

AN UNCOMMON PRODUCTIONS DOCUMENTARY

NARRATED BY MARK RUFFALO

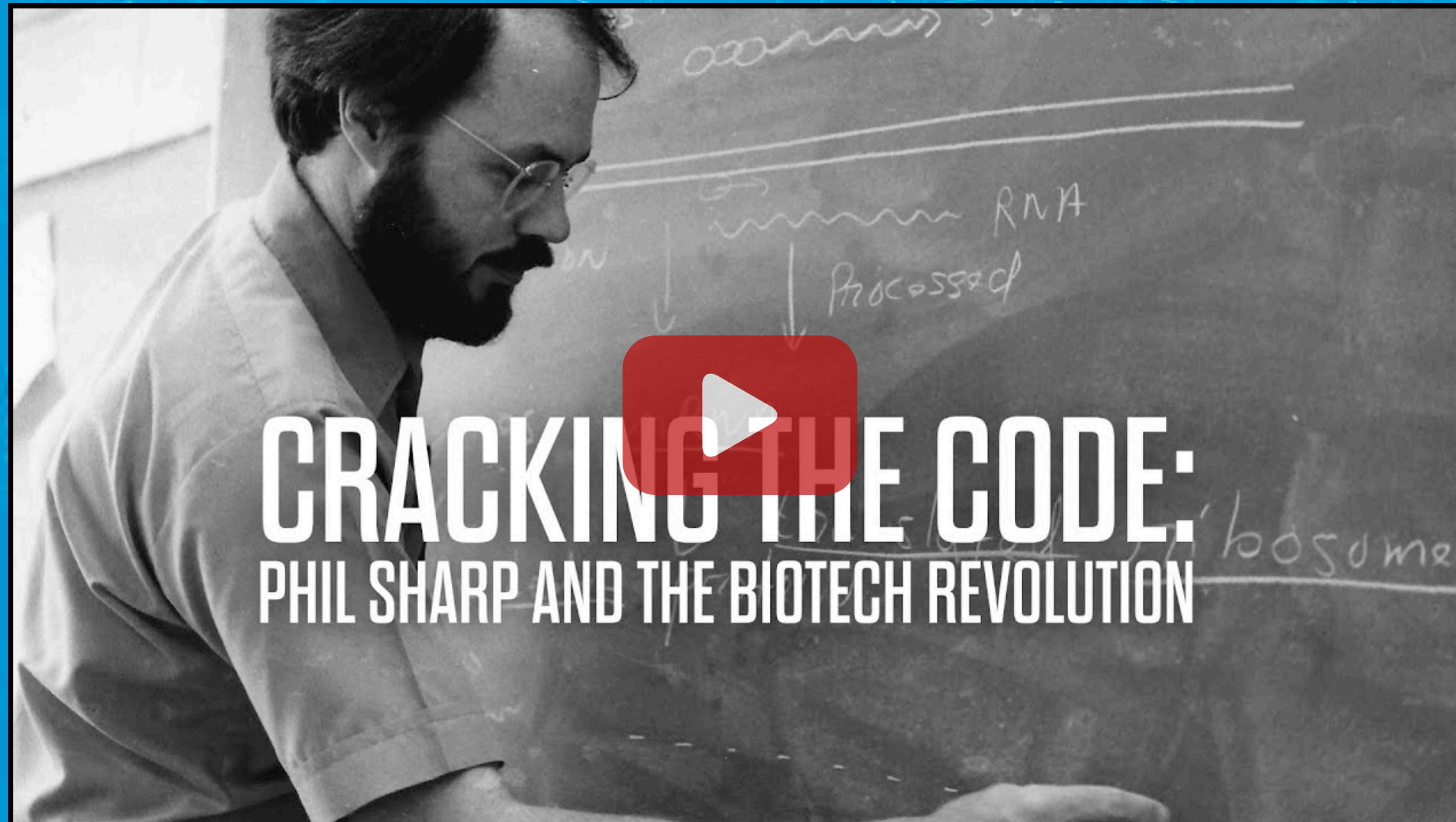
DIRECTED BY BILL HANEY



CRACKING THE CODE:

PHIL SHARP & THE BIOTECH REVOLUTION

TRAILER



CRACKING THE CODE:

PHIL SHARP AND THE BIOTECH REVOLUTION

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CRACKING THE CODE

GENRE

Documentary

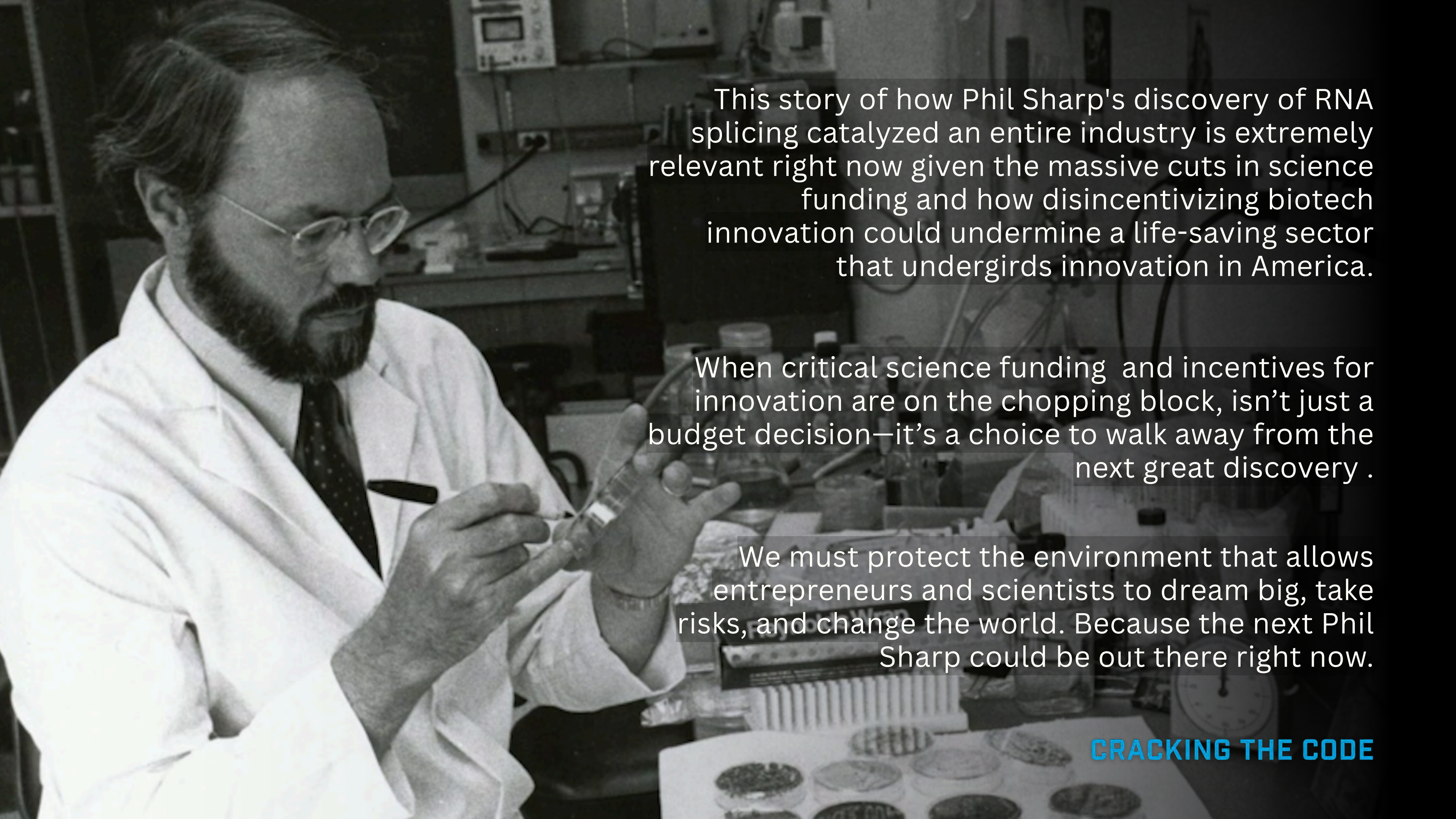
RUN TIME

97 min

SYNOPSIS

Cracking the Code, narrated by Mark Ruffalo, is an inspiring story of vision, perseverance, and the power of science to change the world. Phil Sharp's journey from a Kentucky farm boy to Nobel laureate embodies the American Dream and the triumph of entrepreneurial spirit. His 1977 groundbreaking discovery of RNA splicing rewrote the rules of molecular biology and ignited a life-saving scientific revolution, laying the foundation for an industry that has become a cornerstone of global innovation and economic growth – and transformed the health of billions of patients worldwide.

CRACKING THE CODE

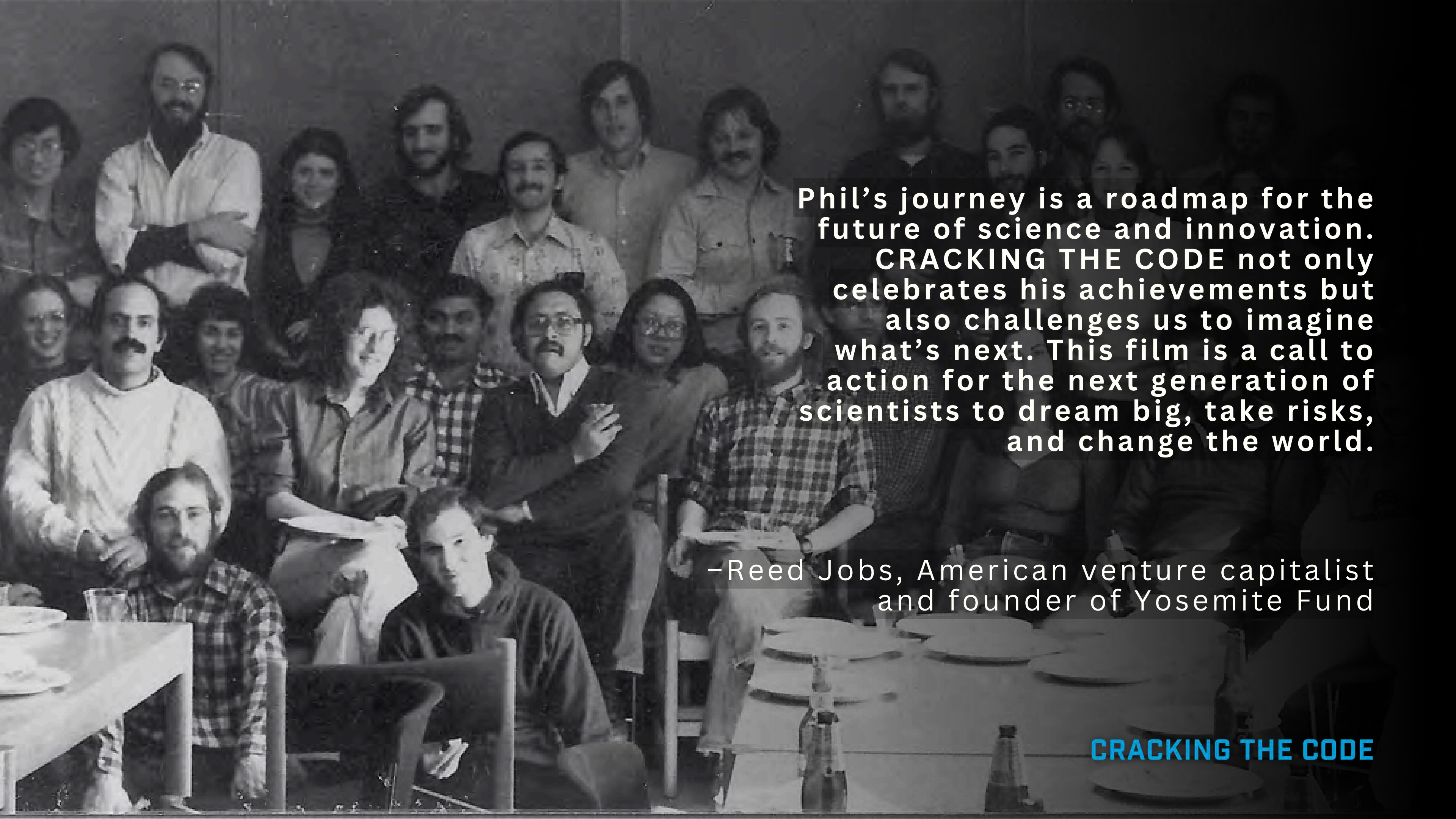


This story of how Phil Sharp's discovery of RNA splicing catalyzed an entire industry is extremely relevant right now given the massive cuts in science funding and how disincentivizing biotech innovation could undermine a life-saving sector that undergirds innovation in America.

When critical science funding and incentives for innovation are on the chopping block, isn't just a budget decision—it's a choice to walk away from the next great discovery .

We must protect the environment that allows entrepreneurs and scientists to dream big, take risks, and change the world. Because the next Phil Sharp could be out there right now.

CRACKING THE CODE



Phil's journey is a roadmap for the future of science and innovation. CRACKING THE CODE not only celebrates his achievements but also challenges us to imagine what's next. This film is a call to action for the next generation of scientists to dream big, take risks, and change the world.

—Reed Jobs, American venture capitalist and founder of Yosemite Fund

CRACKING THE CODE

RELEASE PLAN

SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

THEATRICAL PREMIERE | LOS ANGELES, CA

OCTOBER 6, 2025

BROADCAST PREMIERE | PBS INDEPENDENT LENS

OCTOBER 20, 2025

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

CRACKING THE CODE

BILL HANEY, DIRECTOR

Bill Haney is an award-winning filmmaker, inventor and entrepreneur. His documentary accolades include The Gabriel Prize, a Silver Hugo, and a Pare Lorentz Award; he has premiered previous documentaries at Sundance and SXSW.

Previous documentaries include:

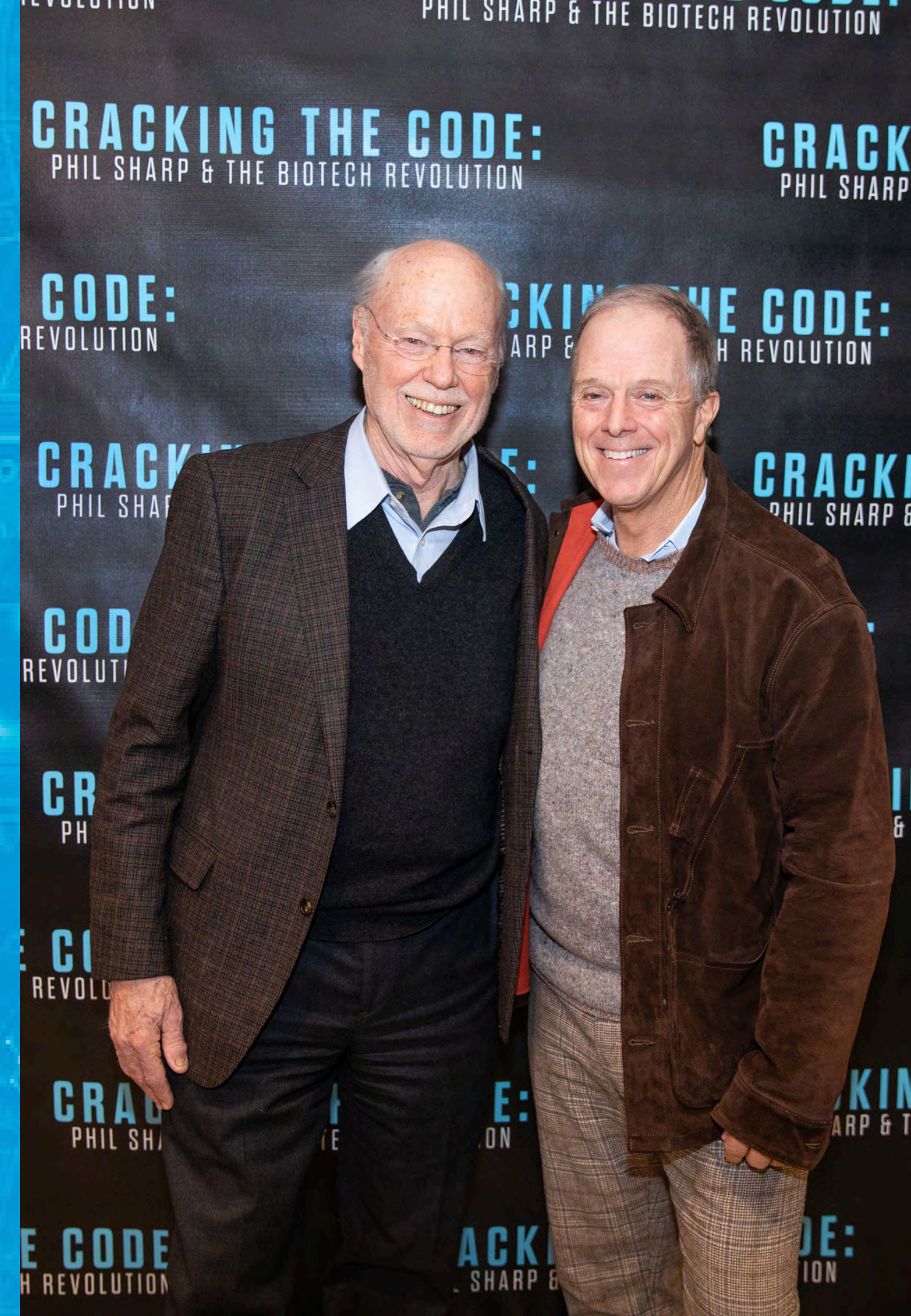
JIM ALLISON: BREAKTHROUGH (2019)

THE LAST MOUNTAIN (2010)

THE PRICE OF SUGAR (2008)

A LIFE AMONG WHALES (2004)

CRACKING THE CODE



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Global tensions, seething conflict and examples of malignant narcissism splash across our daily news cycles. But there are other stories, of quiet, humble leaders working boldly, passionately and effectively to bring hope to every corner on earth.

And, in a society which rightfully celebrates creativity as central to reimagining a future more appealing than the world we inhabit today, who among us, when pressed to name ten leading global creative figures, would name a scientist?

Cracking the Code chronicles Phil Sharp's extraordinary journey from tobacco country Kentucky to winning the Nobel Prize, from his convention shattering research that sparks the biotech revolution transforming global medicine to withstanding the deadly attention of the Unabomber.

Phil was born in a one room, dirt floored house that had neither electricity nor indoor plumbing. He was severely dyslexic. His parents had just gone bankrupt, neither made it to high school.

Overcoming failure, threats and painful setbacks, Phil's resilience, imagination, character and simple old fashioned hard work allow him to play a critical role in leading the genetics revolution that has offered the world medications for hundreds of previously untreatable diseases, from Multiple Sclerosis and Breast Cancer to rapidly spreading viruses like Covid 19

CRACKING THE CODE

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT, CONTINUED

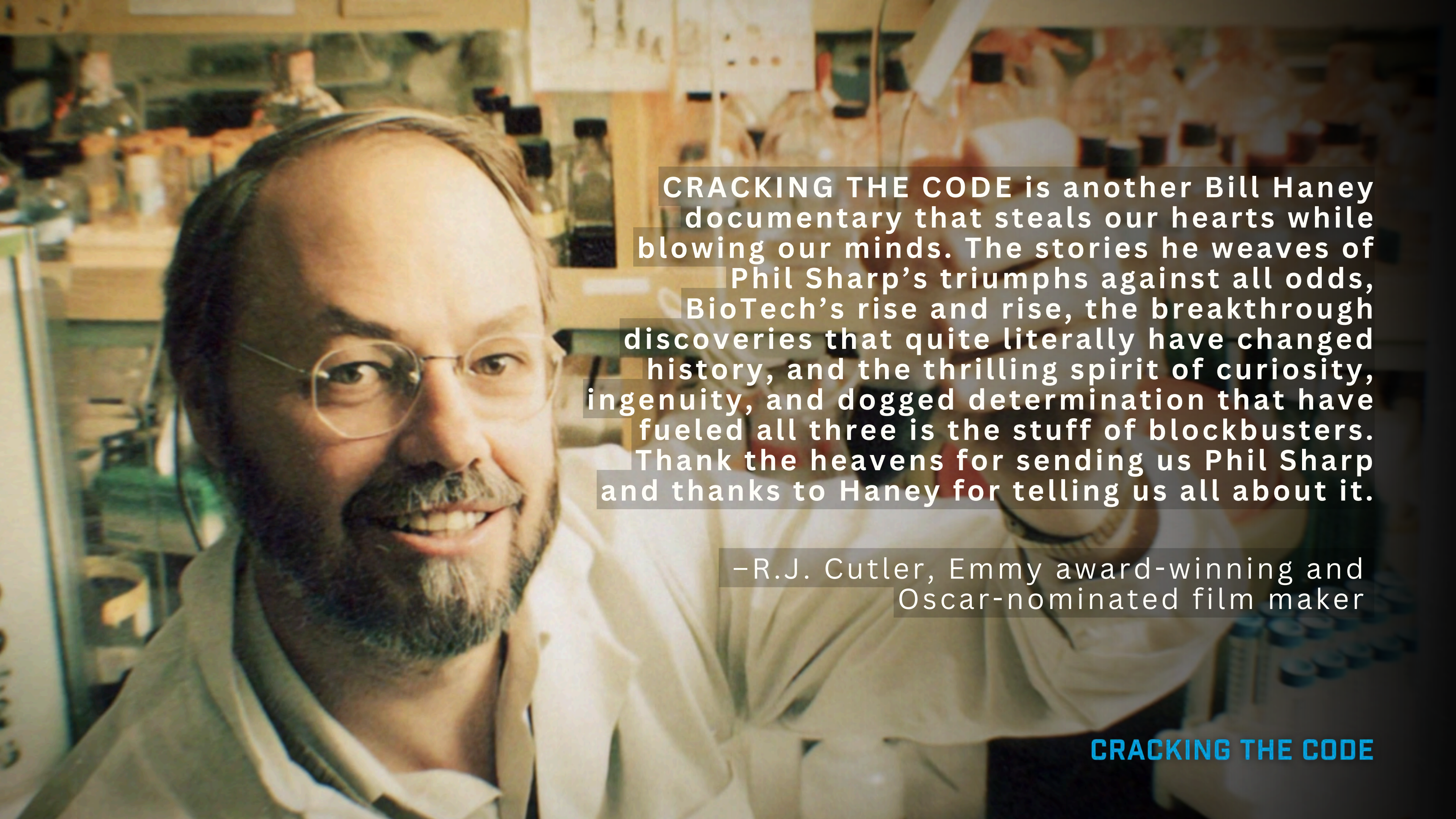
Less than 50 years ago, when Phil defied convention to found his first biotech company, not a single patient worldwide took a biotech medicine. In 2024, 7.4 billion people did.

Guided by Walter Issacson's insights and the experiences of three other Nobel prize winners, Cracking the Code goes beyond the love story at the heart of Phil's success to look at power of humility, the surprisingly approachable characteristics of genius and the animating spirit at the core of America's innovative muscle as a culture.

We are living amidst the greatest revolution in the history of man - for what can be more important to us than the fundamental re-engineering of life itself. And the central revolutionaries live with us still - a liquor store owner's kid from Albany, a Lebanese refugee, a young girl from Cutthroat, Louisiana and Phil, a boy who stutters, born on D-DAY, all featured in Cracking the Code.

As a filmmaker, I've long found myself drawn to the power of ordinary folks to change the world - if their character, imagination and courage are up to the painful challenges they inevitably face. Cracking the Code highlights the endless possibilities of discovery for those who dare to dream with their eyes open, cast light on their path for those who may choose to follow it and reminds us of the blessings these adventurers offer the rest of us.

CRACKING THE CODE



CRACKING THE CODE is another Bill Haney documentary that steals our hearts while blowing our minds. The stories he weaves of Phil Sharp's triumphs against all odds, BioTech's rise and rise, the breakthrough discoveries that quite literally have changed history, and the thrilling spirit of curiosity, ingenuity, and dogged determination that have fueled all three is the stuff of blockbusters. Thank the heavens for sending us Phil Sharp and thanks to Haney for telling us all about it.

—R.J. Cutler, Emmy award-winning and Oscar-nominated film maker

CRACKING THE CODE

CREATIVE TEAM

Director **BILL HANEY**

Writer **BILL HANEY**

Producer **CARINA CHAVDA MEHTA & MAURA MCCARTHY HANEY**

Cinematographer **CLAUDIA RASCHKE**

Editor **SHANNON CONBOY**

Original Music **CRAIG RICHEY**

Executive Producers

RJ CUTLER

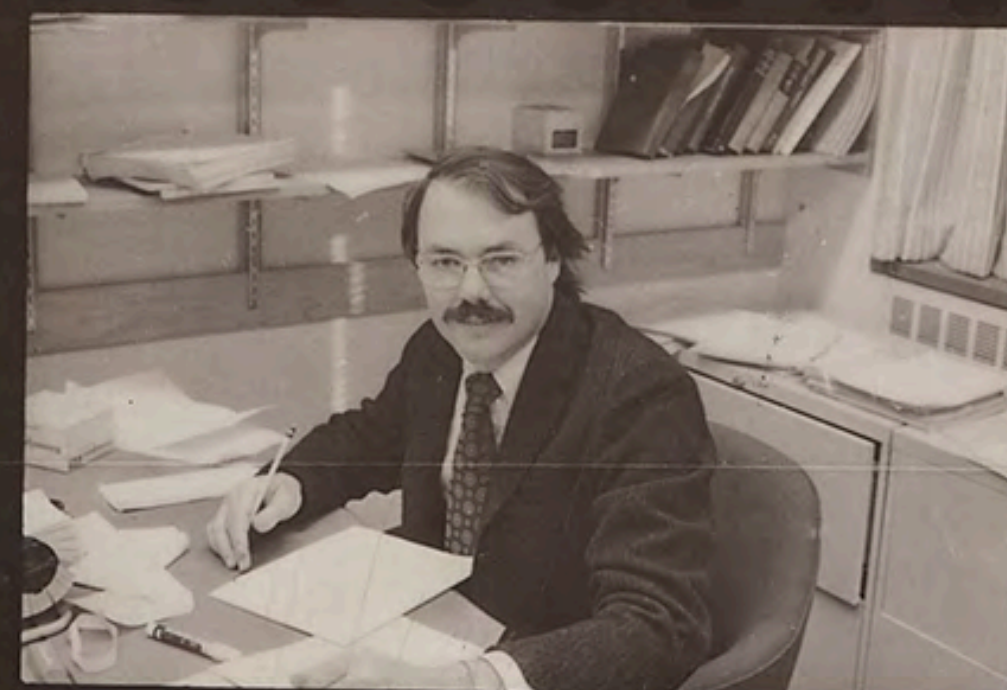
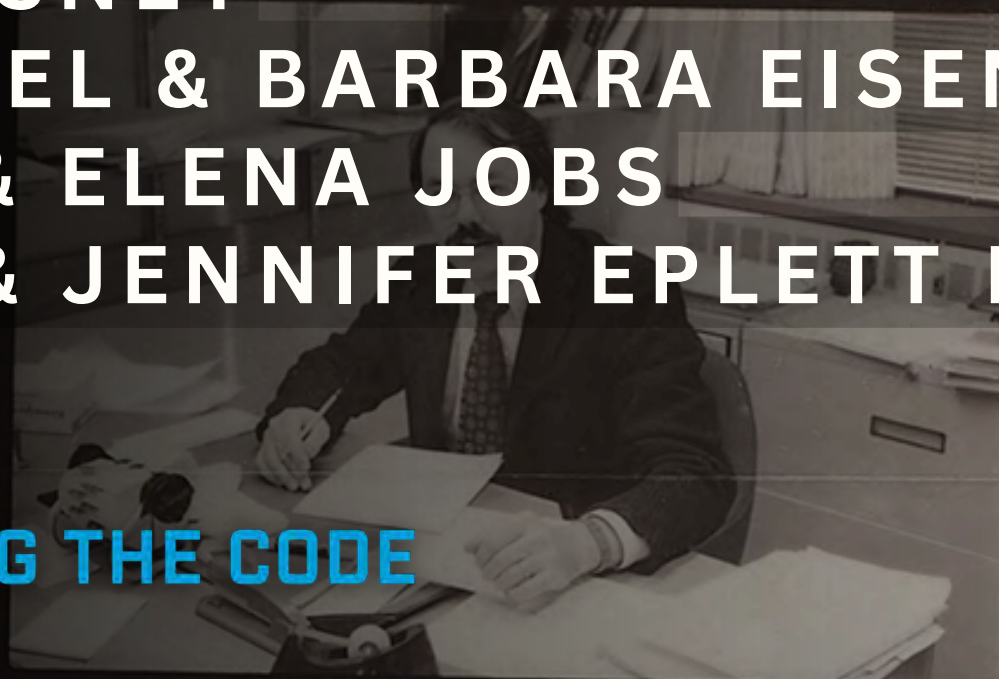
TIM DISNEY

MICHAEL & BARBARA EISENSEN

REED & ELENA JOBS

SEAN & JENNIFER EPLETT REILLY

CRACKING THE CODE



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