

The Beginning and The End

Principio y fin

Mexico/1993/35mm/Colour/188'/Spanish

Direction: Arturo Ripstein.

Screenplay: Paz Alicia Garciadiego

Cinematography: Claudio Rocha.

Editing: Rafael Castaneda.

Music: Lucia Alvarez.

Sound: Antonio Diego, David Baksht.

Cast: Ernesto Laguardia, Julieta Egurrola, Bruno Bichir, Lucia Munoz, Alberto Estrella, White Guera, Alonso Echanove, Veronica Merchant, Luis Felipe Tovar.

After the sudden death of the father, the Botero family is left destitute. To pay their debts, the mother Ignacia throws the oldest son Guama out into the street where he becomes a full-time drug addict, pimp, and bouncer. Ignacia then forces Nicolas and sister, Mireya to give up their bright futures in favour of Gabriel, Ignacia's favorite child. The mother sends Nicolas and Mireya to work in order to pay for Gabriel's university education. Nicolas must leave school and take a peon's job. Put to work in a sweatshop, Mireya ends up a hooker. As a result of these decisions by the mother, all the children end up in degrading situations, and Gabriel does not act like everyone expected him to do.

