GABRIEL BYRNE JOANNE WHALLEY LINDZE LETHERMAN



VIRGINIA'S RUN

Two sisters.

One remarkable adventure that will bring them together.

ALLIANCE ATLANTIS PRESENTS A KNIGHTSCOVE FAMILY FILMS PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH WARDENCLYFFE ENTERTAINMENT AND HOLEDIGGER FILMS A PETER MARKLE PILM GABRIEL BYRNE JOANNE WHALLEY "VIRGINIA'S RUN" LINDZE LETHERMAN KEVIN ZEGERS RACHEL SKARSTEN "F NICHOLAS PIKE BOOK PATRICK MCMAHON, ACE "BREEK VINCENT CRESCIMAN

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IRGINIA'S

Thunder and lightning rip apart the New England night sky, but what wakens eleven year-old Virginia is the sudden awareness that her horse, Twister, is in trouble. The young girl on instinct flies out of her bedroom, her house, and races by bicycle out to the field, arriving in time to deliver a foal and cradle the mare in her final moments. Stormy, the aptly named colt, is up on his feet with amazing speed. Virginia realizes he's going to be a very special horse, like his mother. But it infuriates her that this new colt, Stormy, is actually owned by her wealthy neighbor Blake Raines.

This unfortunate circumstance is the result of a fatal riding accident three years prior in which Twister threw Virginia's mother. So distraught was her father, Ford, that he couldn't stand the sight of the horse and sold Twister to Raines, forbidding Virginia from ever riding again. Now she lives with her dad and her older sister, Caroline, hoping her father will change his mind. As Stormy grows, Virginia makes a nightly habit of sneaking over to the Raines' stables to ride him. During the day, she must endure the teasing of Raines' son, Darrow, a good-looking, but cruel teenager who taunts her at every opportunity. Not only is Darrow Raines dating Caroline, but he also fancies himself a top-notch equestrian when he wins the coveted Memorial Day 50 Mile Endurance Race. The irony is that Darrow knows Virginia rides Stormy every night and keeps her secret under his hat - making her the ideal target for his ridicule.

Boxed in by the frustrations of her father's riding restrictions, the continuing grief over her mother's death and her sister's almost traitorous relationship with Darrow, Virginia rides harder and faster each night. One evening, she and Stormy recklessly gallop across a roadway, narrowly missing a woman driving her car. It was a close call, but for a tomboy like Virginia, the adrenaline rush is the only release she can find.

Just when things seemed to have settled into a comfortable pattern, Virginia is devastated when she discovers that Blake Raines has sold Stormy to new owners upstate. Ford tries to ease the loss by arranging for her to begin an after-school job helping Jessie, the coolly beautiful new assistant in the Raines stables - the same woman whose car Virginia and Stormy almost collided with several nights before. Ford and Jessie, whose paths have already crossed, dance around the beginnings of romance.

Jessie helps Ford to understand Virginia's need to ride and how it feeds her spirit while allowing her to keep the bond with her late mother. Ford understands and secretly buys Stormy back for Virginia which is his way of saying she can enter the upcoming Memorial Day 50 Mile Endurance Race. The family is further galvanized when Caroline becomes the victim of Darrow's irresponsible driving. By now, Virginia has been chomping at the bit for the chance to show Darrow his rightful place - second place. With Ford's blessing, Caroline's camaraderie and Jessie's encouragement, Virginia and Stormy sets themselves to the challenge of not only of training for the race, but overcoming Darrow, who will stop at nothing to win. As in every race, when you reach the finish line is as important as how you run the race. And Virginia runs a very good race.

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