



## Synopsis

A biracial man finally gets the courage to tell his grandmother how her racist past affected him... at her funeral. Inspired by real events, the film touches on the types of conversations we all struggle with sometimes because they're too uncomfortable, too scary, or because the other person is gone.



## Writer's Statement

Much of my professional career has been spent telling stories from the multi-cultural community. Many of those stories have been deeply personal, and **Unsaid** is no different. We have an incredible, diverse, female-led team that has come together to help make this film which I have been working towards creating for over four years. I wrote about the story in my first book, **No One Here is Like Me**, published in 2022, and now we are finally making it happen in film form.

One of the biggest reasons I need to make this film (beyond my own personal closure) is because I want to practice the things that I preach to my kids. My wife and I are constantly encouraging our two young boys to "use their words"; to tell us how they feel so they can begin the healing process and just feel lighter. I had been holding this story inside myself for way too long, and the weight of it was hurting me. The conversations we don't have, the stories we don't share, they weigh on us, and the only way we can truly heal is by letting them out.

Over 33 million Americans identify as multiracial and yet their stories are largely absent from our media landscape. That's over 10% of people who don't see themselves and their stories represented on screen. My hope is that this film will help inspire others to tell their own stories, too. This film is an effort to tell one story so that others don't feel alone and can be a jumping off point for discussion and healing within families and in communities.



# Director's Statement

Unsaid is not my story. But it is a story I deeply resonated with. It's a work that speaks directly to our shadow selves, the part of us that is all too familiar with regret and the heartbreak of unrealized second chances. What I loved about this script is that even though these themes saturate almost every moment, there still is a lightness there. That comedy is just as much a part of how we navigate through our darker narratives as is all the other "stuff".

While watching the film, I want the viewers to experience the worlds that our lead character, Nate, must constantly straddle - black and white, truth vs interpretation, emotion vs obligation. We contrasted dulled, desaturated flashbacks with the vibrant glow of the present moment - a funeral scene purposely filled with warmth and intimacy - to communicate that even though the past may contain the painful moments that helped shape who we are, it is within the present where we can step into who we are meant to be.

I hope everyone enjoys watching Unsaid. This was my first short film and it was a joy to make. I'm deeply grateful to our incredible team of creatives who are masterful collaborators and truly understood the vision from day one. I am also exceptionally thankful for our talented cast, our highly competent crew and the countless friends, family members and supporters whose donations of their time, talent, finances and words of encouragement helped bring this vision to life.



## Biographies



### **Robert King - Writer / Executive Producer**

A writer, actor, and author living in Los Angeles, Rob can currently be seen as Dr. Fred Miller on Max's hit medical drama *The Pitt*. Rob was also a writer/producer for the current season of *Hollywood Squares* on CBS. Prior to that he wrote for ABC's *The Chase* (where he won a WGA award), and served as an executive producer/co-head writer for *Up Early Tonight*, a new late night show on Hulu. Rob is also an award-winning branded content creator, having created successful campaigns for companies such as Eggo, Huggies, and Johnson & Johnson to name a few. Rob's first book 'No One Here Is Like Me' was published by Scribd as an e-book/audio book in 2022.

Rob was a senior writer for Lorne Michaels' *Above Average*, where he created and hosted the popular web series *Your Biggest Fan* where he worked with celebrities like Jane Lynch, Alan Alda, and Russell Brand. Rob was also a recipient of NBC's Diversity Award for writing and performing. As an actor Rob has been seen in Billy Crystal's stage show *Have A Nice Day* alongside Kevin Kline, Annette Benning, and others. He has also worked on various television shows like *The Blacklist* and two different *Law & Order* shows, and films such as *Don't Think Twice* with Mike Birbiglia and *Can You Keep A Secret* opposite Alexandria Daddario. Most importantly, Rob has the best Will Smith impression in the world (which really hasn't been too in demand since "The Slap".)



### **Monique Moses - Director / Executive Producer**

Monique Moses is a Canadian born writer, director and actor based in New York and Los Angeles. She was Co-Head Writer and a Co-Executive Producer for Season 4 of HBO's *A Black Lady Sketch Show* and has consulted on projects with Jimmy Fallon (*That's My Jam*, NBC Universal), Mike Myers (*The Pentaverate*, Netflix) and John Mulaney (*Sack Lunch Bunch*, Netflix). Additional writing credits include the second season of *Teenage Euthanasia* (Adult Swim / HBO Max), the first season of *Human Resources* (Big Mouth spin off, Netflix), and *The Kid's Tonight Show* (Peacock). As a member of all black comedy team *Astronomy Club*, she co-created and starred in *Astronomy Club The Sketch Show*, which premiered on Netflix in 2019 to stellar reviews from Variety, Vulture and Rotten Tomatoes.



### **Melisa Breiner-Sanders - Producer**

A producer and actor based in Brooklyn, NY, Mélisa received her MFA in Acting from DePaul University and her BA from Georgetown University. A producer for over a decade, Mélisa has worked on award-winning features, shorts, webseries, and music videos that have screened at festivals across the country and internationally. She was a Consulting Producer on Cupids (TriBeCa, Cannes, BET+), Producer for **Being Here** which released to 20K views in the first week, and her viral sketch Interview with an Applicant has over 1.6M views on Youtube. Her first feature Seven Lovers is available on all digital streaming platforms and she is currently in post-production as a Producer on the indie feature Greetings From Arizona. Melisa was part of the Sundance Co//ab Producing cohort in 2020, advised by Karin Chien.



### **Aric Jacobson - Dir. of Photography**

Aric Jacobson, a director of photography of 20 years, was born and raised in New York. Growing up on Manhattan's lower east side in the 1980s not only influenced his shooting style but also allowed him to grow up on movie and tv sets. After receiving his degree in cinematography from the School of Visual Arts in 2006, Jacobson got his second education on major motion pictures and television shows shot in the city. Aric worked on TV shows such as Boardwalk Empire, Person of Interest, and Elementary. He learned the dynamics of a film set and the nuances of each department. It all laid the groundwork for his career as a cinematographer, shooting with speed and efficiency, doing more with less, while fostering creativity and camaraderie. His work ranges from stylized Super Bowl commercials and music videos to gritty feature films, and glossy branded and editorial videos for various brands and companies.



### **Shannon Taylor - Producer**

Shannon Taylor is an EMMY award winning filmmaker (NATAS PSW) who runs her own production company Taylor Way Productions. She has produced feature films, commercials, TV pilots, documentaries, TV programs, social media content, live events, virtual events, and live telethons. Her work has been seen on Primetime TV, local TV, YouTube, social media, and film festivals worldwide. Her projects have included actors such as Julius Thomas III (Hamilton), Tiffany Denisse Hobbs (Ozark, Atlanta), Faithe Herman (This is Us, Shazam), Mark Christopher Lawrence (Chuck, Pursuit of Happyness), Alexander Hodge (Insecure), and Arielle Kebbel (Vampire Diaries, Fifty Shades Freed). Based in Southern California, she is currently the Supervising Producer at the tech company, ClickUp.