

DYNAMITE PAPER & PICTURE COMPANY  
PRESENTS

# AMERICAN DOGMA

A FILM BY E.M. MCCOY

## CONTACT

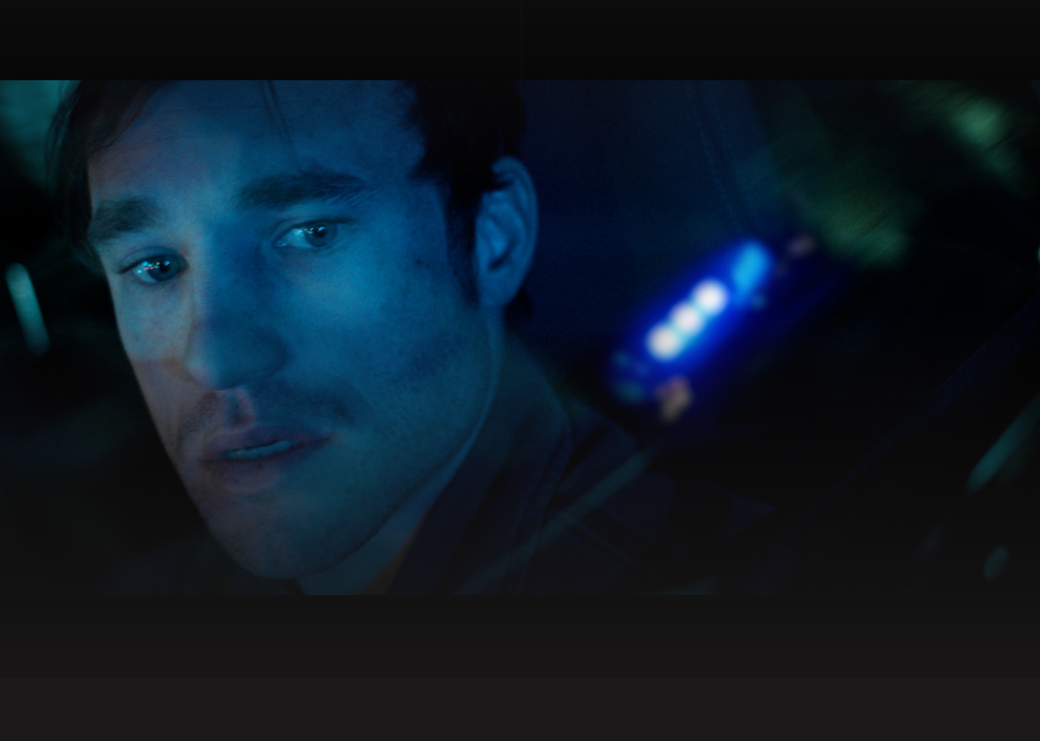
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**A LONER WITH A TROUBLED PAST AND A HOPELESS FUTURE BECOMES OBSESSED WITH A WOMAN HE BELIEVES IS INVOLVED IN A SEX TRAFFICKING RING.**



# SYNOPSIS

Kyle Christopher is an American loser with trauma scars stretching deep into his past. After a dishonorable discharge from the military, he moves home to start fresh in the city he fled from as a teenager. But things have changed. People have changed. And Kyle is changing too, but not for the better.

As Kyle winds his way through the city, picking up and dropping off various passengers, he finds himself more alone than ever before. Increasingly alienated by the strangers he encounters at night and the vitriol he listens to on political podcasts, he develops a desperate yearning for human connection that always seems to allude him. He just wants to be seen, heard, acknowledged. He wants to be significant in some way. But he isn't. He's a nobody and he knows everybody can see it.

But what about his online followers? They seem to understand his struggles. What about the forums they direct his attention to that cater to disillusioned young men just like him? Might there be a community out there that understands him entirely? Might Kyle find significance and purpose through internet strangers who echo his frustrations?

As Kyle's worldview shifts and his ideas about the world and the people in it are shaped by the increasingly radical content he consumes on a nightly basis, his appetite for confrontation grows in stride. Soon, he has stopped caring about what real people think or say or do. He lives for his anonymous online community. But what are they talking about?

One night while working, Kyle picks up a mysterious Muslim woman named Reem. From Kyle's perspective, she seems to be in some kind of trouble. His online supporters echo Kyle's gut reaction to the situation and prod him into an investigation that grows more dangerous and bold with every step closer that he gets. Might Reem be a part of a terrorist cell? A sex trafficking ring? A foreign agent? Anything starts to seem possible.

Things take a turn for the violent as Kyle's obsession with Reem and his suspicions of the people around her spiral out of control and into criminal territory. The lines between fantasy and reality blur to the point of chaos as the story marches towards its dramatic and unexpected conclusion.

**The erosion of the American Dream struggling to survive in the face of American Dogma.**

# ABOUT THIS FILM

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The culmination of years of blood, sweat, and tears, AMERICAN DOGMA is a film that reflects the true unspoken horror of modern day radicalization and the different forms it can take.

The filming of AMERICAN DOGMA spanned the length of a Presidential term and a Pandemic, surviving on the will of a small but dedicated team that was determined to bring the project to life.

The story was created by E.M. McCoy with the help of his producer and long-time writing partner, Alexander Hastings.

Principle photography took place in Atlanta, Georgia. Cinematographer Fernando Decillis sought to capture the beauty and loneliness of modern city life, setting the stage for a stunning breakout performance from J. Benedict Larmore in a once in a lifetime role.

This film was inspired by the birth of a new and uniquely modern crime-the rise of live streaming acts of violence. It is a genuine, yet inevitably incomplete, attempt to gain insight into the polarizing time we are living in and the effects our society has on the individual.





# E. M. MCCOY

WRITER. PRODUCER. DIRECTOR & EDITOR

**E.M. McCoy is a filmmaker known for creating character-driven stories that push narrative boundaries and challenge audiences.**

As a screenwriter, they have written two feature films; Category 5 (2013) starring Burt Reynolds, and the Impact Earth (2015) with Tom Berenger. In addition to their narrative work, E is a sought after producer and director of advertising content, working with clients like Porsche, Powerade, Bud Light, Coke Zero, The Home Depot, Microsoft, and Levi's

American Dogma is E's first feature film as a director.

FEATURING

# J. BENEDICT LARMORE

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After a year of searing for the right lead actor for American Dogma, Ben met the director after he was cast in an underwear commercial and the rest is history. Most recently playing Aaron Eckhart's brother in The First Lady (Showtime), He has also held roles in TV and Films such as Still, Dead Silent, The Night Sitter, Haima, #PrettyFunny and Your Worst Nightmare to name a few.



## FEATURING



NASIM

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Nasim is a recording artist and actor based in Atlanta. Her film and television credits include **Covenant** (ALLBLK), **Creepshow** (AMC), **Doom Patrol** (HBO MAX), **The Baker & The Beauty** (ABC) and **Mabrook** (Palm Springs International Shortest) to name a few. Her portrayal as Deja Parker in **Fisher** won Best Supporting Actress at Vancouver International Film Awards.

## SHERIF HAMZA

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Sherif is an Egyptian performing artist with a background as a musician and photographer. *American Dogma* is his first feature film predominately in English.



# CAST & CREW

## STARRING

J. BENEDICT LARMORE

NASIM

SHERIF HAMZA

RAPHAEL GARCIA

MIKAELA SIMMONS

DAVID ISHMAEL

BRYSON BONTA

JAMIE BLUESTEIN

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY E.M. MCCOY

PRODUCED BY ALEXANDER HASTINGS,  
MORGAN BILLMAN, & E.M. MCCOY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: JEREMY FOX

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: FERNANDO DECILLIS

PRODUCTION DESIGN: LONNIE GARNER

ORIGINAL SCORE BY CARTER KING & TYLER BILLMAN

SOUND DESIGN: GOPAL SWAMMY

COLOR: COMPANY3

VFX: KIERAN RADLEY & JACKSON SEAL



# AD

**Genre:** Psychological Thriller. Neon Noir

**Runtime:** 1h 25min (85 min)

**Languages:** English, Arabic (with English Subtitles)

**Format:** 4k, 2k & HD

**Aspect Ratio:** 1.85:1

**Sound Mix:** Dolby Atmos 7.1







# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

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This is a story about the modern day radicalization of the American man.

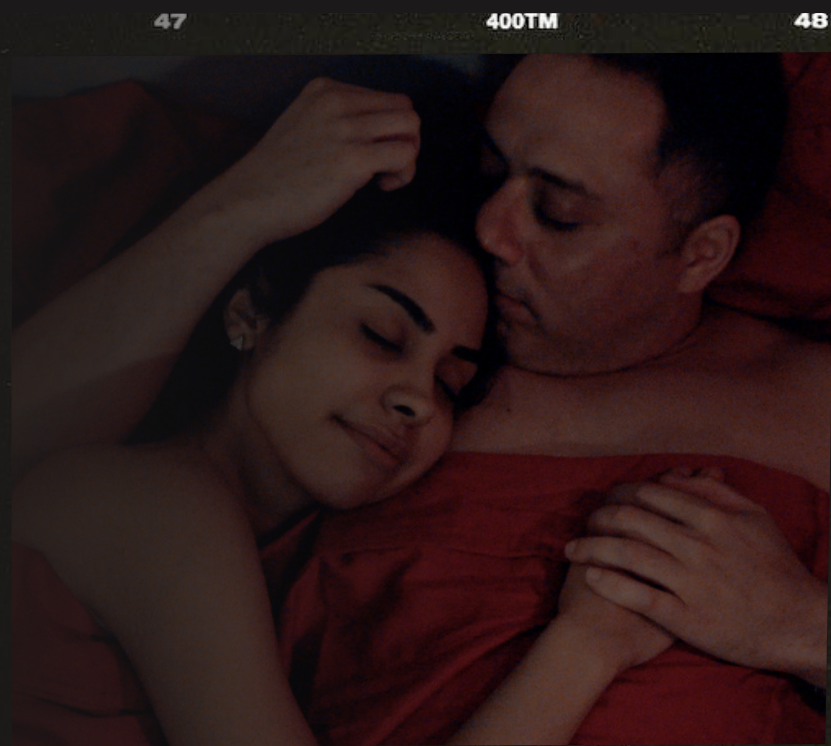
Kyle doesn't fit the norm of what a man is "supposed to" be like in our society. Instead of being strong, stoic, and independent, he's insecure, lonely, and still struggling to find his place. It's this dissonance and his decisions on how to cope with it that lead to Kyle's disillusionment and ultimate downfall.

What Kyle isn't aware of, is that the fear of being unable to live up to society's fetishization of masculinity has long perpetrated extremism across the world. Its rehashed ideologies always promising some secret to freeing the male ego from its constant cycle of insecurity. What we're seeing today is the modern American brand. And like America, it has the added pressure of wanting to be the best in the world. A bar so high it's no wonder this loop has become endemic.

To exacerbate things, the technology driven world we live in now is full of contradictions. We are able to be more connected to our friends and family than ever before, yet loneliness is at a historic peak. We compare our lives to strangers on social media, but only ever see their highlight reels. We promote mental health awareness, yet deaths of despair continue to rise. We deplore prejudice, but proponents of hate have never had more channels to promote their messages from.

Objective truths have become so fractured by systemic lies that our ability to debate facts is fundamentally broken. We live in an era fertile for deception, consistently reminded of the violent consequences unleashed by these lies every time a young man with a manifesto opens fire on a group of innocent strangers.

We don't like to examine our monsters because they hold a mirror up to our society and are frightful to behold. But the truth is important, even if it's uncomfortable. That's why we made this film.



TEASER, FULL TRAILER AND IMAGES AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE. [WWW.AMERICANDOGMAMOVIE.COM](http://WWW.AMERICANDOGMAMOVIE.COM)



“Mesmerizing. *Taxi Driver* for the QAnon era.”

- Stephen King

