

# Synopses

## LOGLINE

He asked God to look the other way so he could do what had to be done.

## LOGLINE IN FRENCH

Il a demandé à Dieu de détourner le regard côté afin qu'il puisse faire ce qui devait être fait.

## MEDIUM SYNOPSIS

Mateo is a 15 year old boy from East Los Angeles. His mother is single and vulnerable to emotional extremes. As the story opens, we see that Mateo has become his mother's caretaker. He creates income by selling cocaine, while finding absolution in his Catholic faith.

That's when Rick, his mom's boyfriend, returns unexpectedly. Violence and abuse return with him, only this time Mateo vows to put a stop to it.

But how does Mateo protect his mother and himself while doing the "right thing" in God's eyes? What constitutes "being a man" and does it require compromising one's soul?

## LONG SYNOPSIS

Mateo is a 15 year old boy from East Los Angeles. His mother is single and vulnerable to emotional extremes. As the story opens, we see that Mateo has become his mother's caretaker; he creates income by selling cocaine; he finds absolution and sustenance in his religious faith and worship of the Madonna. Lastly, we see Mateo yearn for 'the father' who should be - perhaps was once there - long ago.

That's when Rick, his mom's estranged boyfriend, unexpectedly returns. Like a lightning bolt, violence and abuse return with him.

Only this time Mateo vows to put a stop to it.

In the course of his journey to rid them of the boyfriend and protect the life of his mother Mateo is offered two alternatives. He is confronted by a vision of his own descent into hell. He breaks bread with the devil. He is visited by Three Angels who deliver a package from God.

But how does Mateo protect his mother and himself while doing the "right thing" in God's eyes? What constitutes "being a man" and does it require compromising one's soul?