

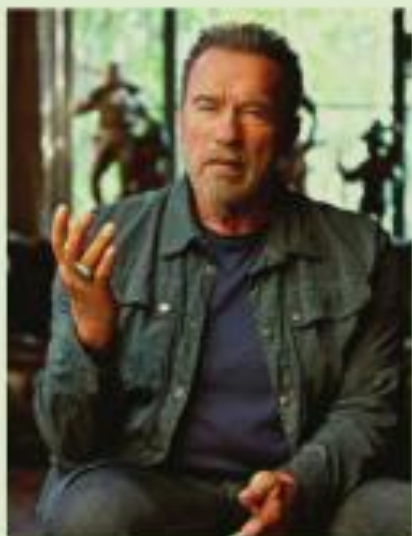
## REVIEW

# 'Arnold' tells the almost unbelievable story of an action hero

Gautaman Bhaskaran Chennai

Many times, it is the most intimate look at a celebrity that fascinates audiences and in the latest limited docuseries on Netflix, titled "Arnold," viewers will come to grips with the silver screen legend that is Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Throughout the work, it is his relationship with Kennedy family member Maria Shriver that is most gripping. "The Terminator" actor says in the series that he was particular about Maria understanding his roots, so he took her to a little village, Thal, in Austria and proposed to her on a boat. But



Neatly divided into three episodes, 'Arnold' captures the essence of the star's life. Supplied

25 years later, his infidelity with a housekeeper led to their divorce.

There are other equally absorbing vignettes in the series. Neatly divided into three episodes, "Arnold" captures the essence of his life, and more importantly the tremendous willpower that helped him achieve the impossible. Now 75, we see him driving his vehicle on snow-covered hilly terrain with a Cuban cigar in hand and a steely determination to get all that he wanted out of life.

He began as a bodybuilder, winning multiple Mr. Universe and Mr. Olympia trophies, but his later foray into the world

of acting was a tad more of a struggle. Later, his stint as the governor of California earned him accolades, especially due to some of his environmental policies that President Barak Obama's government implemented as well.

Breezily told by director Lesley Chilcott, the docuseries gives us amusing asides like Schwarzenegger's competitive feud in the 1980s with Sylvester Stallone, a rift that became so toxic, Stallone says, they couldn't be in the same room together.

Chilcott is careful to ensure that the work does not slip into the hagiographic — Schwarzenegger admits he is uncomfortable

discussing his "failures," as he puts it, among them the fact that he fathered a child with a household employee during his marriage to Shriver. There is also an emotional sequence surrounding his brother, Meinhard, who died in a 1971 car crash, and a dip into Arnold's fractured relationship with his father, who the actor claimed was pro-Nazi in a previous interview.

But "Arnold" is not really about these, it is firmly rooted on his almost miraculous achievements. From a boy who grew up on a modest farm in remote Austria, to a magnificent bodybuilder, to a popular actor, to a politician, Arnie's climb seems almost unbelievable.