

**Working Title: (renamed from IKYAS) “ADELINA” (Feature Length)**

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### **STORY LINE:**

This story is set in the **1960s** in Davao City. We see a couple in their 30s, Patrinada and Nicolo accompanying a child Adelina, 15, on their way to the pier - hoping to catch the ship that will leave to Bohol at midnight.

Occupying the middle seat of the bus between Patrinada and Nicolo is Adelina. Adelina wakes up with pain on the wounds of her feet, the couple gives her water.

Patrinada and Nicolo then urge Adelina to sleep and take some rest. Moments pass by, the bus stops for bathroom break.

It's a chaotic scene in the mansion lawn as the Cabella sons, headed by the eldest, Ben Jr., 16 gang up against small Adelina, 8, who is already cowering in the corner. They are shouting “Adopted ka!” to her, as Judas, 12, pees on Adelina.

Only Micheal Gabriel, 6, who is the youngest son, didn't participate on the bullying. He disappears to the corner, calling the attention of Jolio, the family driver.

Jolio, who is busy fixing the truck, drops his tool immediately as soon as Micheal Gabriel tells him about the chaos on the lawn. He calmly approach Adelina on the corner, help her up and leads her to the maid's quarter to treat her wounds.

Ben Jr. couldn't stop Jolio. Ben Jr. comes inside the house, he hears his parents arguing. He speaks up to call them but they don't pay him any attention.

In the maid's quarters, the housemaids and drivers gather around. We have a warmer atmosphere than the scene earlier. Petra - also an in-house maid and Jolio's wife, tends Adelina's wounds. Here, Adelina finds refuge.

Jolio recalls how Doña Regina brought her home from the hospital, saying that she was an abandoned hospital baby. The Cabellas wanted a daughter but couldn't bear one. Growing up, they treated her like one of them; until they had their own biological daughters. She was practically raised by Petra.

The bus stops for check-point. The army comes up and searches the bus from front to end. Nicolo passes a jacket to Patrinada to cover Adelina, afraid that they might be searching for her.

Adelina hides her face on the bus by lying down in Patrinada's lap, pretending to sleep. One of the armies demands to lift the jacket, grabbing the jacket from Adelina's face. On the reveal, she's not the one they are searching for, and they moved on. The bus then starts to move.

Adelina's only playmate when she was 10 is Micheal Gabriel, 8. They are playing it outside the lawn. A canine broke loose from their neighborhood and attacked Micheal Gabriel. Immediately after the incident, Micheal Gabriel fall ill and died because of rabies infection.

Ben Jr. was so affected by his brother's death that this escalates his abuse and mistreatment towards Adelina. The Don and Doña couldn't deny the fact that they partly blame Adelina towards their youngest son's death.

To “protect” their daughters from Adelina, the Don and Doña decided to transfer her to the maid’s room. The room is cramped and crowded, but for Adelina it’s homier than the spacious mansion that she’s used to.

Adelina observes the in-house maids and drivers as they work throughout the day and come back exhausted.

Back on the bus, they arrive at the pier. Adelina follows the couple towards the line for the ticketing counter, as she still limps from the wounds of her feet.

At 13, the *Cabellas* further alienate Adelina, they did not let her eat with them in their table anymore. Instead, she is told to eat with the maids. Here, a clear line divides them and the *Cabellas*. She eats *mais* with the in-house workers, while the family eats rice.

Jolio and Petra discuss that if they’ve save enough money, they will go back to Bohol for good; just like how their cousins, Nicolo and Patrinada, have decided to do. Adelina then decides to come with them to Bohol.

They are now standing in line for the tickets. Adelina wonders what will happen to Jolio and Petra now that she ran away. Nicolo and Patrinada honestly could not answer Adelina.

Adelina steps back and second guesses her decision. She looks behind her, she sees a couple of men wearing black, carrying a “missing person” poster, asking the other passengers who are in line.

One day, when Adelina is left by her foster parents again with the maids, Ben Jr. comes to molest her. Jolio catches the act and teaches the boy a lesson.

With a chance to get his parent’s attention, Ben Jr. confines back to his parents. Overprotective to their own kind, the *Cabellas* threatens Jolio to be arrested by the police if he will lay his finger again to their son.

Adelina heard Jolio’s troubles and her foster parent’s threat. Adelina didn’t want to cause trouble for Jolio and Petra, so she runs away by herself. Adelina didn’t get away too far. She finds herself stuck in the gasoline station that is owned by her foster family.

It’s their turn in the ticketing counter. The lady on the counter asks for their name. Adelina is frozen in fear, she can’t speak, she keeps looking behind for the men that is out to find her.

The couple steps up for her and registers Adelina’s name as Adelaida Castillon, naming her as their daughter.

The *Cabellas* lock Adelina up to a room because of her attempted escape. Jolio and Petra blame themselves for Adelina’s punishment, considering her as their daughter, they find another way to help her.

Boarding on the ship, Adelina sees the men outside the ship window, asking people about the missing person. Adelina tells the couple that she needs to use the bathroom. The couple assures her that they will look out for her if the men gets any closer to the ship. Limping, Adelina runs away again.

As Jolio walks to the rich neighborhood of Davao City, he approaches his cousin, Nicolo. He knows that Nicolo and his wife, Patrinada, are planning to start their own family back in Bohol. He asks Nicolo for a favor and told him about Adelina's story, urging him that if Adelina stays in the mansion any longer, he wouldn't know what they would do her further.

Nicolo feels indebted from Jolio, when they helped him and his wife when they first landed in Davao and got a job. He told him that he will convince his wife to agree to the plan.

Nicolo told his wife about the plan. After hearing Adelina's story and knowing Jolio's favor, they agree to take Adelina with them back to Bohol.

Adelina is worried about Jolio and Petra, she wants to see them again. She starts to run to the exit when a stranger's hand grabs her shirt.

On the ship, Nicolo and Patrinada found their seats, while Adelina hasn't come back yet. They look outside for the men in all black, they are still on the ticketing counter. Worried that they lost her, they search the whole ship.

With Petra and Jolio leading the plan, the maids steal the key from the family to let Adelina out from the room. In this moment, they know that this is their chance to get Adelina out of this mansion.

The steward caused a commotion in the ship when he grabs Adelina, warning her that she cannot board the ship without a guardian.

Jolio calls Nicolo and Patrinada to wait by the gate while Petra guides Adelina out from the mansion. At the gate, Adelina struggles to open it.

Nicolo and Patrinada follow the noise and commotion.

Adelina pleads for Jolio and Petra, but they urge her to run away without them. Petra tells Adelina to go with Nicolo and Patrinada, their cousins who are already waiting for her.

The steward grows incredibly crankier by each minute, the ship is about to sail away. The steward demands to see her papers. The men wearing all black starts to approach the ship, they are blocked by the ship's manager.

The maids hear a familiar sound of their family's truck. Petra pushes Adelina to hurriedly climb the gate. Adelina with her own bare hands climbs the gate and jumps to the other side, wounding her ankle in the process.

She sees Patrinada and Nicolo on the other side with their bags. Adelina, with nothing with her, runs toward them. Together with Patrinada and Nicolo, they run away from the mansion.

Nicolo and Patrinada arrives just right on time when the steward started to drag Adelina out from the ship.

Nicolo stands up against the steward, showing him their ticket registered as a family. Patrinada's maternal instinct kicks in; she holds Adelina close to her, embracing her protectively.

After seeing the papers, the steward couldn't care less and walks away from them. The ship starts its engine and begins to depart the port. The men wearing all black stands on the pier, devastated.

Adelina is comforted by the couples' actions. That was the first time when somebody really did stand up for her.

Back in the mansion, the family's private investigators arrive with a failed mission. They reported about the ship going to Bohol.

Don Benedicto orders them to stop the search immediately, he confronts Doña Regina about her neglect on her own children. Her children agreed than even when Adelina was there in the mansion, she didn't really cared for her, she didn't even paid any attention to them.

A couple of hours pass by; they arrive in Bohol. It's a busy day in Tagbilaran Pier. People step out from the ship with their heavy bags. Adelina realizes that she got nothing with her, she didn't even get to pack her own clothes.

Nicolo and Patrinada hail a tricycle. With not enough space, Adelina sits on Patrinada's lap as they ride their way to the bus terminal. Patrinada clutch Adelina close to her, keeping her safe like a set belt around her. Warmth can be felt between the traveling family.

As they arrive on the bus terminal, they get into the bus on their way to their home town. Patrinada and Nicolo couldn't hide their excitement to see their own families. Adelina wonders what it would be like to have a family to come home to.

They get off the bus. Now they walk towards the uphill road of Valencia, Bohol. Patrinada calls for Adelina as Adelaida. She remembers the time when Petra nicknamed her Adelaida.

A flashback, with Petra and Adelina spending time together like mother and daughter. Petra tells her to live her life for nobody but herself.

As she comes back to the present moment, she found a newly restored energy. She runs to the uphill road, catching up with the couple. They notice her newly found energy. They encourage her more, sharing laughter to their bizarre and almost life threatening experience.

They arrive at a *nipa* hut, Nicolo and Patrinada's family greets them with excitement, carrying their heavy bags for them.

The grandmother looks at the girl that is with her son with curiosity. Nicolo rests his hand on her shoulders, they exchanged a knowing look with her mother. Grandmother welcomed the girl with open arms, letting her sit down and treats the wounds on her leg.

There are some teenage boys in the house. Responding to trauma, she flinches near them. They offer her warm cup of cacao chocolate drink. Hesitant at first, Nicolo and Patrinada assures her that they're good kids, she accepts it.

The family sits down around her, unable to hide their curiosity. They patiently wait for her as she gulps down the warm chocolate drink.

They start with a small talk, asking her name. They didn't force her to say anything about her past. But she takes a deep breath as she prepares to open up to these strangers.

She calls herself Adelaida, scrapping her old name and her old life - letting it rest in the past. For the first time in her life, she is welcomed by warm hearted family that also considers her as one of their own.