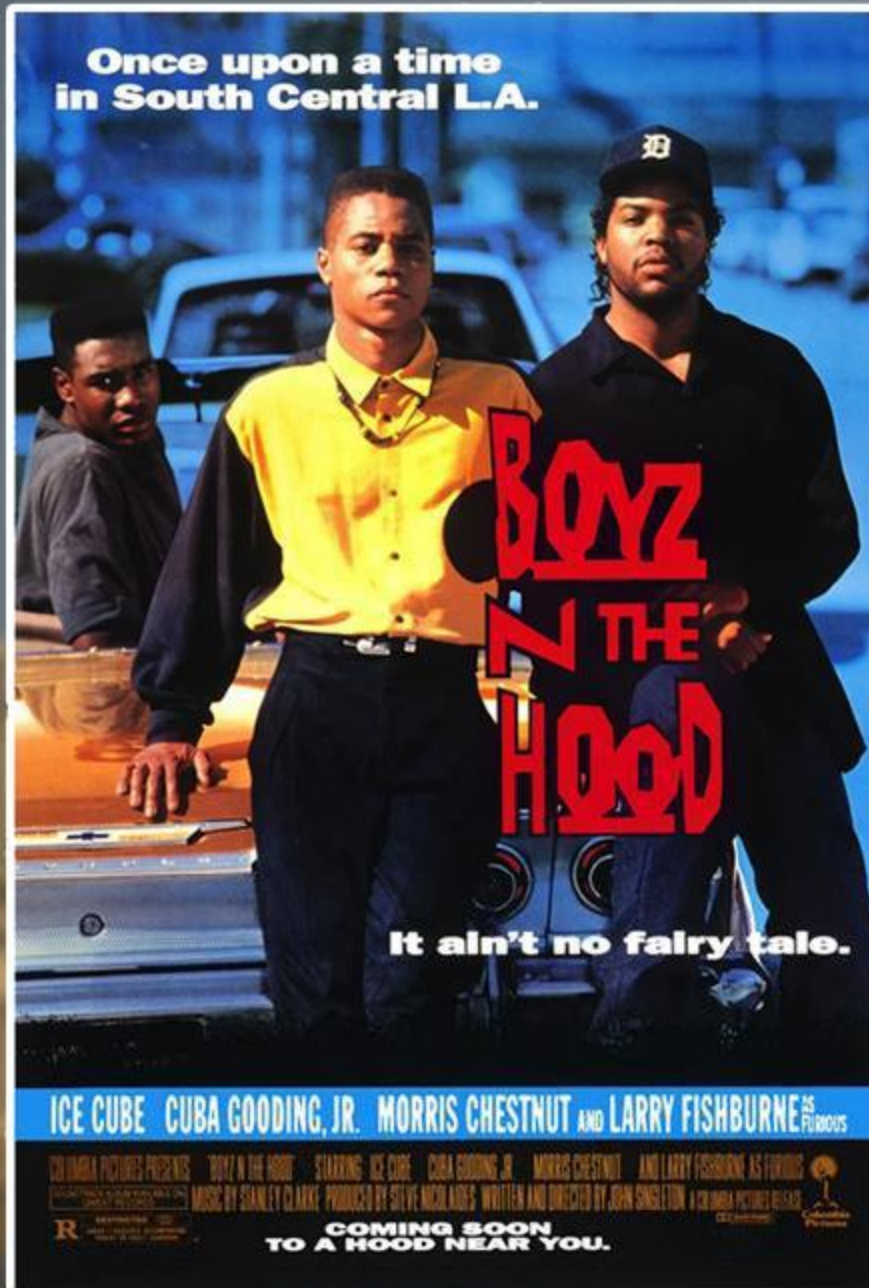
Medium: 3D Animation

Pipeline: Maya/Substance/Unreal/Nuke

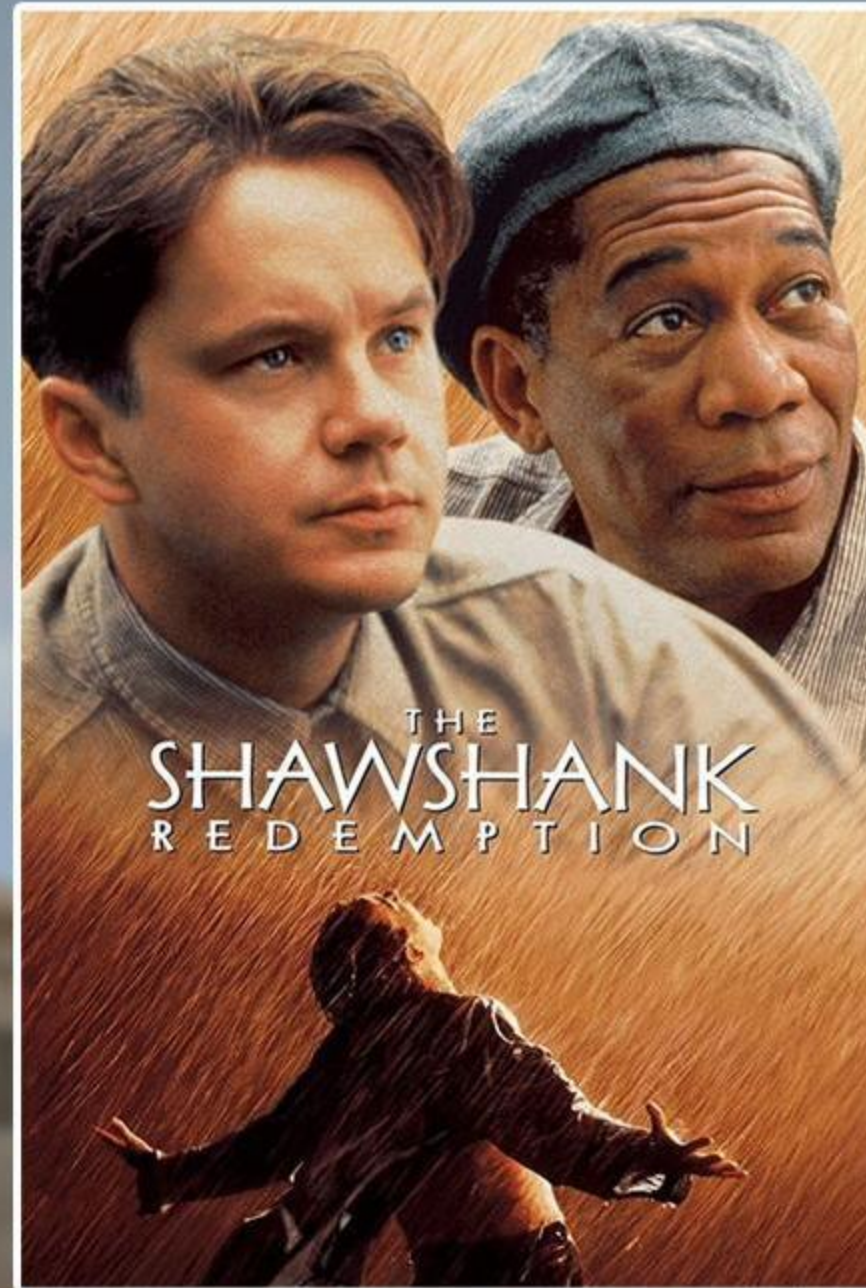
Double Smooth was primarily written for youth and adults with a connection to the prison system, with an emphasis on those that are already trapped in the school-to-prison pipeline and or currently serving time in corrections.

However, the profound impact and importance of the mentor in the life of a youth that has reached a crossroads is a story that transcends any cultural boundary.

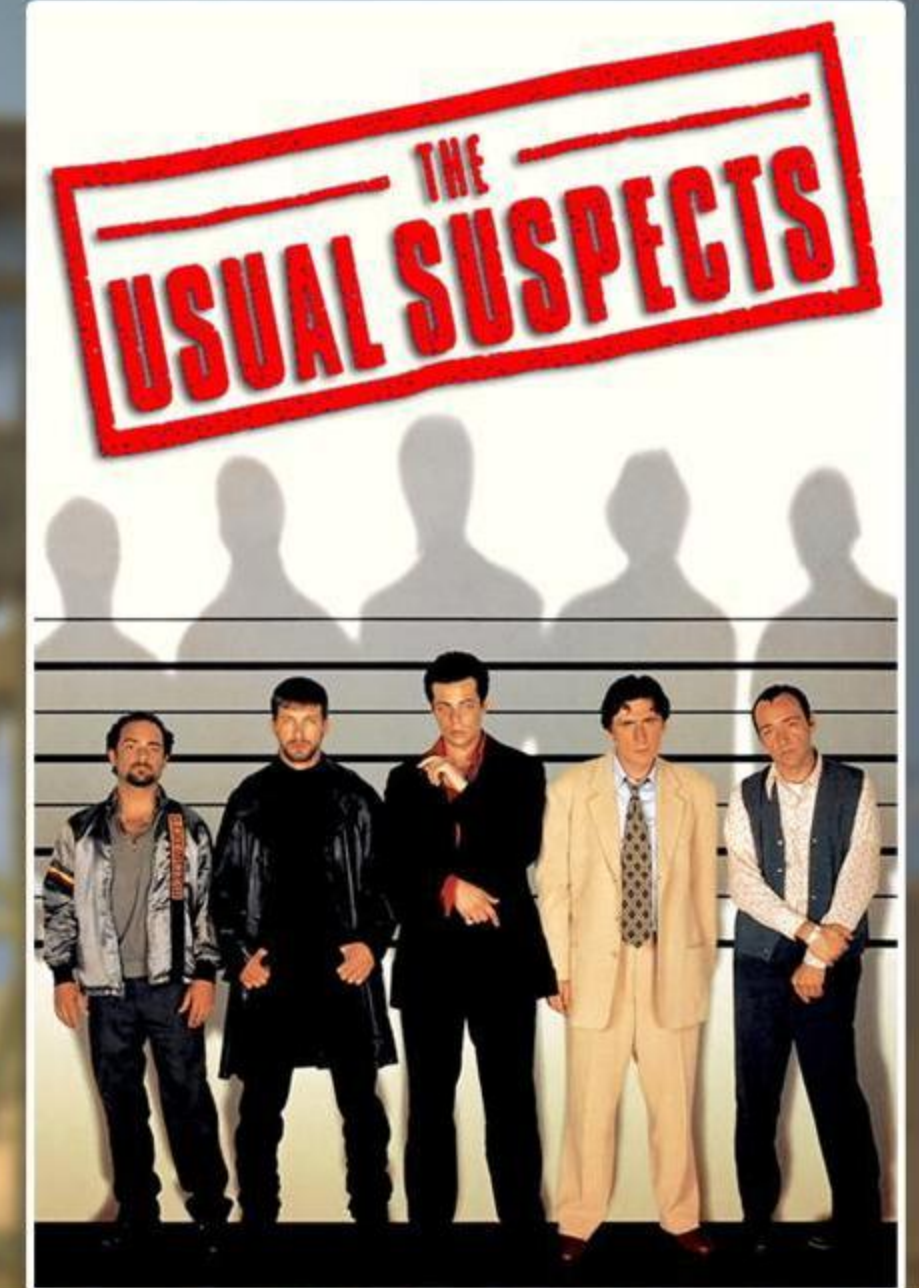
Because the crossroad, just like the mentor, can come from anywhere.



The vital relationship dynamic between mentor and mentee displayed through father, Furious Styles and his son, Tre.



A riveting, compelling story told in a harsh, confined space, inviting the audience to focus on character arcs.



A thriller steeped in misdirection with character outcomes that will keep the audience engaged and off balance.

CHARACTERS



CHARACTERS

"JUICE" JUDAH THOMPSON II

Stoic in nature. Juice is a former professional boxer now serving a life sentence for murder. A respected shot caller from the Bay Area, he's a man that holds a great deal of power on the yard. Over the decades he's been inside, he's honed his power and rage to help young short timers prepare to re-enter society with a fighting chance. But can his wisdom reach every young inmate that crosses his path?



CHARACTERS

“ O C ”

OMARI CAMPBELL

Young and manish, but incredibly perceptive. Omari was sentenced to 9 years stipulated halftime for armed robbery. Newly introduced to the prison system, he's in an impressionable state with survival mode on 10. He has a chance to forge a new path, or sink deeper into this oppressive system. Will he use his time, or simply do his time?



“COOLAID”

DARIUS RIDGEFIELD

A major shot caller of the LA car, Coolaid is a treasure trove of perspectives, but all lead back to a deep code of honor. Coolaid grew up with Omari's uncle, Tony “No Name” Harris, which gives him a deeper insight into what makes Omari tick. Sentenced to 40yrs for a retaliatory home invasion, Coolaid will go years without seeing Omari, until chance, or fate, committed Omari to the same mainline where he resides.



“CJ AND CUTTY”

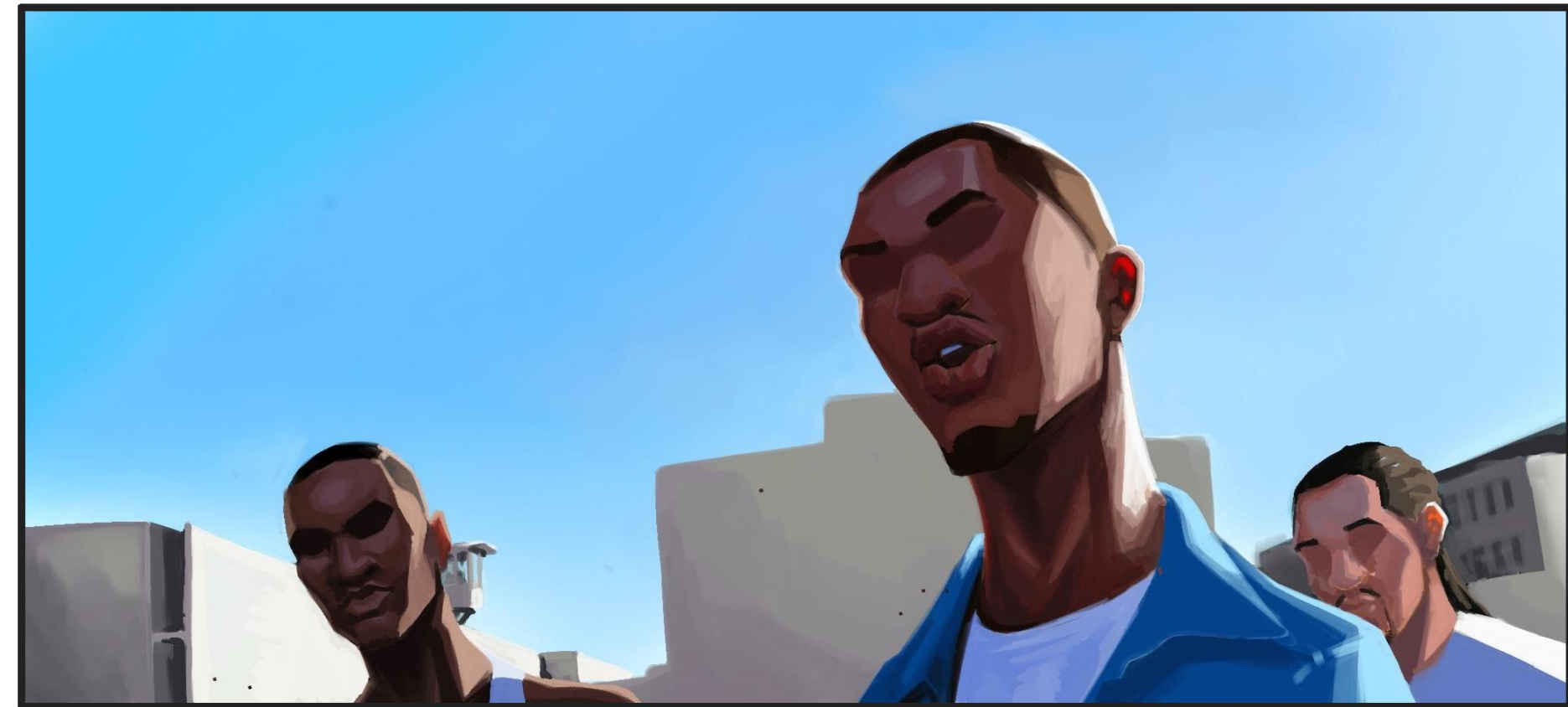
Omari's childhood friends. CJ and Cutty could be found running together through the hood with Omari and the rest of the crew, but these 2 were inseparable. Tragedy struck Cutty and CJ's father took Cutty in as his own. Shortly after, CJ's father was incarcerated and they only had each other to lean on. Left to face life with no guidance, the two quickly became family, callous and it was them against the world.



SYNOPSIS

It's Omari's final day in prison and he's enjoying his "1 and a wake up" fanfare on the yard.

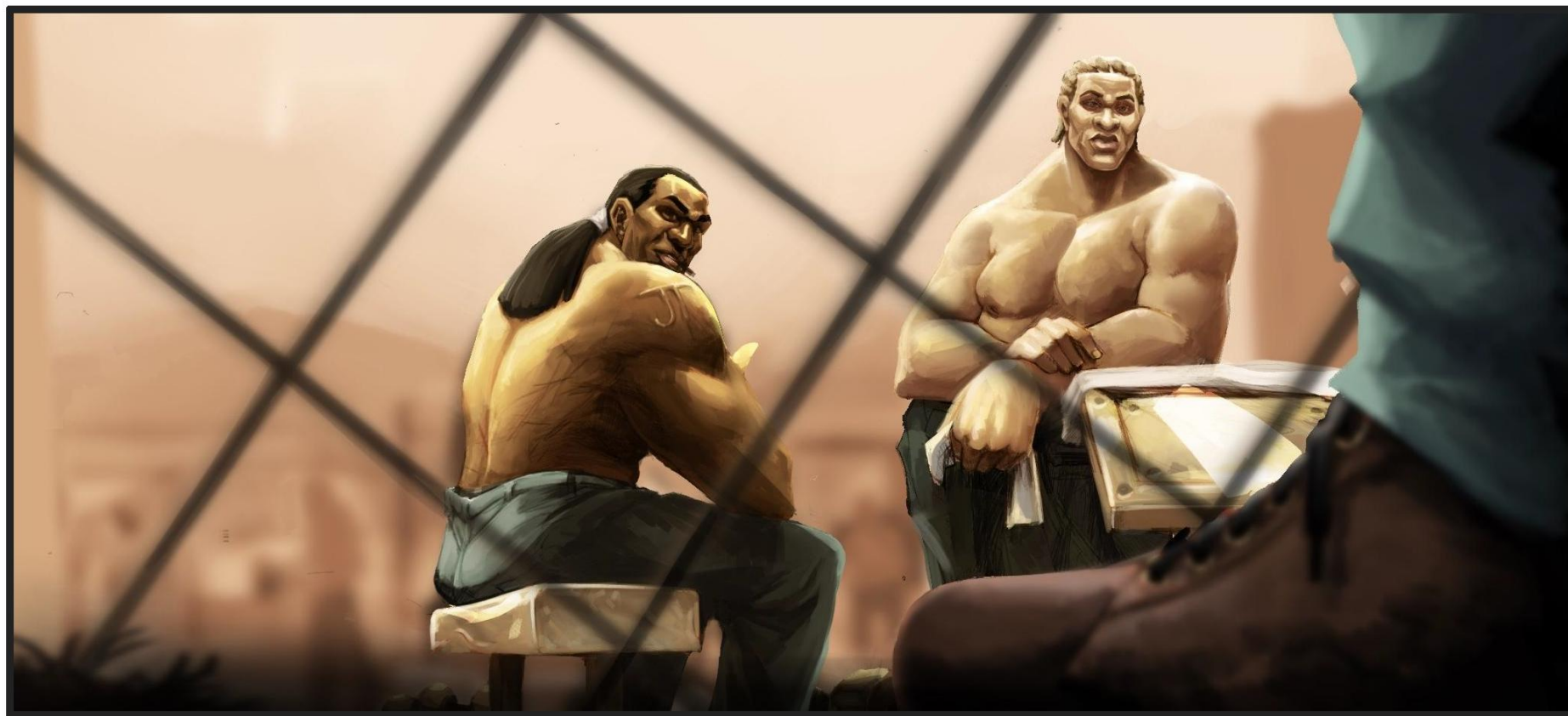
He has no idea his hothead friends, CJ and Cutty, have been greenlit by their own car and Omari is in the blast zone of the oncoming melee.



SYNOPSIS

The only person who can help is **Juice**;
a lifer who's worked hard to bond with Omari, in hopes of helping him find a new path.

But their relationship has soured ever since CJ and Cutty hit mainline...



SYNOPSIS

Knowing he and Omari are on the outs, Juice devises a strategy that can pull him from the "no way out" situation and keep him close;

A final **all or nothing domino game** for the pushups still owed by Omari.

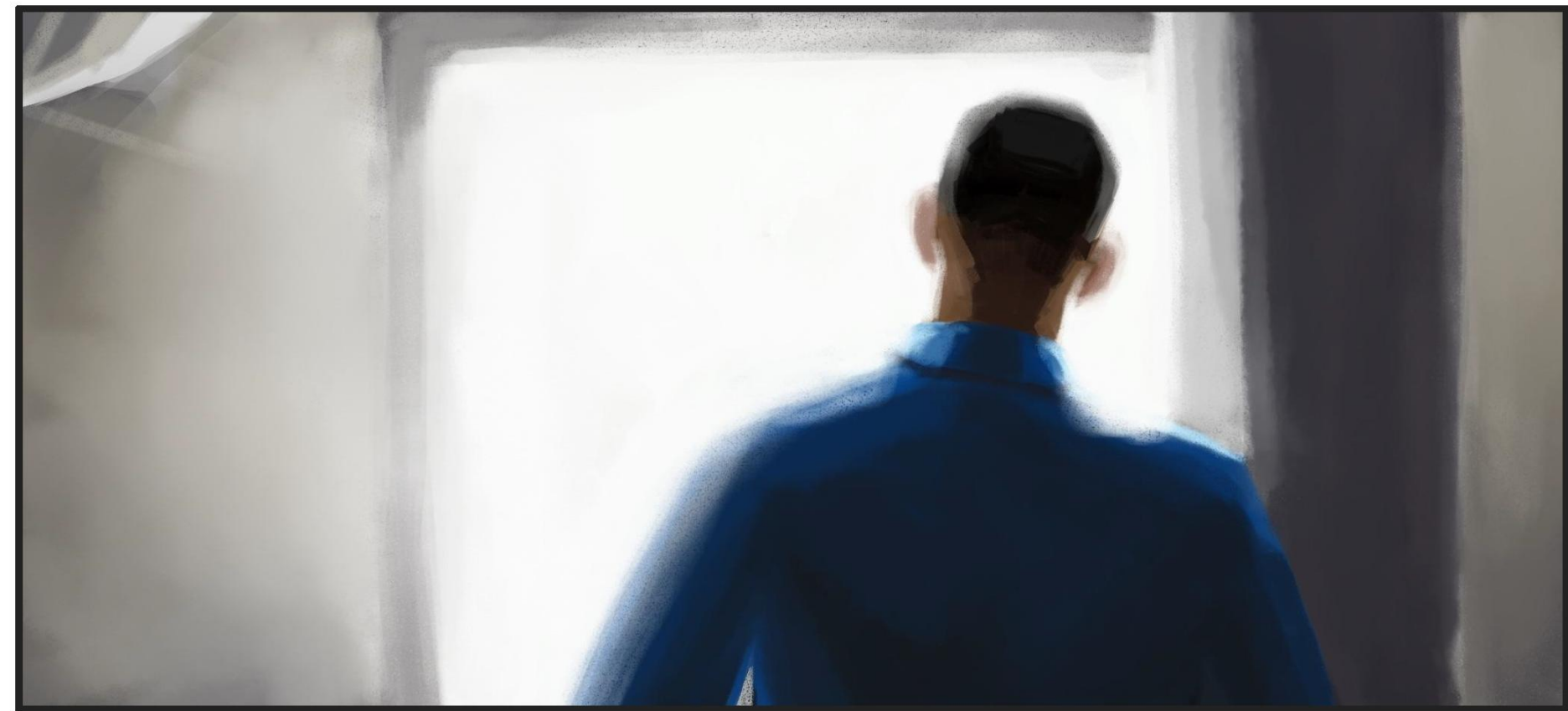
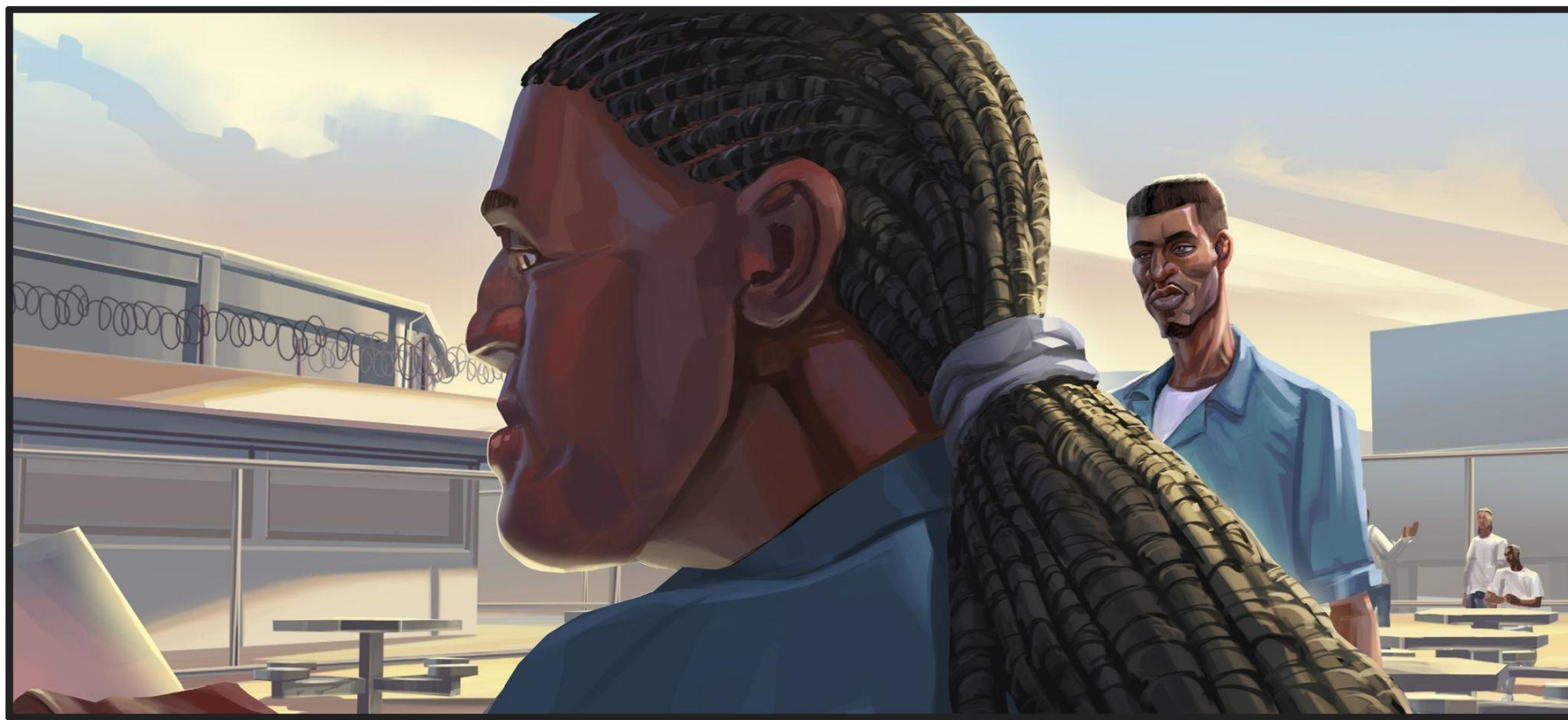


SYNOPSIS

Omari can't resist the chance to put Juice in his place at least once...

But will he receive **something far greater** than a mere win at a game of dominos?

Can he pick up what Juice is putting down, or will Omari slip back into the clutches of the very system he's worked so hard to escape?

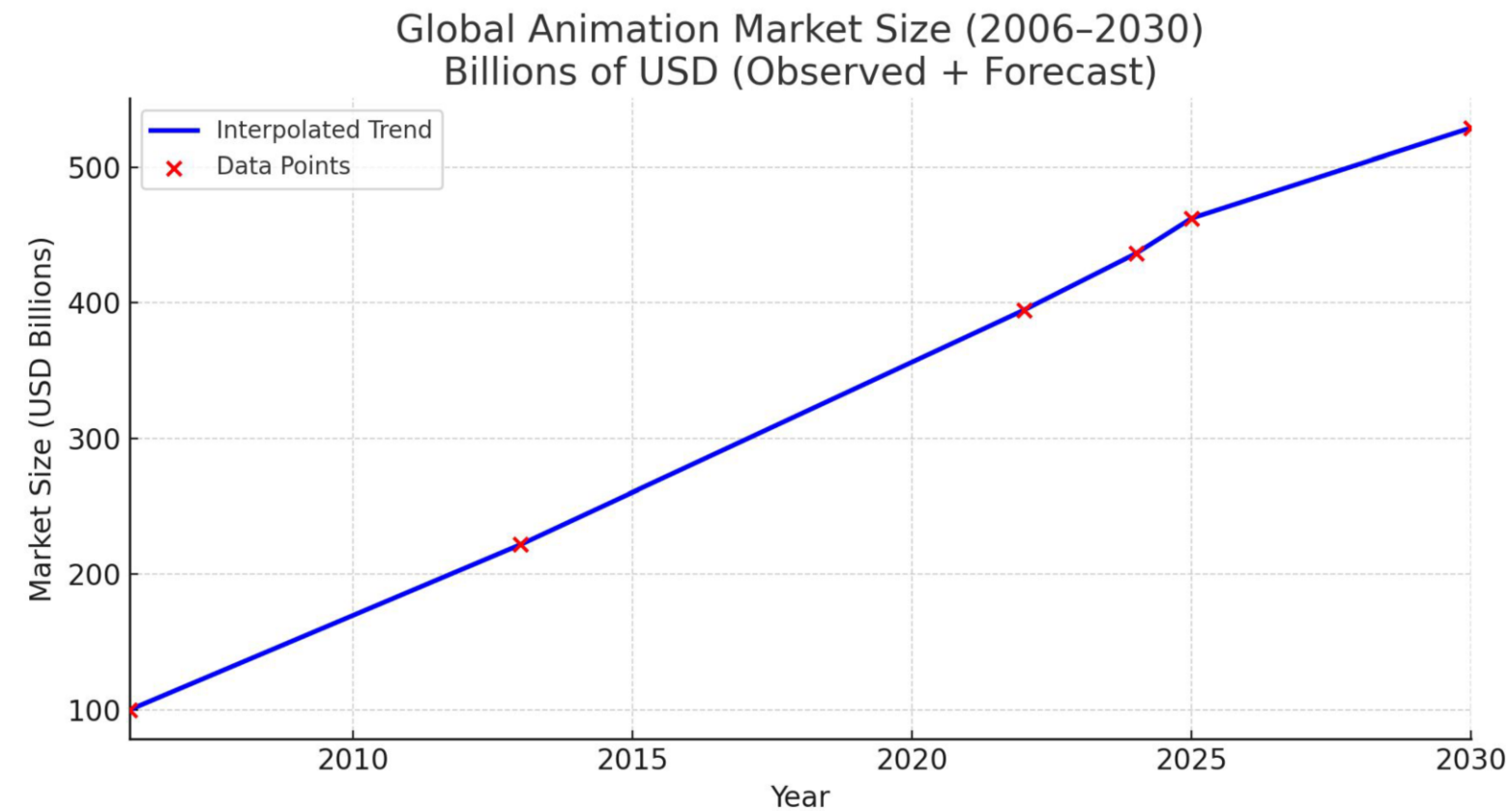


WHY DOUBLE SMOOTH?

- **Launchpad for a Larger Slate:**
Proof-of-concept short establishing the creative and technical foundation for upcoming feature projects
- **Experienced Global Team:**
Veteran producers and artists from AAA games and high-end animation delivering a lean, cross-functional production
- **Expandable IP & Cross-Media Potential:**
Built to grow into features, series, and transmedia formats, with opportunities for an interactive domino game or collectible product directly inspired by the film
- **Authentic & Inclusive Storytelling:**
Centers underrepresented voices and real social narratives, giving space to stories rarely seen on screen—like those of incarcerated individuals and marginalized communities

MARKET OPPORTUNITY

- Growth of **adult/drama animation** (e.g., *Arcane*, *Blue Eye Samurai*, *Loving Vincent*, etc.) shows increasing appetite for animation beyond kids/family
- Global animation market projected to surpass **\$600B by 2030**, with adult-targeted content as a major growth segment

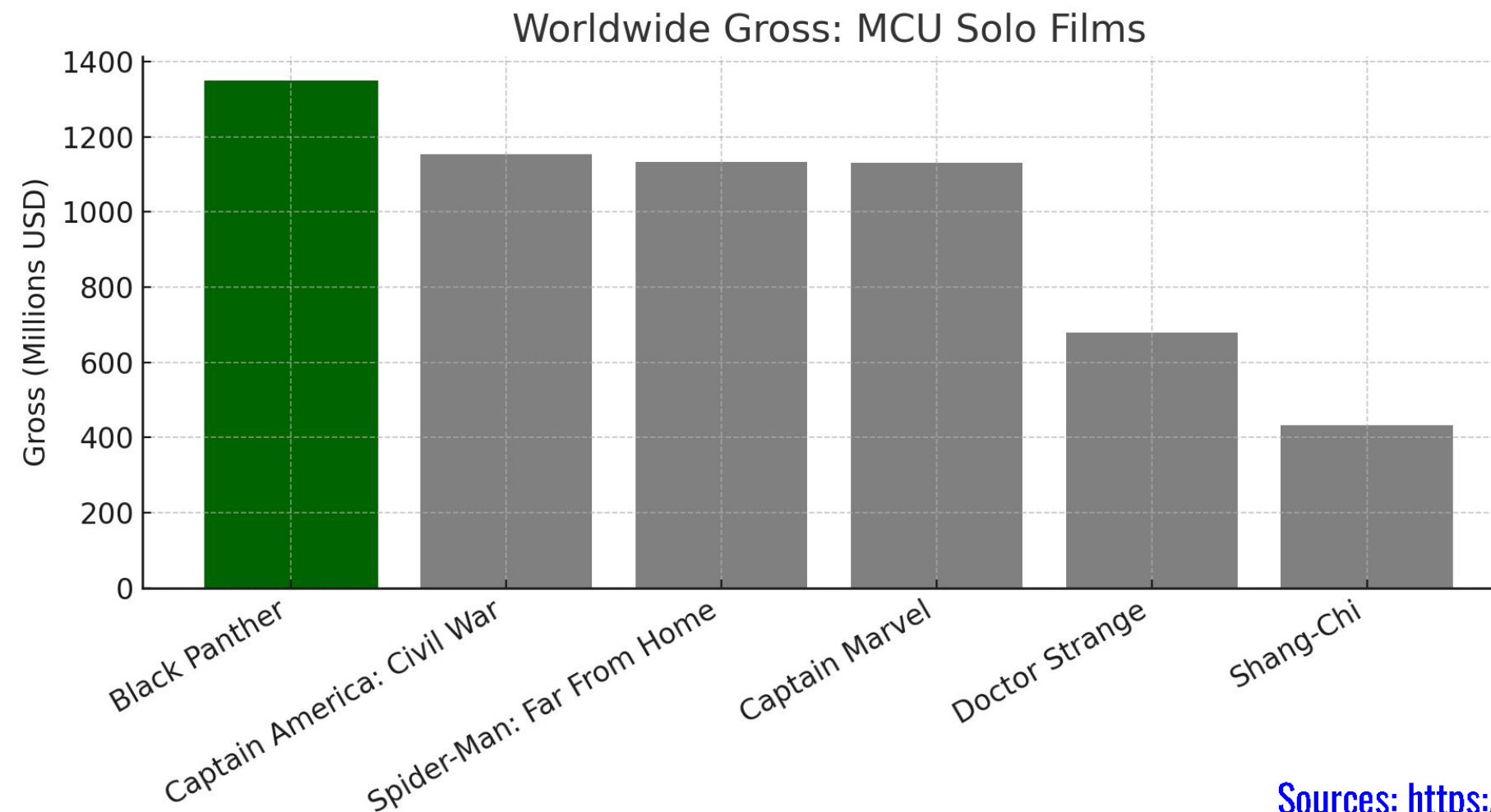


- **Impact Urgency** - US Dept. of Education & NAACP report disproportionate incarceration of Black men:
 - Black men: **~1 in 3 lifetime incarceration risk** compared to ~1 in 17 for white men
 - Even young Black students are **3x more likely** to be suspended/expelled than white peers

Sources: <https://www.parrotanalytics.com/insights/adult-animation-data-reveals-demand-growth-far-outpacing-supply/>,
<https://www.metstudios.co.uk/articles/blogs/the-state-video-games-animation-vfx-industries/>

MARKET OPPORTUNITY

- Black Panther grossed approximately \$1.35 billion worldwide and became **the highest-grossing solo superhero film**—and the highest-grossing film by an African-American director
- A study tracking 723 English-language films found that those with more Black lead actors saw a ~60% increase in box office revenue
- Films like All Eyez on Me, Straight Outta Compton, Hidden Figures, and Get Out consistently surpassed expectations in their openings; Girls Trip (2017), with a modest budget (~\$20–28M), grossed \$140 million. Remarkably, its opening weekend demographic was 52% African-American and 60% women over 25



Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther_%28film%29?
<https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2016/05/hollywood-diversity/482700/>

LEADERSHIP



Dre's journey in the world of animation is a testament to resilience, dedication, and a lifelong passion for storytelling. With over 15 years of experience as a technical director in feature animation, He has left an indelible mark on beloved franchises such as *How To Train Your Dragon*, *Shrek*, *Madagascar*, *Peanuts*, *Spies in Disguise*, and more recently, Oscar nominated *Elemental* and *Nimona*. Dissatisfied with the misrepresentation of his community in the world of cinema, 2018 marked a pivotal moment for Dre as he decided to change trajectory from asset creator to writer/director. Motivated by a desire to change the power dynamics in the entertainment space and illuminate the richness of black experiences, he embarked on a new creative journey. *Double Smooth*, explores themes of resilience and humanity in the face of oppression. The story unfolds in a world where humanity is systematically snuffed out upon entry, serving as a powerful allegory for the struggles faced by marginalized communities.



Eun Bi is an independent film producer and an art manager at a mobile game company. With a strong background in animation and expertise in production management, she produced, directed, and storyboarded her first film, *Paper City* (Madina Papel), back in 2020. She has also worked with Greyscale Animation as a producer on an 11-minute 2D short film called *Oren's Way* (2023). At the age of 12, she moved away from Seoul, South Korea, to New Zealand and is now residing in the Bay Area. Since she lived in many different places, she relates the idea of "home" more to the people she loves than to a city or a country. She deeply values learning about different perspectives and different cultures, and she aims to spark conversations for such discussions with the work that she does. She is also a proud cat mom, a translator, and a Minhwa painter.

THE VOICES



William Christopher Stephens, voicing Juice, is a versatile actor with experience spanning film, television, and animation. He made his onscreen debut in the award-winning suspense thriller *Uninvited Guest*, screened at the Acapulco Black Film Festival and the Urbanworld Film Festival. Since then, William has voiced Jax in *Mortal Kombat 11* (2019) and *Mortal Kombat: Onslaught* (2022), Maine in *Cyberpunk: Edgerunners* (2022), and has appeared in *The Avengers* (2012). He continues to seek roles that illuminate the humanity, humor, and intelligence within challenging characters.



Brandon Mendez Homer, voicing Omari, is an actor who leaves a lasting impression. He made his screen debut guest-starring across Bridget Moynahan in *Blue Bloods* (CBS) as Darnell Johnson (2019) followed by a recurring role as Jesus Christ in *The Good Fight* (CBS) (2021). He has also made a lasting impression in the role of Donnie Donahue in the Max Original series *The Pitt* (2025), which has won multiple Emmy awards. His stage credits include *The First Deep Breath* (Geffen Playhouse), *Wolf Play* (SohoRep/MCC), *On that Day in Amsterdam* (Primary Stages), and *Uncle Vanya* (Pasadena Playhouse, nominated for Best Ensemble/Production).

THE VOICES



Justin Polley, is one of the story artists for our film. His initial scratch recording for the Coolaid character proved so impressive to our director that he was given the role of the final voice in the film! Based in Los Angeles, he studied at Gobelins in Paris, specializing in character design, visual development, and storyboarding. His additional storyboarding credits include projects such as "Snoopy Presents: One-of-a-Kind Marcie" (2023) and "Good Times" (2024).

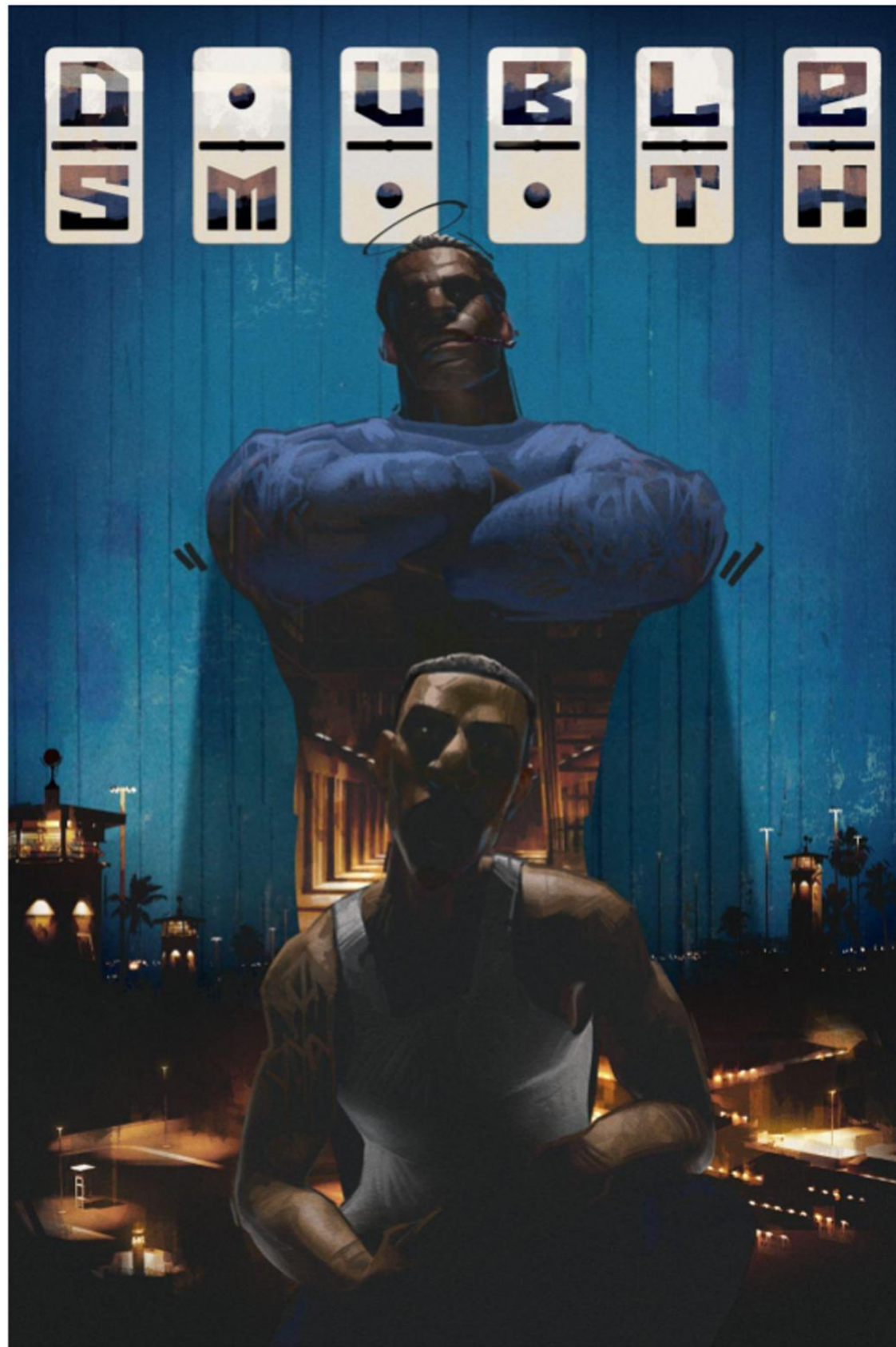


Evan Allen-Gessesse is an Emmy-winning director, actor, producer, writer, and television host. His 2016 Emmy was for Standing on Common Ground: 10 Years Later, a documentary on Hurricane Katrina. He hosted the PBS show Local USA. As an actor, he's appeared in Rosewood, Chance, I Am the Night, 9-1-1, and The Sinner, as well as in The Black Phone (2021). He is best known for playing Renny in John Singleton's Snowfall (2018-2023) and currently stars as Nurse Dave Miller in the Max original series The Pitt (2025).



Christian Goodie is an emerging actor gaining recognition for his versatile performances across film and television. He's captivated audiences with his recurring role as Thomas in the acclaimed series "The Chosen" and contributed to the acclaimed "Black Bird" and "The Righteous Gemstones". His film work includes "The Menu", "Last Words" (2016), and "One Sweet Night" (2020), a project that garnered him a "Best Actor" award, underscoring his dedication to crafting compelling characters.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT



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For inquiries or collaborations, please email the addresses below.

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Andre Rodriguez (Director): dre@doublesmooth.com

Visit our website
www.doublesmoothfilm.com

Thank you!

