

Opening shot (lead actor filming himself)

The lead actor is struggling with an idea visibly as he sits at his desk in a dimly lit room.

He thinks.

Change to snap shots of him driving to work (listening to preston and steve if I can get their permission)

(Basic premise will be showing his life in pieces early and then deeply showing his relationship)

His mother is estranged, the premise starts on the third anniversary of his father's death.

He goes to his grave? Cliché

How do I avoid clichés in this film?

Main character is shown happy. He's known his girlfriend for a couple years, he just said his dad died from a heart attack. He is more nervous about telling the truth. Lies make for a good story even if it's not true. Mother obscuring the truth perhaps also. If your boyfriend told you his dad died from huntington's you would look up the disease wouldn't you. Or even cancer. Or even Parkinson's. She would ask if it was hereditary. Any significant other would.

But would she ask a lot about a heart attack. Especially if he portrays his father as a drug addict and also 12 years older than his mom. He was old, abused drugs, and smoked a lot until the day he died. Perhaps his mother painted this picture of his father. So he knows the truth, that he had Huntington's disease, but he doesn't know the truth about who his father was. Perhaps the journey starts out as he wants to discover from families with the disease about how their relationships were strained or not. He explains

His mother thinks that hiding the truth will protect him. The truth is that he was a great, caring, and loving man and when he found out he had the disease, he snapped, their relationship ended and he couldn't cope with the issue. And perhaps she let him see his father near the end but he was too far gone to know if it was because of the disease or the strained relationship. He finds this out and this triggers the filmed journey.

When actually interviewing people, give them this fictionalized story to get their sincere reaction on camera and then tell them the truth afterward.

So phase one of film is happy little life with main boy and main girl in the present.

Phase two of film is boy telling mother that he wants to marry girl. Mother is happy.

Phase three of film is boy and lifelong friend. Boy tells friend. Friend suggests the truth about Huntington's.

Phase four is the boy telling mother he is going to tell girl and that he wants to get tested. Mother flips and reveals truth about father and mother relationship.

Phase five is boy and friend talking about mothers blowup and the lies being unearthed. Maybe my dad wasn't so bad. Boy discovers idea to travel and ask families suffering from how their relationships were strained before asking girl to marry him. Maybe this is the summer after college, so its his last big trip. He just slates it as a road trip with the guys.

Phase six (& phase seven) is when he gets two other really good friends to join and they start their trip. One guy decides to film it and make it into an actual documentary. As he's traveling, the guys stay with relatives (long lost or distance ones from his dad's side) and the truth behind his fathers greatness as a person is starting to be revealed(this is seven).

Phase eight is the resolution/ the completion of the trip, does he tell girl the truth and if so, does he get tested, and if so does he get married. Big conflicts! How do I tie it all together neatly

Phase nine is the ultimate finale with him having told girl the truth and also proposing to her and ultimately deciding to be tested. The last part you don't discover until the very last scene when he walks into a room to be tested/after being tested. The doctor saying, I have your results. End film