



Series Bible



CACHAI
FILM PRODUCTION COMPANY



MAGO
MEDIA

Present:

IRON WILL

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IRON WILL SERIES

D.R. Cachai 2024

IRON WILL

GENRE: Documentary/ Adventure



Trailer:

<https://vimeo.com/977374399/2fd4fc5835?share=copy>

“Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.”

–Mahatma Gandhi





VOLUNTAD DE ACERO

Format: Series

Genre: Documentary

Episodes: 3 x 40 minutes

Writers: Anthony Arrieche Gutiérrez, Reed & Diego Rabell

Creators: Anthony Arrieche Gutiérrez, Anyuli Rojas & Diego Rabell

IRON WILL

This program tells the story of Arly Velázquez, a young athlete on the brink of his professional mountain biking career who has a severe accident leaving him disabled. Navigating the ironic twists and turns of life, he returns to extreme sports in a completely different discipline as a Paralympic athlete.



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Introduction

"Sport is the playful manifestation of life." We start with this phrase to explain that life is a constant struggle in which all people are players, and as players there are those that stronger and those that are weaker - and everything in between. Adaptive sports athletes have far fewer tools than a person without a disability, and these "life examples" are the perfect metaphor to express the remarkable and outstanding strength of a disabled person in both sport and everyday life. Arly's journey is an example for us all who could have everything to be happy and yet are not - how to play and succeed in the game of life.

Throughout this journey, both Arly and his different companions bare their essences, share with each other and with the audience their lives, their fears, their personal challenges, desires, dreams and successes, while narrating to the camera the hard experiences that a person with different abilities can find along the way in a world that has not been designed or evolved for them.

We explore personal themes in Arly's life, addressing his motivations, his childhood (his life story), how he lives his daily life, his fears and what he does to overcome them.

Arly is an athlete who has had to face some of the biggest challenges that life can throw at you. You could even say that he was given a bad "hand", but as any great poker player knows, you don't play your "hand", you play your talent - the ability to make others believe that your cards are the best. This is Arly's specialty - turning a bad hand into a success. The viewer will learn what it means to have an IRON WILL.





Arly Velazquez

Arly was born in the city of Cancun, Mexico on August 17, 1988. At the age of 11, he began to participate in mountain biking competitions, becoming the national youth champion in Los Dinamos National Park, in La Magdalena Contreras. However, at the age of 13 he suffered an accident practicing the sport that left him without mobility in his legs. Despite the accident, Arly continued to play a variety of sports, including 100-meter and 200-meter track events, shot put, javelin, basketball, and swimming.

During a vacation in Calgary, Canada, he was introduced to mono-skiing. He enjoyed the experience so much that he decided to emigrate to the United States and Canada to be able to practice the sport professionally. He made his Paralympic debut at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games, where he competed in the Slalom and Giant Slalom categories, finishing 33rd and 26th respectively.

During the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Games he achieved 11th place in the Super-G event, this was the best result of a Latin American athlete in this event and the best performance ever for a Mexican in a winter Paralympic sport. Later in the Games he would suffer an accident that would take him away from the sport for several months.

In February 2018 he won second place in the North American Cup. Velasquez participated in the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games in the categories of Downhill, Super-G and Giant Slalom. He is currently training for upcoming professional competitions.

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Documentary

HYPOTHESIS: The strength to move forward after a tragic event is in each of us, and it is up to each individual whether to use it or not.

THESIS: To show Arly's life as a human, athlete and social and public personality.

OBJECTIVE: To inform, motivate and entertain.

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Environment

The documentary is a mixture between Arly's past (Arly's life) and present (his current life and sport), the environment is the path he follows, we will go through different places and the episodes are these:

The first episode begins one morning with Arly on his adapted bicycle riding through Mexico City with his two dogs following him. Adaptive cycling is just a symbol, Arly tells us the story of when he was younger in narration and interview. Arly was 12 years old and full of enthusiasm with the dream of being a professional mountain biker.

This sequence in Arly's daily life opens the door to the past and we are introduced to Arly's life before the accident. He has always seen himself as an athlete, even from a very young age. It was part of his identity. In 2001, the day before a big competition, where sponsors would come to evaluate his performance, he suffered an accident and fractured his back. He dedicates himself to rehabilitation with the goal of returning to the sport in a course of 6 months. After 3 years, his dream of returning to mountain biking, or even walking again, disappears.

He falls into a terrible depression, the darkest moment of his life. He saves money so he can buy a gun and end his life. At this point in his life he changes schools and meets his group of best friends who save him from the darkness. It is with this new community and support network that he begins adapted sports. The identity of an athlete still lives inside him. His aunt, who has been in a wheelchair for years due to polio, is a basketball player. She is the one who encourages him to play adapted sports. Arly begins to train on an adapted race track and this leads him to win the national sprint championship of 100 and 200 meters. This is the first time since the accident that he truly feels like an athlete.

Woven throughout the telling of episode 1 are sequences of Arly in his daily life. After riding his bike through the city he comes home and feeds his dogs. He moves around his house in his wheelchair as an extension of his body. He makes breakfast without much effort in his adapted kitchen and then heads upstairs. We see him enter the bakery he has on the rooftop, and we learn about his passion for eating a healthy diet, but especially the sourdough bread that is what he cooks in his bakery. We are charmed by his positivity and child-like excitement as Arly begins to bake bread. We learn what he does there and we learn that after a year and a half of only using the bakery for private use and catering he his dream of opening it to the public is almost a reality. The subplot of chapter 1 is that Arly is going to open his bakery and we meet all of Arly's support network, family and friends, who are with him during this process. At the end of the episode, Arly opens the bakery to the public.

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EPISODE 1



Arly is ecstatic to feel like an athlete again, but doesn't feel satisfied with the sports he is competing in. As a mountain biker he was in mountains with nature all around him. He had the adrenaline rush of high speed and high stakes. In 2009 Arly uses his savings to pay for a family winter trip to Canada. During this trip he learns that there is a resort in the village where he was staying offering alpine mono-ski lessons. It is in the cold of sub-zero temperatures that Arly has a life-changing experience, the mono-ski lesson is an epiphany. He has found his new sport. The Olympics are the pinnacle of many sports disciplines, and Arly learns that the sport of mono-skiing is a discipline in the Paralympic Games. He finally finds his new dream. A month later, Arly sells everything he has in Mexico and moves to Salt Lake City to dedicate himself to learning mono-skiing. It's here that he meets his mentor, Erik. Eight months later he is in New Zealand for his first competition, the international winter games. He has a big fall and does not complete the competition. This doesn't stop him, his desire is bigger than ever. In 2012 he finished in third place in the Super G in the nationals. In 2013 Arly manages to finish in first place in the Canadian nationals. He finally feels like a top athlete. In 2014, due to a fall in a competition Arly goes through a operation, and it even has the possibility of helping him walk again. The 12-hour operation goes horribly wrong and he loses too much blood. He needs to get 35 blood donors to stay alive. His mobility is compromised and he now has significantly less than before the surgery. Before the surgery he could not move his body from the waist down. Now it has been reduced to the chest down. It's the worst week of his life.

In episode 2 our subplot focuses on his acting career. He will tell us how, in addition to being a professional athlete, he always wanted to be an actor. In this episode, Arly prepares for a performance in a theater that will premiere in a few weeks. We will meet his actor friends and his community. At the same time we will see him go to architecture school, where we will see him study and prepare to be an architect. We will see moments of his preparation for the play and at the end we will see his final performance.

Episode 2

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After the worst week of his life, Arly is determined not to let it destroy him. With his mobility severely reduced he has to relearn how to do mono-ski. Prior to surgery he had the use of his entire abdomen and upper body while skiing. Now he can only use his arms. This episode tells us about the incredible journey of Arly's dedication to being able to return to sports and make it to the Paralympic Games. At this point in his life, Arly becomes much more socially active, taking his story to Ted Talks and television. What interests him most is to raise awareness about people with disabilities and their needs.

Arly continues to be a Paralympian, but he has one more dream to fulfill, which is to return to the mountains on a bicycle. It is here that the story of Arly "The Athlete" from the past meets our Arly in the present.

Working with engineers, he is designing and modifying a mountain bike to specifically meet his needs so he can ride on the trails. The result is a state of the art feat of engineering and for the first time since the accident, Arly takes his bike to the mountains for his inaugural ride down. It is deep catharsis for Arly where the 12-year-old mountain biker unites with the man of today. Arly demonstrates for all of us that no matter what the odds, what the circumstances, anything is possible when you set your mind to it.

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Episode 3



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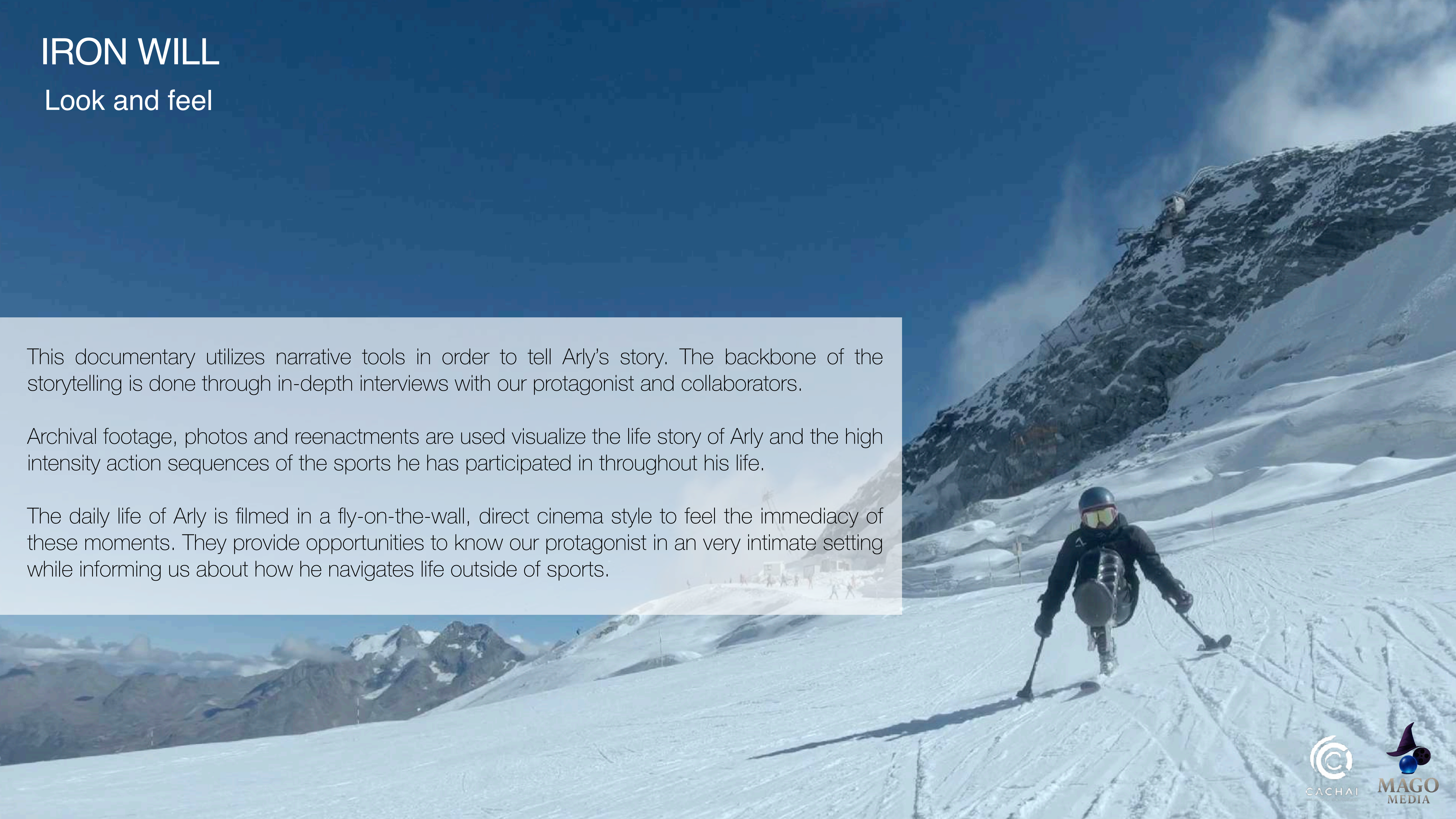
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Look and feel

This documentary utilizes narrative tools in order to tell Arly's story. The backbone of the storytelling is done through in-depth interviews with our protagonist and collaborators.

Archival footage, photos and reenactments are used visualize the life story of Arly and the high intensity action sequences of the sports he has participated in throughout his life.

The daily life of Arly is filmed in a fly-on-the-wall, direct cinema style to feel the immediacy of these moments. They provide opportunities to know our protagonist in an very intimate setting while informing us about how he navigates life outside of sports.



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STRUCTURE

The documentary series is a mix between the recounting of Arly's past that has led him to who he is today, and the telling of his present life circumstances in sports, social activism and daily life. It is divided into 3 episodes.

Episode 1 delves into Arly's past and is told from his childhood until the accident, the deep depression that followed and his return to sports as an adapted sports athlete.

Episode 2 explores Arly's encounter with mono-ski and his life as a high-performance mono-ski athlete.

In Episode 3, our journey with Arly takes us on one last adventure. Arly returns to the mountains and for the first time since his accident in 2003, he will descend on a mountain bike. Arly has been working for years on designing and building a bike that will allow him to return to his first love of mountain biking. This final act illustrates all the values of perseverance, strength, and willpower that Arly has shown us throughout our journey with him. We see that anything is truly possible if you put your mind to it.

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Structure

Throughout the three episodes we see Arly in different circumstances from his current life. We get insight into how he lives and the implications of being disabled and a high-performance athlete. We learn about Arly's many interests outside of sports, including architecture and acting and baking bread for his community.

As Arly's journey evolves we see him embrace who he is and his circumstances. We see him take on the role as inspirational speaker and activist. It's here we explore an important theme in the documentary series - the social and governmental shortcomings, failings and general lack of awareness when it comes to people with disabilities and their mobility needs. We see Arly's social activism projects as he focuses on a positive future in which disabled people can live in a world accessible to them. We learn about Arly's incredible work to bring awareness and create accessibility solutions.

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TONE

Above all this series is an action-packed sports documentary that evokes an inspirational and motivating tone. Arly's charming, playful, effervescent personality is magnetic, drawing the viewer in immediately. At the same time this series is a character sketch that delves into the inner life of someone who has faced extreme hardship, and therefore explores the difficult emotional spaces of our protagonist has had to traverse. However, the remarkable positivity of which Arly has navigated these challenges inevitable brings an uplifting spirit to the story

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Audience

Men and Women of NSE A, B, C and D from 15 - 35 years old who seek to be inspired by the acrobatics and bravery of the men and women who practice these sports.

Consumers of adventure sports and extreme sports.

Anyone who seeks to do something different than the rest. They want to leave their mark and transcend in this world. They seek to do something unique and that no one "tells them". His definition of success is this, not possessions.

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Benchmark

DOCUMENTARY SPORTS:

"The Grand Tour"
"All or Nothing"
"Six Dreams"
"Resurface"
"Senna"
"Transpatagonia"
"Man vs Wild"
"The Motivation"
"The Contender"



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Seasons

There is the possibility of generating more seasons not only with Arly but with other athletes in similar situations who are an inspiration in the face of adversity and are willing to overcome their fears and break different types of records.



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¡Thank you!



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