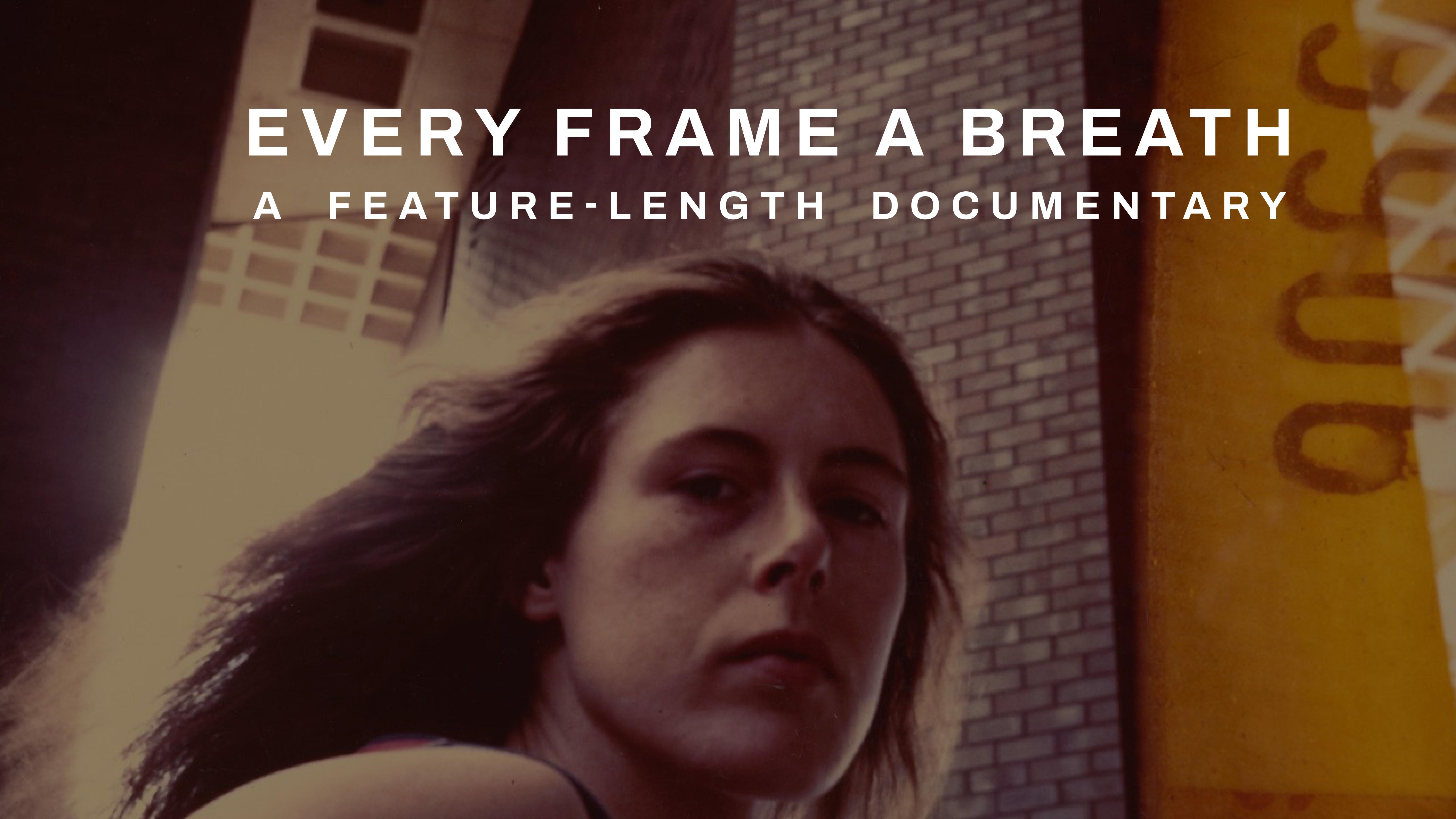


# EVERY FRAME A BREATH

A FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARY

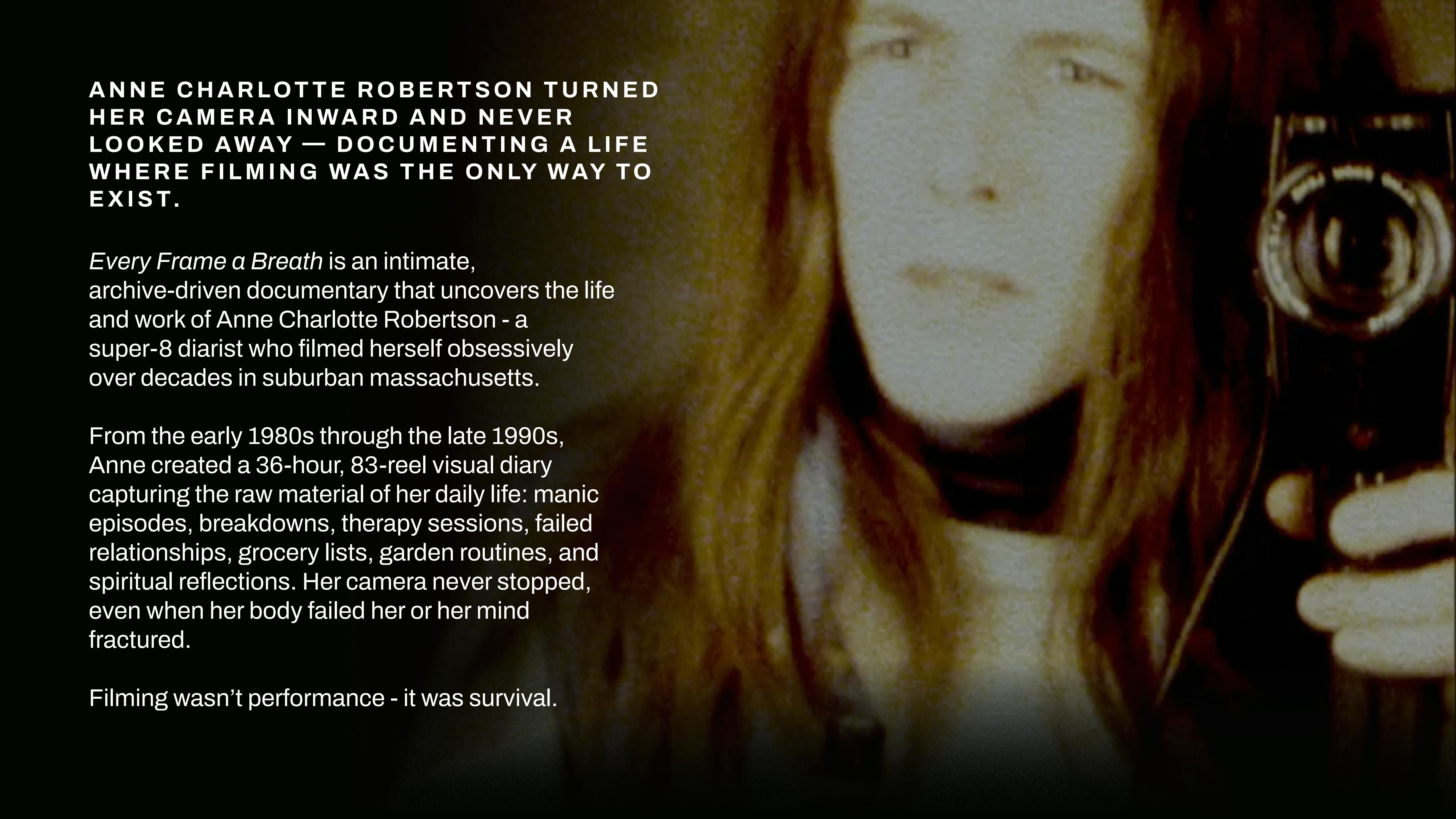
A close-up, slightly blurred portrait of a woman with long, dark, wavy hair. She is looking upwards and to the left with a contemplative expression. The background is a brick wall on the right and a yellow wall on the left with some faint, illegible graffiti. The lighting is warm and moody.

**ANNE CHARLOTTE ROBERTSON TURNED  
HER CAMERA INWARD AND NEVER  
LOOKED AWAY — DOCUMENTING A LIFE  
WHERE FILMING WAS THE ONLY WAY TO  
EXIST.**

*Every Frame a Breath* is an intimate, archive-driven documentary that uncovers the life and work of Anne Charlotte Robertson - a super-8 diarist who filmed herself obsessively over decades in suburban Massachusetts.

From the early 1980s through the late 1990s, Anne created a 36-hour, 83-reel visual diary capturing the raw material of her daily life: manic episodes, breakdowns, therapy sessions, failed relationships, grocery lists, garden routines, and spiritual reflections. Her camera never stopped, even when her body failed her or her mind fractured.

Filming wasn't performance - it was survival.





**“MAKING MY DIARY HAS  
LITERALLY SAVED MY LIFE”**

Told through Anne’s own footage, audio recordings, handwritten notes, and diary entries, the film immerses viewers in the texture of a life both profoundly ordinary and radically exposed.

At a time when self-documentation has become performative and polished, *Every Frame a Breath* reveals what it means to chronicle yourself in solitude - for no audience, without validation, and with uncompromising emotional honesty.

This is not just a portrait of an artist; it’s a confrontation with memory, madness, and the act of living when no one is watching.

# ANNE'S STORY

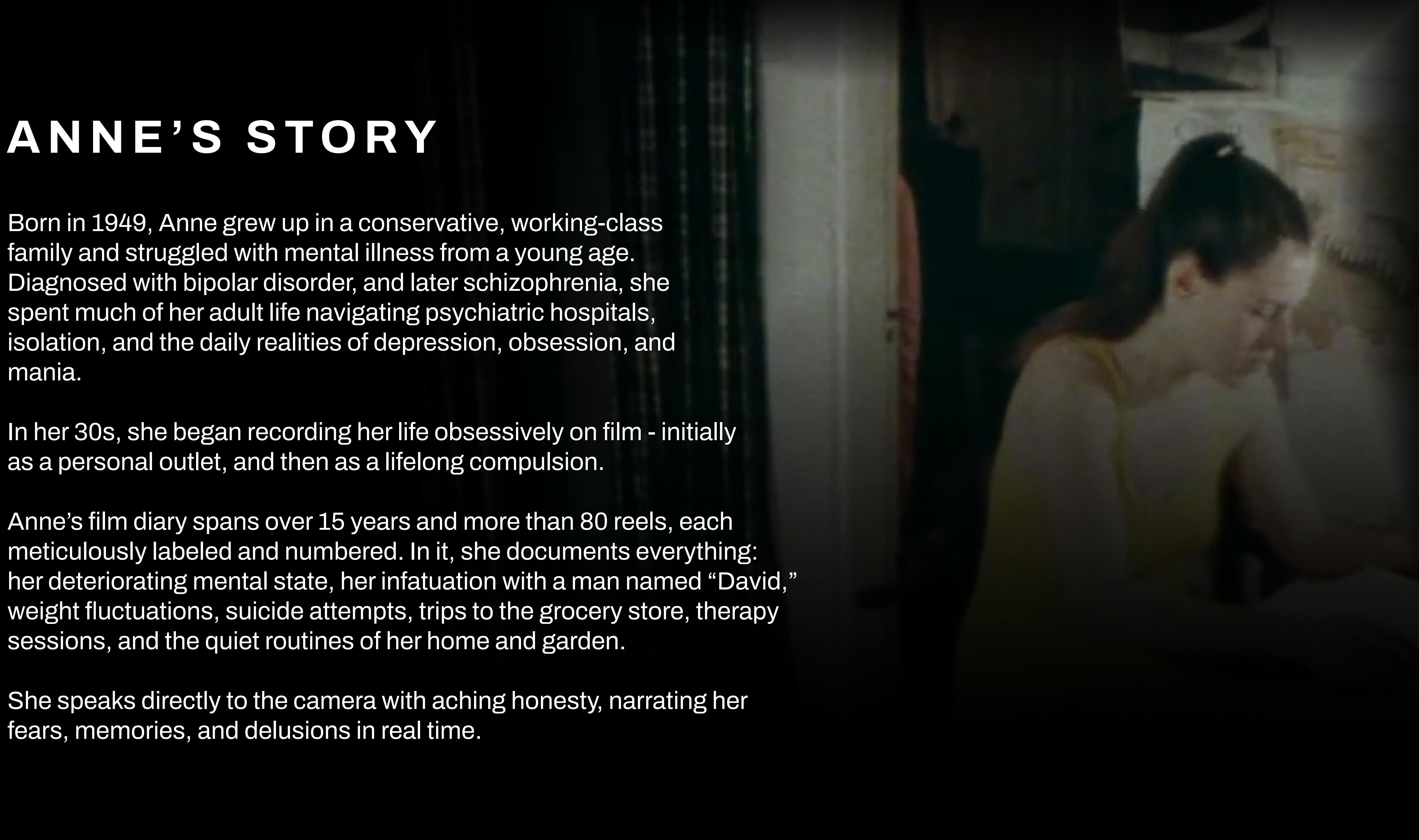
Born in 1949, Anne grew up in a conservative, working-class family and struggled with mental illness from a young age.

Diagnosed with bipolar disorder, and later schizophrenia, she spent much of her adult life navigating psychiatric hospitals, isolation, and the daily realities of depression, obsession, and mania.

In her 30s, she began recording her life obsessively on film - initially as a personal outlet, and then as a lifelong compulsion.

Anne's film diary spans over 15 years and more than 80 reels, each meticulously labeled and numbered. In it, she documents everything: her deteriorating mental state, her infatuation with a man named "David," weight fluctuations, suicide attempts, trips to the grocery store, therapy sessions, and the quiet routines of her home and garden.

She speaks directly to the camera with aching honesty, narrating her fears, memories, and delusions in real time.





Alongside the film, she created a massive paper archive - letters, notes, audio recordings, lists, receipts - all preserved in shoeboxes and file folders.

Though she exhibited her films and won a Guggenheim Fellowship in Filmmaking, Anne remained relatively unknown to the wider public. Her work was never published and never broadcast.

When she died in 2012, her archive - hundreds of reels, tapes, and writings - was donated to the Harvard Film Archive, where it is currently being preserved for research and academic use.

Only now are we beginning to understand the scale and intensity of what she left behind: a life filmed from the inside out.



# THE APPROACH

This will be a visually immersive, archive-led film, constructed from Anne Charlotte Robertson's own material - Super-8 footage, audio recordings, handwritten notes, and diary entries.

The structure will be experiential rather than chronological, tracing emotional arcs - mania, loneliness, obsession, recovery - using her own language and imagery.

Super-8 texture, analog sound, and period-specific elements will be preserved to honor the tactile intimacy of her work.

This is not a portrait from the outside, but a first-person descent into the mind of someone who filmed not to be seen, but to survive. The result is a haunting, lyrical exploration of identity, mental illness, and the radical act of recording one's own existence.