WET NOSE FILMS · IN DEVELOPMENT

Census Taker

He lost the job. His wife got his title. Now he has ten front doors and a federal legal requirement that somebody answer.

COMEDY FEATURE FILM SET IN MARYLAND SCREENPLAY IN DEVELOPMENT

THE PICTURE

Losing the job. Finding himself.

Jim runs a division at an insurance data company until a merger makes him too expensive to keep. The new division lead is his wife, Caron. Jim is now home — making soap, doing school pickup, the odd one out at every parent function.

The only job he can get is census taker: knock on the doors of people who didn't respond, because in the United States, answering is a federal legal requirement. Nobody answers. Nobody cooperates. Caron is pregnant again, and Jim finally has a shot at raising a son. That's the fuel.

Ten impossible doors later he has learned the thing his wife learned years ago and he never could — that human problems don't yield to a spreadsheet. He brings the Bureau a better system. They hire him. The baby is a boy. They name him Her-man.

TONE

The institutional satire of *American Fiction*, played with the warmth of *The Peanut Butter Falcon*. Absurd at the door, sincere in the kitchen.

STRUCTURE

A route, not a plot. Every door is a new face, a new comic engine, and one more thing Jim can't solve with data.

WHY IT TRAVELS

Every country runs a census. Every middle-aged professional has wondered what they'd be without the title.

THE SECOND ACT

Ten doors

ENUMERATOR ROUTE · NON-RESPONSE FOLLOW-UP
WEST BALTIMORE 60% · MID-CITY 25% · RURAL FRINGE 15%

01 **Moving Houseboat**

Three visits. No dock, then a dock and no boat, then something else again.

NO CONTACT

02 **157-Year-Old Ghost**

The address exists on paper. The building is being demolished as he arrives.

NO CONTACT

03 **Dialect & Knife**

Wrong-dialect translation. He says something horrifying. A kid chases him with a kitchen knife.

TURNING POINT

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04 **Wrong House Number**

The family answers. The sheet says otherwise. Jim believes the sheet.

NO CONTACT

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05 **Alley on Wheels**

Forking alley, locked gate, laundry lines, a dog — all of it on rollerblades.

NO CONTACT

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06 **Ethiopian Wisdom**

A vegan meal eaten with his hands, a question about his ring, and the line that turns him.

TURNING POINT

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07 **The Professor**

A halfway house. A face he knows. No words needed.

CONTACT

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08 **Train Delay**

He misses school pickup. Caron takes it in stride. Jim does not.

NO CONTACT

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09 **Neighborly Proxy**

Eight empty visits. The family is across the street, caring for a woman who has no one else.

CONTACT

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10 **The T-Shirt**

A surprise field audit — and the one door that opens, because of a shirt he's owned for years.

TURNING POINT

Running alongside: Oscar, the HR man who introduced Jim to his wife, now retired and quietly, gloriously, grooming dogs.

THE HOUSEHOLD

Five people and a rainbow poodle

PERSON	RELATION	NOTE
JIM	HEAD	Trusts data. Distrusts faith. Can't surrender, can't read a room, and is about to spend a year doing nothing but both.
CARON “RONNIE”	SPOUSE	The systems engineer who navigates by people. She already knows why he was replaced, and what he needs to learn.
CELESTE	DAUGHTER	Equestrian lessons in a city with no horses. Trades them for code, and ends up teaching her father.
CHRISSY	DAUGHTER	Given name Amanda. Synchronized swimming, without the swimming. Life of every party regardless.
HER-MAN	SON	New. Arrives in the last scene. Yes, that is the name.
OSCAR	NOT IN HOUSEHOLD	Institutional HR his whole life. Retired now. Turns out the passion was always dogs, and he was always ashamed of it.

PERSONS ENUMERATED 5 · NON-RELATIVE 1

PENDING

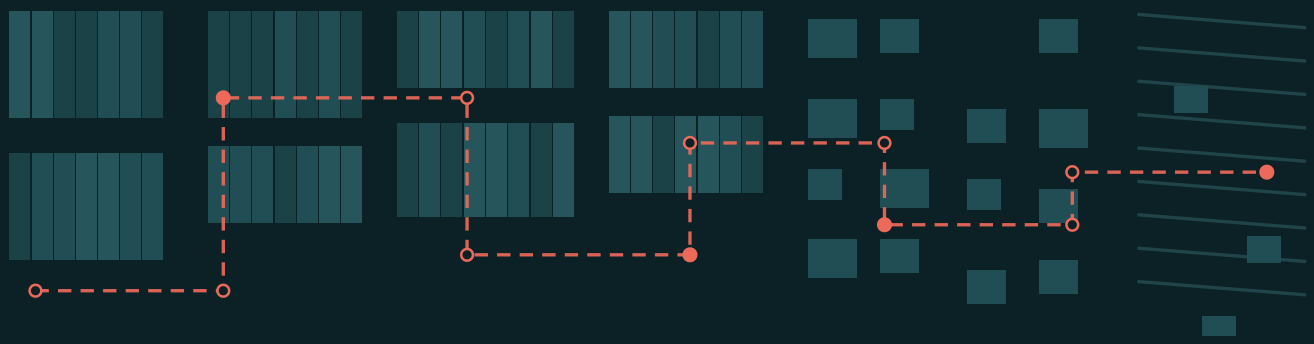
PLACE AS CHARACTER

One route. Three Marylands.

60% WEST BALTIMORE

25% MID-CITY

15% RURAL FRINGE



ONE ASSIGNMENT · TEN DOORS · THREE DENSITIES

THE MARKET

Where it sits

Character comedy, modest negative, festival launch, theatrical legs. Each of these returned a multiple of its budget.

FILM	BUDGET · 2026 $	WORLDWIDE · 2026 $	LAUNCH & DISTRIBUTOR
Thelma	$3.2M $3.0M in 2024	$13.8M $13.0M in 2024	Sundance 2024 · Magnolia
The Peanut Butter Falcon	$8.1M $6.2M in 2019	$30.2M $23.1M in 2019	SXSW 2019 · Roadside Attractions
American Fiction	$11.0M $10.0M in 2023	$25.2M $23.0M in 2023	TIFF 2023, People's Choice · Orion / Amazon MGM
The Holdovers	$14.2M $13.0M in 2023	$50.4M $46.0M in 2023	Telluride 2023 · Focus Features
Nebraska	$19.4M $13.5M in 2013	$39.7M $27.7M in 2013	Cannes 2013 · Paramount

Published budget and worldwide gross, restated in July 2026 dollars (BLS CPI-U, U.S. city average, all items); the nominal figure and its year sit beneath each. Comparables, not projections.

THE NUMBER

US $7–10M

COMPARABLE BAND · 2026 DOLLARS

Brackets *The Peanut Butter Falcon* and sits just under *American Fiction* in current dollars. Ten distinct locations, an ensemble of day-players, an urban and rural split — a picture that reads bigger than it costs, because the route does the production design.

WHAT COSTS

Ten distinct encounter locations, an ensemble of day-players, an urban / rural split, and one outdoor roller-rink sequence.

WHAT DOESN'T

No period. No VFX. No stunt work beyond a scooter fire. One dog.

HOW IT SHOOTS

Small unit, location-led, largely exterior and doorway. Built by a 1st AD who has scheduled this kind of day for fifteen years.

OPTION A

Maryland

- 28% refundable credit on qualified in-state spend (30% for series)
- Minimum $250,000 in Maryland direct costs
- At least 50% of principal photography in state
- Program cap $12M in credits certified annually from FY2027; $10M per project

OPTION B

Ontario

- OFTTC: 35% refundable on eligible Ontario labour
- 40% on the first $240,000 for a first-time producer
- +10% regional bonus outside the Greater Toronto Area
- Requires a Canadian-controlled corporation and six CanCon points

The story lives in Maryland. The producer, the crew relationships and the credit stack are in Ontario. Dual DGC/DGA membership and US and Canadian work authorization keep both doors open — including a treaty structure that uses each.

WHO'S MAKING IT

Wet Nose Films

Written/Produced by Daniela Barbosa
Wet Nose Films

BASE	Toronto
MATERIALS	Bible and full 34-beat outline complete; screenplay in development

The ask

01 Director

02 Lead cast — Jim and Caron

03 Equity and soft-money financing

04 Sales representation

info@wetnosefilms.ca

SCRIPTS AND OUTLINES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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