



# FIVE YEARS NORTH

## LOGLINE

Chino is new to the U.S. and desperate to avoid deportation back to Guatemala's poverty and violence. On patrol nearby is Judy, an unflinching ICE agent and native New Yorker. A decade of footage reveals the complex stories on both sides of the immigration system.

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## SYNOPSIS

As the oldest of nine, Chino was forced to drop out of school at 13 to work in turbulent, gang-run Guatemala City. Now 21, he's faced with the decision to cross the border and help save his mother's life, or stay as his family falls apart. Filmed over a decade, Chino's coming-of-age journey explores the universal elements of immigration.

Chino watches as his cousins head north one by one, with wildly different experiences. Samuel is caught at the border and deported home. Luis makes it to the U.S. but struggles to navigate school and immigration court while only speaking his native Mayan language. Eddie is quick to show off his glamorous new New York City life on Facebook, all while sharing a tiny apartment with seven other Guatemalans and living in fear of deportation.

Just a few blocks away from their overcrowded apartment, Judy — a Cuban-American ICE agent — is apprehending undocumented immigrants in her community. While making arrests, she reflects on her work being misunderstood and voices her frustration that immigration laws aren't being respected as real laws.

Driven through a decade of vérité moments, Facebook video conversations, and interviews, viewers will be forced to confront what choices they would make in Chino's circumstances. While political rhetoric on both sides attempts to simplify the immigration debate, this film will give you an intimate portrait of a child, his community, and what it means to seek a better life. With a planned release date in 2020, *Five Years North* looks at the real lives of temporary immigrants determined to bring the American dream back home with them.

## TEAM

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