



WHAT THEY LEFT US

A feature screenplay by Jodie Bentley and James TabEEK

Logline:

When an unraveling life coach and her reckless twin brother return home to care for their ailing parents, they're pulled back into the dysfunction that shaped them and are forced to reckon with the lives they never fully lived.

Genre: Family Drama

There will be a time in your life when you parent your parents.

Synopsis:

Bridget Walsh, a polished but unraveling life coach in the middle of a divorce, is used to fixing other people's lives, just not her own. Her fraternal twin, Brian, is her charming, chaotic opposite who is unemployed, unfiltered, and barely holding it together.

When their mother falls ill, their Los Angeles lives are uprooted as they return to their hometown of New Bedford, MA to find their father declining, their childhood house crumbling, and the family dysfunction still alive and well.

Faced with the fallout of their parents' secrets and lingering childhood trauma, Bridget clings to control while Brian avoids everything. As caretaking turns to reckoning, they must decide what to carry forward, and what to finally let go.

What They Left Us is an emotionally rich portrait of a dysfunctional family, told with honesty and humor, about grief, guilt, and growing up... just a few decades too late.

The screenwriters lost their fathers in the same year. While bonding through grief, they wrote this script because they couldn't help but wonder:

"How do you guide your parents through the precious last moments of their lives when you haven't figured out how to really live your own?"