

True Friend

A Prestige Crime Drama with
Commercial Power

Written, Directed & Produced by:
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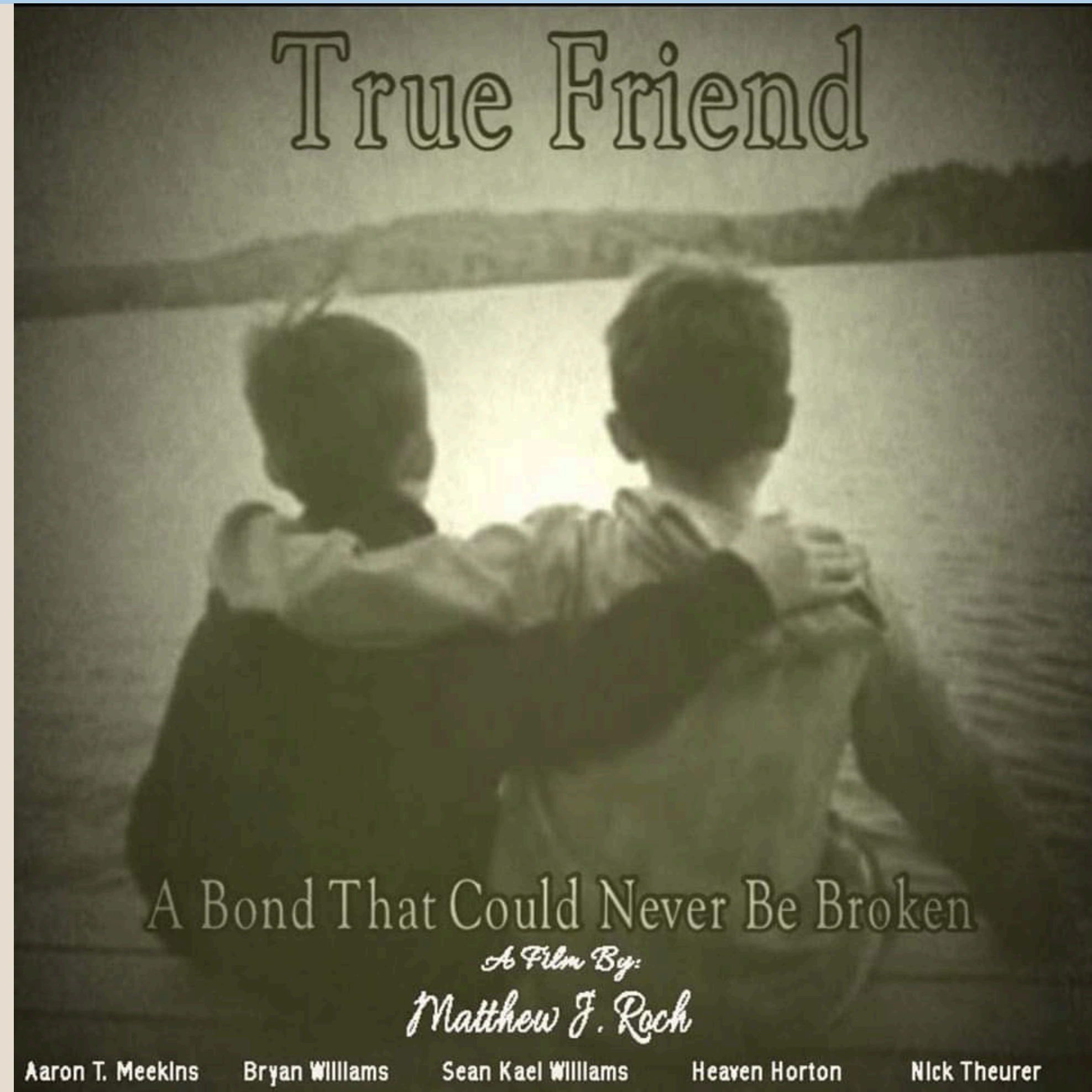
True Friend

Some debts are paid in blood.

Genre: Drama / Crime

Status: Development

Estimated Budget Tier: \$5M



TRUE FRIEND is a contained, emotionally powerful crime drama positioned for:

1: Festival premiere

2: Awards traction

3: Strong streaming acquisition

4: International appeal

This is a prestige drama in the spirit of:

1: The Departed

2: City of God

3: Good Will Hunting

Logline



Two young men from opposite sides of the economic divide form a lifelong friendship. When one becomes entangled with violent criminals, the other sacrifices everything to save him — redefining loyalty in the most devastating way.

WHY THIS FILM WORKS NOW

Cultural Relevance

Audiences are responding to:

1. Authentic male vulnerability
2. Class inequality narratives
3. Crime dramas with emotional depth
4. Stories of sacrifice and loyalty

Crime drama remains one of the most reliable genres globally.

Streaming platforms aggressively acquire prestige crime content.



MARKET COMPARABLES

Tuner

Budget- \$7M

Worldwide Gross-
\$13.5M+

Good Time

Budget- \$2M

Worldwide Gross-
\$4.1M

Character-driven crime dramas consistently over perform relative to budget when:

1. Emotionally authentic
2. Critically embraced
3. Award-recognized

TRUE FRIEND is designed to sit in that profitable middle lane.

PRODUCTION STRATEGY

Budget Range: \$5M

Cost Control Factors:

Limited primary locations

Urban practical settings

Character-driven (minimal VFX)

60-day shoot schedule

Tax incentive eligible location strategy available.

CASTING STRATEGY

Two-bankable rising actors or:

One established name
&

One breakout discovery

Supporting cast:

Recognizable character actors

Award-level dramatic performers

*Awards potential increases streaming acquisition leverage.

DIRECTOR'S EDGE

As Writer, Director, and Producer, this is a unified creative vision.

Advantages:

- Cost efficiency
- Creative consistency
- Passion-driven leadership
- Controlled production pipeline



FESTIVAL & AWARDS STRATEGY

Target Festivals:

- Sundance Film Festival
- Toronto International Film Festival
- Cannes Film Festival

Awards Path:

- Best Actor campaigns
- Screenplay consideration
- Breakthrough performance buzz

Awards positioning increases:

- Streaming licensing value
- International sales
- Long-tail revenue

DISTRIBUTION STRATEGY

Primary Exit Options:

Festival acquisition by:



- Limited theatrical + streaming hybrid model
- International pre-sales strategy



Crime drama performs strongly in:

- North America
- UK
- Latin America
- Western Europe

REVENUE STREAMS

- Domestic theatrical
- International theatrical
- Streaming licensing
- Premium VOD
- Airline & secondary licensing
- Catalog longevity value

Strong secondary life in streaming libraries due to emotional rewatchability.

RISK MITIGATION

Why this is lower risk than large-scale productions:

- No heavy VFX
- Contained story
- Proven genre
- Flexible casting model
- Tax incentive opportunities
- Multiple distribution paths

Character-driven dramas have lower downside exposure.

EMOTIONAL IMPACT = MARKET VALUE

Films that create emotional devastation generate:

- Strong word-of-mouth
- Social conversation
- Award buzz
- Long shelf life

TRUE FRIEND is designed to leave audiences shaken — the kind of ending people talk about for years.

WHY INVEST NOW?

- Prestige crime drama market remains strong
- Controlled budget with scalable model
- Awards positioning increases exit multiples
- Powerful emotional hook
- Globally relatable themes
- This is not just a film.
- It is a loyalty story with generational impact.