De Gringo a La Tumba - Cover Letter

<u>De Gringo a La Tumba</u> is an independent feature film to be shot and produced in the United States and Mexico. It is an intense, edge-of-your-seat, crime drama, involving a seven-year-old girl trying desperately to reunite with her mother across the Mexico border, in the United States, with the help of a burnt out, chain-smoking, alcoholic Gringo.

The story is about family, loyalty, redemption, and friendship. Can a man forget his past failures and help an innocent child...? Is he willing to risk his life and make the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the safety of a young girl...? Can he find something more important than himself to live for...? When the mission gets too dangerous, Gringo prefers to take the easy road and save himself, but that naïve look in the eyes of the child that he's agreed to help tells him that her life depends on him to be brave and strong. To be a hero.

We've all seen movies that have taken place on the U.S./Mexico border. They've shown audiences the dangerous underworld of drug smuggling and Mexican gangs and cartels, but <u>De Gringo a La Tumba</u> has something that those other films lack, heart. Imagine a road trip between a seven-year-old girl, wise beyond her years, and a middle-aged, non-Spanish-speaking Gringo. The relationship has all the emotional complexity of a father trying to raise an orphaned child, or the exact opposite, a child trying to raise a negligent and irresponsible father. It's a race-against-time for this odd couple, dodging machismo, bounty hunters, CIA agents, and the cartel, while learning to understand/respect each other & escape a desolate and dangerous landscape.

This project began as a short film titled, *From Gringo to Grave*. Since its completion in February 2020, *From Gringo to Grave* has been screened in film festivals across the world, including the United States, Mexico, Germany, India, Russia, and Slovakia. The short film took home awards for best picture as well as best screenplay, proving that this story resonates with international audiences. Our world is divided by borders, yet the most important thing inside of each border are the people. Humanity transcends borders. *De Gringo a La Tumba* is more than just a border-war story between the United States and Mexico, it's about the humanity of the people who exist on opposite sides of the border, yet strive to do what is morally right. Any international audience will understand this concept regardless of language or culture.

We invite you to view our <u>production package</u>. You'll see that we've already cast an eclectic ensemble of <u>talented actors & actresses</u> from both Mexico and the United States, and that we've assembled an experienced crew of <u>producers</u> who are dedicated to completing this film and seeing it released in movie theaters, film festivals, and on streaming platforms. Our <u>director</u> is a talented and ambitious young man, with over a decade of screenwriting and directing experience notched upon his belt. We've created what we consider a recipe for success and we invite you to come aboard and take a look around. We think you'll be impressed by what you see and we look forward to having you join us on this exciting endeavor.