

A

RARE

AMERICANS

PRESENTATION

SKIDS



"A WAKE UP CALL TO THE WORLD"
"TWO MIDDLE FINGERS UP"





WHAT IS (S)KIDS?

Skids is a 90-minute animated musical. In a brand new city, punk rock poet, Scotty, faces a roller coaster of emotions during his final year of high school. As school, parents, and bullies clash with his rebellious spirit, his newfound friends, who proudly call themselves "Skids," embody a defiant anthem of authenticity and being true to oneself.

THE MISSION

Through Scotty's raw and unfiltered journey, we aim to amplify the silent screams and inner battles of teens worldwide who feel like misfits in the high school arena.

While coming-of-age stories are a dime a dozen, none have dared to capture the essence of youthful defiance in the form of an edgy punk rock musical.



WHO ARE RARE AMERICANS, The Creators of (S)kids?

We are a band from Vancouver BC. Animated storytellers focused on the real and raw. We sing for the underdogs, the voiceless, and all of us that are holding on for hope. We're fiercely independent and creating a scene for all of us wrestling with life's toughest corners.

We've come a long way in our 5 years together. Five albums in, over half a billion streams, selling out tours across North America and Europe, and a Juno nom last year for Breakthrough Group of the Year (Canadian Grammy equivalent), and we're just hitting our stride.

We're excited to have you in our mad universe! Strap in and enjoy the ride.



(S)Kids SYNOPSIS

Scotty, a punk rock teenager with an affinity for poetry, has his life upended when his abusive cop father becomes the police chief in the suburban City of Champions.

On his first day at the new school, Scotty faces a crossroads: he's lured by Sammy, the menacing school drug dealer, but ultimately finds solace when he befriends The Skid Ranch after school, a group of rebellious punk outcasts.

As Scotty settles into his new life, he meets the intriguing Molly. Their budding romance is clouded by Molly's ties to Sammy and her affinity for drugs. Scotty's concerns heighten as Sammy's aggressive advances towards Molly become more evident.

The tension between the Skid Ranch and Sammy's crew intensifies. Scotty rebuffs Sammy's pursuit to recruit him into his gang, further enraging Sammy. Craig, one of Scotty's best friends in the Skid Ranch, is also a customer of Sammy's, but hasn't repaid his drug debt. Sammy decides to send a message to the Skids, and calls for a brutal retaliation on Craig that lands him in the hospital.

Motivated by loyalty and teenage angst, the Skid Ranch members plot their revenge at the infamous "pit party." Against the odds, the Skids emerge victorious. But Scotty, a poetic soul, grapples with the moral weight of their actions, questioning the path he's taken.

Outside of the rivalries, a darker secret emerges. The school's Principal, Abe, has been blackmailing Craig's mom into sleeping with him, in order not to expel Craig for the anti-religious stunts he's been pulling at school. When Craig learns of this blackmail, he turns to the dark web to dig into the Principal's past. He uncovers the Principal's involvement in the country's infamous residential school cover-ups. Armed with this revelation, Craig plots a final act of rebellion: burning down the school at night, when no one is around.

As the climax approaches, Scotty and the other Skids, grapple with the gravity of Craig's plan. At the last moment, they back out and try in vain to stop Craig, but he is too invested. When the smoke clears, Craig gets caught and is arrested by Scotty's dad.

Despite the tumultuous events, Scotty finds solace in his passion project, punkpoet.com, where he reviews punk rock albums. His dedication pays off when right before graduation he receives an email from Rolling Stone Magazine, inviting him to Los Angeles for an interview.

As the dust settles on their intense school year, Scotty and Billy load up the car and head west, leaving behind their old lives and embracing the promise of a brighter future.

The CHARACTERS in (S)KİDS



SCOTTY

- SCOTTY**
1. A SKID
 2. PUNK POET
 3. JUST WANTS TO BE FREE

I just want to live free. Far away from the forces that currently (attempt to) control me: my parents, school, I guess society in general.

I'm a kid that's always looked way ahead, the type who wants to be at the adult table at a family gathering. My family never had any gatherings. Saw my parents eat together maybe ten times, tops.

I got hope cuz I see a small faction of society living differently, doing what they want and not giving a fuck what the majority want them to do. They seem to have better morals.

I don't give a fuck about the generally accepted principles. I do not aspire to be part of it. I've seen first hand growing up the son of a "pillar" cop how the love of power will make a man strike his own child or pin a crime on an innocent man just to better his own stats.

I've attended these deranged catholic schools my whole life. I don't trust power, plain and simple. I believe I can change the world for the better, I'm just not sure how to do it yet.

I always leaned on writing to get me through the tough days.

My grandma before she passed told me "scotty you're a poet and you don't even know it" and that really stuck with me. I kinda knew right there I wanted to do something with my words, it's just a real hard thing to do, but I'm gonna figure it out no doubt.



CRAIG

• CRAIG

1. A SKID

2. HACKER

3. ATHEIST

I wasn't really born, more spit out.

I did not win the genetics lottery when it comes to looks. I've been overweight my whole life.

If there ever existed two people who should not have had kids together, it's my parents. My dad found God when I was a toddler and left my mom in the lurch and shattered her confidence beyond repair. I share the same taste for excess mom does. Smokes, booze, pills we both can't get enough.

I've been picked on and bullied my whole life. Just yesterday I was at the mall minding my own, grabbing some comics and this kid comes up to me in front of the theatre and sings "HEY CRAIG, GO EAT A FUCKING HAMBURGER" at the top of his lungs in front of 100 people. That's my life in a nutshell.

At a certain point I went from being pissed off and depressed to just numb and not giving a fuck. I decided to just go for it and follow my beliefs to the extreme, cuz what else do I have to lose? That's led me to all sorts of dark corners of the internet. Wait till they see what I've uncovered.



BILLY

1. A SKID
2. GOES WITH THE FLOW
3. WANTS EVERYONE TO GET ALONG

BILLY

I was blessed with natural smarts, the ability to retain information. I've always been really good with numbers, they come easy to me. The first time I saw a computer I could feel immense power at my fingertips, I could code like second nature, a musician playing by ear type shit.

I love history. I know everything there is to know about romans, Greeks, Egyptians, mayans, boors, history is the best predictor of the future. My dad taught me all that shit.

That's where I got my love of music. He's got more cd's than anyone else I know by a mile. Every genre, knows every artist.

I really look up to the guy cuz he's realistic and has his shit together and runs his own business...but it seems he puts his work first, doesn't always have the most time for us.

I love my mom and she means well but I can't stand her bullshit religious ten commandments / you're going to hell, guilt trip all day type of vibe. It's getting more fanatical by the week. I hate it on one hand, but on the other I can see why dad cheats on her.



Im an atheist and there's nothing she can say or do that will change my mind. I'm a natural problem solver and a real people guy, I connect with all types easily. Talk to the janitor or the principal just the same, they're both just human beings to me.

I see value in the outsider, the skids in life, so to speak. Always found them a lot more interesting.

MOLLY

MOLLY

1. POPULAR GIRL
2. NEVER SAYS NO TO A GOOD TIME

People have always been attracted to me since I was a little girl. God blessed me with a huge glowing smile and an sparkly personality. I'm pretty smart, a lot smarter than people give me credit for, but I don't really care about school as nobody's paying attention at my house and I just have this feeling things are going to work out for me regardless of school. I'm just a lot more interested in people's hearts than then how many facts and formulas somebody's memorized.

I have seen more in my 17 years than most do in a lifetime. I come from one of the strangest families you'll ever see. 8 kids. 2 parents who basically live completely separate lives. My mom is gone most of the time, I'm pretty sure she has a bf somewhere else. My dad is like 400 pounds and stays perched on his lazyboy yelling at the TV every night, drinking his beer.

When you're the 8th kid, you practically raise yourself. I've been following my older sisters to parties I probably shouldn't be going to since I was like 12. My sister Becky has been the hottest and coolest girl in school her whole life. She started dating Sammy, a younger guy my age who is a real up and coming dealer, who's making real moves and money. Since she has been with him, drugs have been around a lot more and I have trouble saying no. It used to be the odd weekend, now it's kind of my daily and it's getting heavy. I lost my virginity at 13. I guess i'm just enjoying the ride while I can, cuz things never last, they always seem to change.





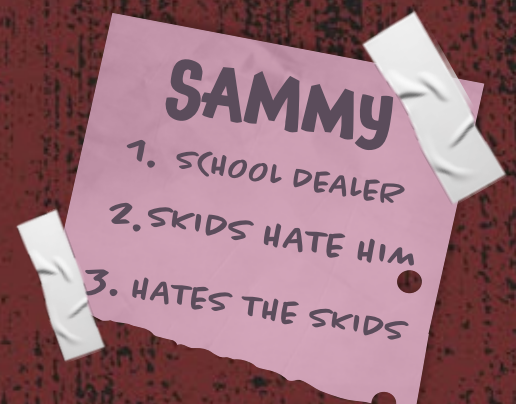
My whole life changed when I was a 11. I was a real nice kid on a real nice path. My dad was a narcissistic prima donna, literally the anchor of the 6 o clock news, never met a camera or a microphone he didn't love.

I had an incredible one in a million bond with my mother. She was warm. She was kind. She was soft and steady.

Then she got diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and was dead within 3 months. It hardened me beyond belief. I lost all faith.

How could God take that away from an 11 year old boy? My dad coped with it by getting us a filipino nanny and leaning in to the limelight. He'd MC a garage sale if it got him one more shred of popularity.

I had no respect for him or anything in life. It was like I was already dead inside and was playing with house money. I wanted power and money. So I turned to dealing drugs. Now I'm building an empire. People are scared of me. Aint nobody tells me what to do.



COREY

I'm built like a defensive lineman. I'm as sensitive as you can get. I tear up during average commercials. Since kindergarten I've been the kid that's a foot taller than everybody. I got a secret. I like guys but nobody knows it, except a couple of trysts I've had but they had a lot to lose to so I'm not worried about it getting out.

I've suffered with low self esteem as long as I can remember. Always had this desperate need to be cool or seen. I'll turn myself inside out or do things I'd never imagine to maintain this sense of belonging, even if it's not healthy. My relationship with Sammy is the furthest thing from healthy. I think I'm in over my head now, and I have no idea how to get out. Everything has gone wrong.

COREY

1. SAMMY'S MUSCLE
2. WANTS TO BE A SKID
3. SECRETLY GAY

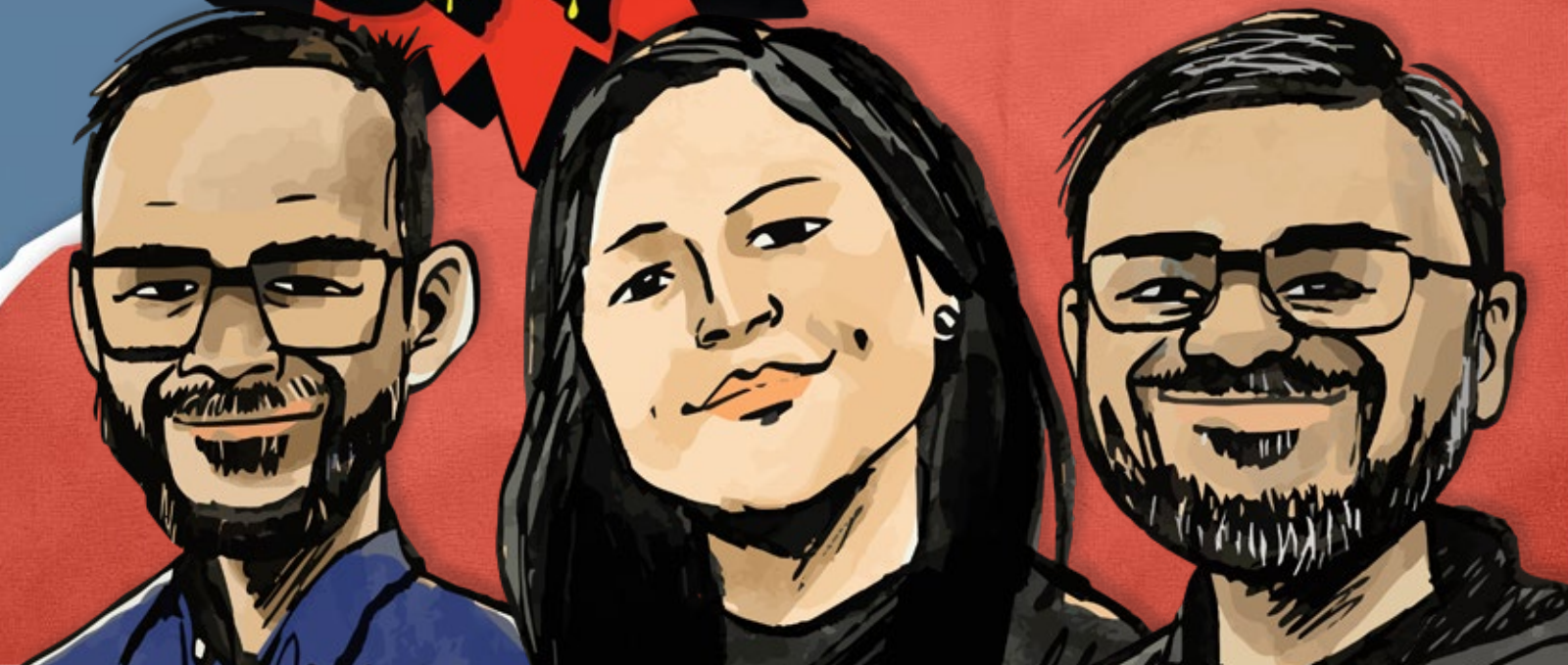


THE ANIMATORS

Best recognized for their contributions to Comedy Central's "Ugly Americans," HBO's select short films, and a myriad of music videos for renowned artists like Rare Americans and Jessie Reyez, Crooked City Studios stands as a distinguished boutique studio located in Toronto, Ontario. Under the visionary leadership of James Priestner and the Solis Siblings, the studio consistently delivers excellence.

Beyond servicing third-party clientele, Crooked City Studios is also ambitiously developing several of its own intellectual properties.

**CROOKED
CITY** STUDIOS





SUMMARY

Skids represents more than a year of heartfelt effort and dedication from nearly 20 people. In creating this record and film, we poured out every ounce of our raw and unfiltered emotions.

Having performed to sold out audiences in over 15 countries, we've been privileged to meet thousands of dedicated Rare Americans fans around the world.

We believe to our core that "Skids" will resonate deeply with youth worldwide, especially those navigating life's toughest corners.

Our mission as a band is to make a positive difference in the lives of a million kids globally. With this film, we aim to touch these young souls. We eagerly await your insights, and hope to collaborate and transform this mission into a reality!