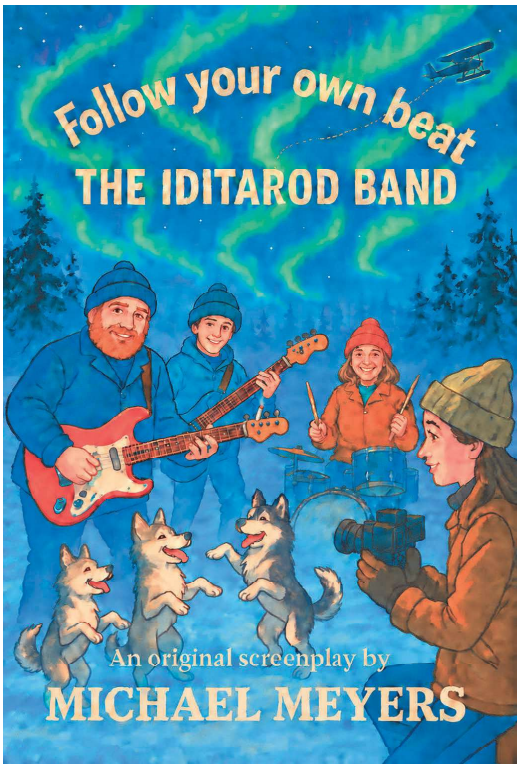
THE IDITAROD BAND

1985 Alaska Music Dramedy



BEST SCREENPLAY

Oniros Film Awards, New York | 2026

LOGLINE

After abandoning a promising career to care for his dying grandfather, a musician starts over in Alaska and assembles a band to follow the Iditarod Trail.

SYNOPSIS

Benjy gives up his rock music career to care for his dying grandfather Edgar, a music pioneer. After Edgar dies, Benjy leaves Portland for Alaska to start over. His friend Ana, a journalism graduate, is restless despite her success in a corporate retail job and dreams of covering the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Her passion inspires Benjy's plan to lead a band along the Iditarod Trail. Local rogues Glen, a former tour manager, and Penny, a grieving bush pilot, join him.

McGrath, a village on the Iditarod Trail, rejects Benjy's pitch: the village needs race workers, not performers. But Benjy's impromptu concert with the schoolchildren shows the mayor how music can bring the village together. Though his former band offers him a chance to join them on a national tour, Benjy turns them down, convinced the Iditarod Band is his calling. At the race's ceremonial start, McGrath's mayor invites the band to perform at the village's post-race celebration. Ana meets her childhood hero, Iditarod reporter Claire Teller, who challenges her to meet on the trail for a job interview.

To fund the journey, Benjy sells Edgar's priceless scrapbook and asks Ana to report on the band's trip. Ana must choose: advance in her corporate career or pursue the reporting dream she's carried since her mother's death. She chooses herself, meets Claire on the trail, and accepts an internship on the reporting team. The Iditarod Band joins local musicians for a jubilant community dance, giving the people Benjy has brought together a reason to begin again.

SELECTED RECOGNITION

BEST SCREENPLAY OF THE YEAR
Mumbai International Film Awards | 2026

FINALIST
Cambridge Script Festival | 2026

BEST SCREENPLAY FINALIST
Anchorage International Film Festival | 2026

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