



HAINTS

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Haints is an hour-long Coming-of-Age Supernatural Drama.

Series Logline:

Ruby, a Southern teen, unaware of the curse she carries, unwittingly opens a conduit for the HAINTS and spirits of local legend to enter the world of the living. Once this awareness hits, she fights to set things right — if she can!

Season One Logline:

A 15-year-old "Lowcountry" teen must overcome the obstacles of fitting into her new prep school environment while struggling to conquer her emerging supernatural gifts of black magic and Hoodoo in order to save a missing classmate from a malevolent spirit.

Pilot Logline:

Confused by the onset of her supernatural gifts and plagued by nightmares, Ruby hatches a plan to find her estranged grandfather for possible answers while struggling to hide her emerging gifts from her family, fearing the outcome should they find out.

Comps:

Teen Wolf TV Series meets Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Sabrina, and Supernatural.

Distinguishing Feature:

A mash-up teen drama joins the conjuring and urban legends of the South.



Introduction

The coastal regions of Georgia and South Carolina, known as the Lowcountry, are rife with black magic and Hoodoo originating from West Africa. Bedtime stories are told to keep children in check, and root medicine is practiced to keep them safe from the HAINTS (spirits and ghouls) lurking in the shadows. Few are privy to the practices and oral traditions of the Gullah Geechee (descendants of West African Slaves). Their cultural beliefs, urban legends and, ghost stories are not as widespread as they should be.

HAINTS promises to remedy this by taking you on an unforgettable and engaging journey into a supernatural world entrenched in the oral tradition of story-telling and mysticism of the Gullah Geechee.

"Our stories, rarely written, were passed down verbally for generations. For many of us, it is the only record of our history we have." - Sista Gal





The series at a glance...

HAINTS is the story of one girl's struggle to make friends, fit in, and do her best to be normal, while attempting to make sense of the hand of cards fate has dealt.

RUBY LEE ADAMS (15) lives a sheltered life, protected from a matriarchal curse placed on her family during the Civil War, or so her Grandmother, **MAEBELLE ADAMS** (60s), and her **AUNT JUNE** (50s) believe. As Ruby's coming-of-age ceremony nears, it becomes quite clear Maebelle and June's efforts to protect Ruby have failed, and the curse is headed straight for Ruby in spite of their protection spells. Maebelle and June must find out why.

Ruby, fiercely independent, sets out on a quest of her own — to unearth the truth! What she discovers alters the course of her life forever! The naive bohemian girl suddenly thrust in with a crowd of elite, wealthy teens, must choose her friends wisely and embark on a journey that will turn her into a Hunter of Haints!

An unknown danger lurks in the background of **HAINTS**, upsetting the balance of things and undoing Maebelle and June's efforts at every turn. Ruby's Grandfather, **ISIAH WIGGINS** (60s), dabbles in black magic far graver than Hoodoo, and he's dead set on controlling the spirit world, even if that means putting his granddaughter in harm's way. His actions have already cost his own daughter's life and the threat to Ruby is always lurking, waiting to strike.

Ruby, innocent of her Grandfather's nefarious plans, wishes only to know the man she's been kept from all her life. This makes things easy for Isiah until Ruby's quest to uncover the truth sheds light on all the secrets Maebelle has kept from her. This knowledge exposes Ruby to the unknown world of **HAINTS**.

As Ruby transitions from school girl to hunter - no one - not even Isiah can stand in her way --but it's entertaining to watch them try!

"If you don't know where you are from, you have no idea where you are headed." Geechee Proverb







Tone/Setting/World/Themes



Tone

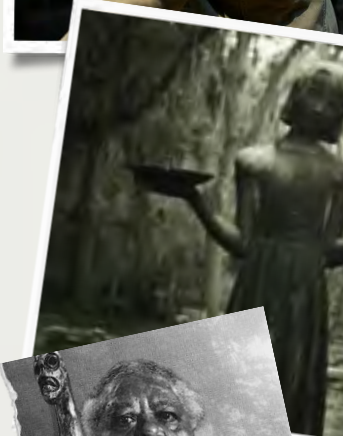
The tone of the series is dark and mystical, with a healthy dose of both mystery and horror. The American South is a region full of restless spirits and a frightening history loaded with ghost stories, as well as true accounts of horror and heartbreak just waiting to be shared through a teen drama like HAINTS.

Urban legends always manage to raise the hair on the back of one's neck. Add in a splash of Hoodoo and black magic and your feet slowly rise from the floor and you can't help but take a quick peek behind you, hoping that presence you feel is just your imagination.

The lesser-known folktales of the South are as sinister and macabre as the rest — with a bonus: a majestic, eerie backdrop that enchants and terrifies in its own right. The Woman in White has nothing on a Haint like a Boo Hag hell-bent on walking amongst the world of the living, and Raw Head and Bloody Bones can certainly hold their own with the likes of Bloody Mary. It could be stressed that the creatures and frights of the Lowcountry could have a much more profound effect because they aren't the same old rehashed stories we've heard so many times before. Although steeped in a history full of pain and woe, these stories offer a new and fresh experience for a television series.

The Southern setting of HAINTS with its massive oaks, Spanish moss, and lichen-covered tombstones, heightens the sense of foreboding, introducing additional dangers inherent solely to HAINTS' coastal Georgia landscape. Very few places compare to Cumberland Island with its wild horses and ruins of Dungeness. If you listen closely you might catch the heartbeat of a distant tribal drum, the mesmerizing chant of the Geechee, or something as eerie as the wailing of a forlorn haint in search of a body to snatch.

Tonal aspects of Angel Heart, Skeleton Key, and Midnight in the Garden of Good & Evil would be comparable.







Tabby House

Dungeness Ruins

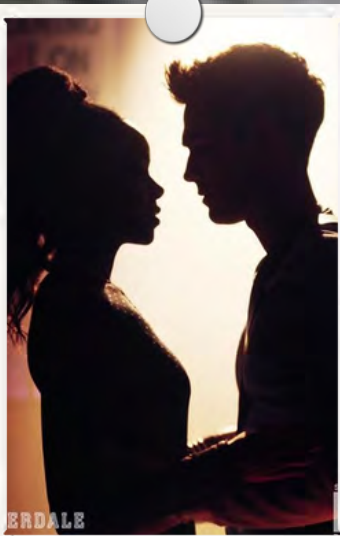


Setting



Cumberland Island





The world

It's a world suffused with shamanism, voodoo, sorcery, and the like. A world entrenched in ancient rituals and rites of passage, including sacrifice and root-conjuring. A world full of lies, fear, and secrecy.

It's a world where spirits and ghosts can inhabit the world of the living through some pretty disturbing means. A world where true accounts of tragedy can, and will, come back to haunt and seek revenge.

HAINTS is a world where a close-knit group of teens come together and find a sense of family and camaraderie even if they don't particularly like each other much. In spite of their personal differences, their bond is strong enough to take down some of the most frightening creatures from the Lowcountry. In the midst of their normal day-to-day teenage drama (and there is drama!) they manage to save the day again and again.





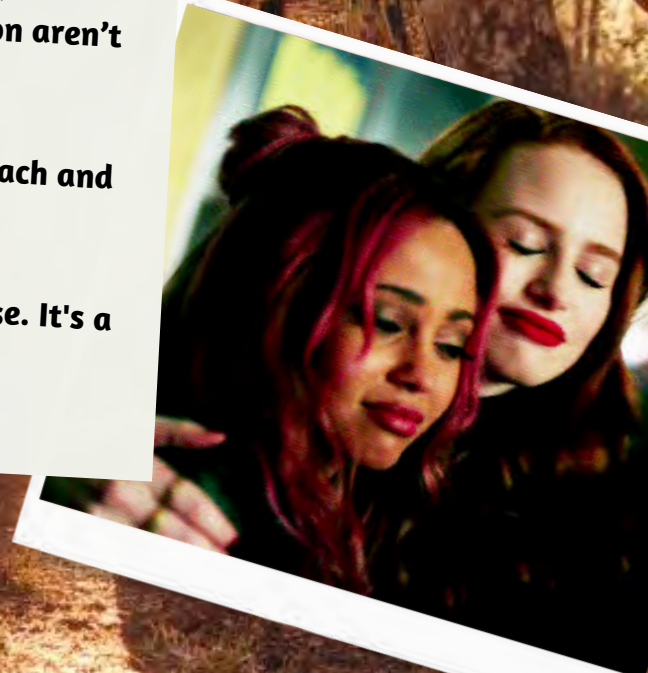


Themes

The world of HAINTS reminds us of the importance of family and friends. Of courage and loyalty. Of belief in oneself. Of forgiveness and acceptance. And that no matter how far we travel, home is always with us, reminding us who we are and where we're from. It's never too late to go home, and the ones you can count on aren't always the ones you expect.

HAINTS reminds us to embrace the magic that's around us each and every day. It's there and waiting to be discovered!

And we can't help but wonder if Ruby will ever beat the curse. It's a question that drives Ruby, the episodes, and the series.

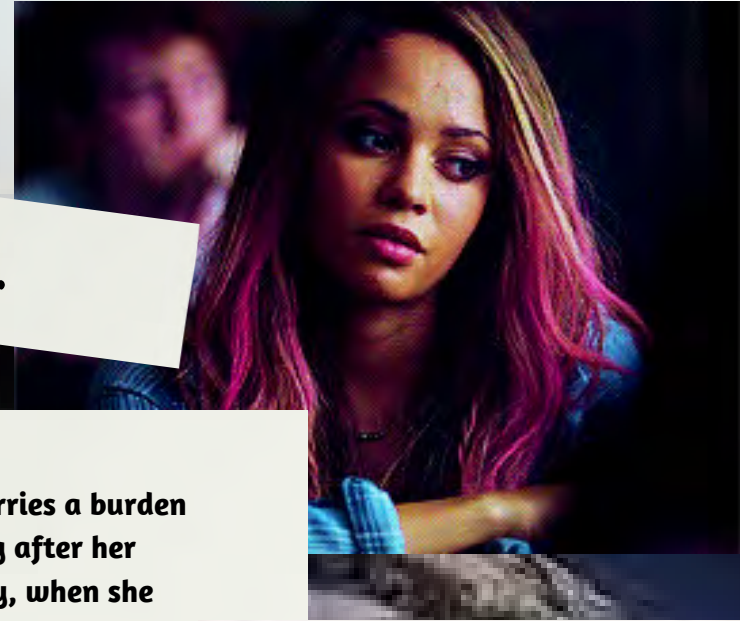




Ensemble teens at first glance...



Meet Ruby...



RUBY, a total teen bohemian, is unaware she carries a burden lying dormant deep inside her, until the morning after her “coming-of-age” ceremony” on her 16th birthday, when she starts to question the line between her dreams and reality. This rite-of-passage marks a turning point in Ruby’s life, and there’s no going back. Ruby discovers her dreams and her gift of oral storytelling, passed down from her Gullah Geechee ancestors, provide a vessel for the supernatural creatures from her childhood folklore to manifest in the real world. Curbing the storytelling doesn’t help. It only assures her dreams become more intensely powerful, unleashing the most malevolent spirits -- even Candyman and Krueger would tuck their tails and run. Exiled for her own protection, Ruby finds herself thrust into a new prep school environment, where she struggles to fit in and make friends while mourning a recent loss. Meanwhile, her latent abilities have a way of making classmates disappear...or worse.



being brought back to life anyway, I had







The BFF...

and fell in love with it.
the village as a holiday



JAMIE (15), Ruby's childhood friend from the wrong side of the tracks, has a hard time accepting Ruby's new life. It doesn't help that he's hopelessly in love with her, or that Mae & June represent the family he wished he had. He cherishes these two women and Ruby beyond measure.

Jamie's confidence wanes as he weighs his life against Ruby's crush, Dylan. Jamie's alcoholic father doesn't help matters.

But no matter what, Jamie will always have Ruby's back, even when the personal cost is more than he can bear! Although his loyalty to Ruby's family does pit him against her often, in his eyes, Mae and June can do no wrong.





The love interest...

DYLAN (16) is the self-assured, hard-to-get Abercrombie & Fitch model type every girl is determined to capture - **PAUSE** - he's incredibly kind, generous and **WAIT** - smart with impeccable manners! Since when did dreamboats become the good guys?

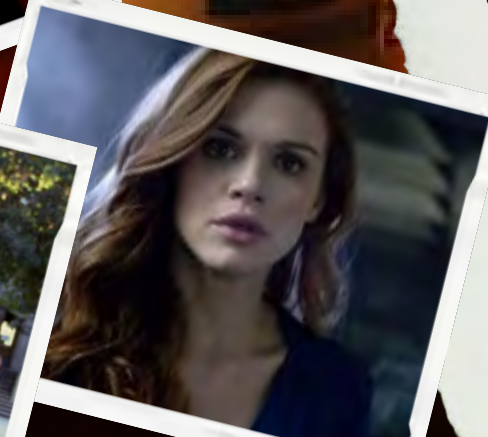
Dylan, honoring his loyalty to his ex-girlfriend and childhood sweetheart Alyona, stifles his growing desire for the exotic new girl -- Ruby.

Dylan's journey into the world of the supernatural with Ruby upends his life, heightening this romantic tension and shattering his innocence about the world he thought he knew.

This guy really drives Jamie crazy!



Don't worry, we have a Queen Bee...



CHLOE (16), a highly groomed, statuesque redhead with rose-tinged ivory skin, who only wears uniforms carefully tailored to show off her assets, can't wait to sink her teeth into the new girl and rip her to shreds. Chloe's little club of sycophants go out of their way to see that she is pleased, regardless of who gets hurt. Chloe always gets what she wants. She'll either wind up spearheading a presidential campaign or marrying a candidate.

And let's not forget our Problem Child....

Dylan's ex-girlfriend, **ALYONA PETROV** (15), a self-possessed, carefully coiffed goth with a fashion sense that blends goth gloom with haute couture from the Paris runway, fuels the story engine for the first season. Her pale skin and odd beauty only add to her unusual magnetism. Beneath her alluring looks, Alyona puts a whole new twist on deviousness.

Things go awry when a **BOO HAG** possesses Alyona for its own sinister purpose. A malevolent spirit of the Lowcountry lore intent on hanging around in the real world by inhabiting its victim's skin and sucking the life force out of everyone around - while they sleep. The problem with Boo Hags is they have a way of tricking everyone around you into believing you are you, only a better version! If you mixed Loki with a Vampire and the most sinister ghost imaginable you might have something close.



A scenic view of a historic stone building, possibly a church or a large residence, with several arched windows and doorways. The building is surrounded by lush green trees and hanging moss, creating a serene and historic atmosphere. The scene is captured in a wide-angle shot, with the building's facade and the surrounding foliage filling the frame.

Which brings us to our Story...





The Adams' Magic

The females in Ruby's family are very different from the rest of the Gullah Geechee root-doctors. They can actually heal...the dead! This comes at a price -- and some magic shouldn't be practiced at any cost. Maebelle and June have gone to great measures to impart this knowledge to Ruby, both the good and the evil. Maebelle knows that what comes back isn't always what one would expect. Death is a law of nature and should never be tampered with under any circumstance. What's dead should stay dead! This is where Isiah and Maebelle didn't see eye-to-eye when their daughter, Tellulah (Ruby's mother), was tragically killed by a Plat-eye, a Lowcountry shapeshifter Isiah believed he had under his control as he used his daughter as a vessel to bring the hideous creature into their world.

This otherworldly healing ability is precisely what makes the matriarchal line in Ruby's family the perfect vessels for the haints looking for a way into the world of the living -- and how the curse appears to have manifested.

Maebelle and June have tried their best to teach Ruby how to harness her growing supernatural gifts, destined to hit as she nears womanhood, but Ruby has wanted no part of it. In fact, she stifles her awareness that she's different. She refuses to let on that her gifts are starting to take hold. She wants no part of her birthright. However, suppressing her power has consequences. Ruby's anger has a way of causing things to spiral out of control. It's pretty likely a table could, say, fly across the room without her meaning anyone any real harm.

Ruby's refusal to learn anything about her family's legacy makes things very complicated when Zabette's curse hits. This is the one thing Maebelle refused to let Ruby know anything about. Ruby's innocence in this regard should have been helpful in keeping the haints at bay. Since Maebelle has made June promise to never speak of the Family Curse, they truly believe they have found a way around it.

Maebelle is well aware Ruby is hiding something from her, but she believes it is just her healing abilities starting to blossom. She has no idea she failed at protecting Ruby from the curse until it's too late!



Pilot Backstory

RUBY'S Grandmother MAEBELLE and her Great Aunt JUNE have gone to great lengths to protect Ruby from a family curse, destined to hit when Ruby turns 16. Ruby is aware of her Gullah Geechee roots and the healing power passed on through her matriarchal line, but Ruby has been kept in the dark about the curse. This leaves Ruby ill-equipped to deal with the HAINTS of the Lowcountry seeking a conduit for their entry into the world of the living.

These malevolent spirits find their window through the dreams and stories the Gullah Geechee storytellers pass on. The oral tradition of storytelling is a great source of pride in the Lowcountry, but Ruby has been forbidden to take part and she doesn't know why. Nor does she grasp the danger. Unable to control the urge, she hosts a podcast in secret and soon becomes the famed voice of the Lowcountry.

Ruby has also been kept in the dark about the true nature of her Grandfather, ISIAH, whose desire to control these spirits lands him the role of our series antagonist -- our No. 1 Bad Guy! He is the puppetmaster pulling the strings behind the scenes to make sure his granddaughter releases these monsters into the world.

Ruby has her heart set on befriending the prep school kids she meets over the summer while working at her Aunt June's coffee shoppe cafe. Her root-conjuring upbringing is not something she's ready to toss out into the world and she tries her best to downplay all that she is at the expense of isolating herself even further from her family.



Sneak peek into Season one

Ruby partially brings forth a Boo Hag through a macabre dream sequence, depicting a skinless, charred form, resulting in a car accident involving her beloved grandmother. Ruby can't shed the feeling that she somehow caused the accident. Maebelle, fully aware of what is happening, shuts down Ruby's repeated attempts to talk about the incident.

Unaware of the darkness she possesses inside, Ruby turns to her podcast for comfort, the only thing that truly makes her happy. Only this time the story controls her, unleashing the haint bit-by-bit into Ruby's world. This sequence of events leads to Maebelle being attacked by the Boo Hag. The tragic encounter leaves Maebelle in a coma and assures Ruby is left alone to figure out what is going on in the world around her. Instead of turning to June, Ruby seeks out the aid of a few teens she's just met.

In an effort to keep Ruby out of harm's way when a family friend is killed, June sends Ruby to boarding school where she struggles to fit in with the kids she met over the summer. The nasty Boo Hag manifests fully the day Ruby recites a story in drama class. Ruby's performance intrigues DYLAN, drawing the ire of his goth ex-girlfriend, ALYONA. What he didn't catch was that Ruby was not in control of the story, the story was in control of her.

CHLOE, taken by Ruby's eerie story-telling, hatches a plan to invite Ruby to her private haunt weekend on her family's remote island off the coast of Georgia. It is her intention to use Ruby's oral gift to terrify her guests. Alyona, once again, is not psyched with the prospect of Ruby being within eyeshot of Dylan. Chloe promises Alyona she can have Ruby afterward to humiliate as she sees fit. This pact triggers the same emotions as Carrie at the Prom.

And it's on!



Sneak peek into Season one

As the night settles in and the stories begin around a campfire, Alyona grows agitated with Dylan's obvious interest in Ruby. Alyona pulls him away from the gathering to an old one-room Tabby house (former slave quarters). The same charred arm from Ruby's dream emerges from the shadows and yanks Alyona into the darkness! Horrified and unable to defend Alyona, Dylan runs back to the campfire for help when she vanishes.

The search is on for Alyona. Suspecting this is a prank, the police are initially dismissive. Ruby and Dylan are forced together for the hunt, bringing them closer together, sparking the indications of a teen romance as they navigate the mystical world of the Gullah Geechee.

Ultimately trusting Dylan and desperate for intimacy, Ruby discloses her family secrets and opens the door to supernatural elements, exposing Dylan to the spirit world and pushing her best friend, Jamie, even further away. When Ruby discloses her dream and the fear she may have had a hand in what happened to Alyona, Dylan willingly agrees to accompany Ruby on her quest for answers, realizing she is alone and that no one else will understand.



Sneak peek into Season One

Wanting to understand what's happening to her and how she may have brought harm to Alyona, Ruby visits her AUNT JUNE, only to discover she is missing. Ruby and PASTOR CUBA, a family friend and confidante, try to find June with the help of DETECTIVE THOMAS (June's Goddaughter), who is beginning to suspect things are not as they appear. And with Cuba they certainly are not.

Alyona is discovered back at school. Or is it Alyona? She's funny, ethereal, kind, and spacey. Her once fashionable dorm room is transformed into a hippie root doctor's haven, strewn with odd herbs and plants. Ruby discovers this dramatic turn of events on her own -- no one, not even Dylan, bothered to inform Ruby that Alyona had been found. Dylan, stuck by obligation to comfort Alyona, turns away from Ruby, leaving her confused and wounded.

ETHAN, the instigator in the group, is only too happy to jump in and comfort her, to Dylan's dismay. Ruby must make things right with Jamie in order to recruit her ensemble to send this spirit back where it belongs if there's any chance of saving Alyona.

Things aren't what they seem with Alyona...

"Alyona, nude, glides toward the door, inching it open, and slips out. She turns back peering in the dimly lit room, her eyes glowing white as she slowly edges, then yanks the door shut."



Full cast Descriptions...

Motives & conflict...

Ruby Lee Adams

Haints Protagonist

RUBY ADAMS (15) is a normal home-schooled teen with one exception — she's cursed and doesn't know it. At least not right away. She's been kept in the dark most her life about her past and her family. She wants nothing to do with the root-conjuring Hoodoo she was born into and fights her Grandmother tooth and nail over her dislike of learning "the art" every chance she gets.

Ruby's passions lie in art and her podcast — "Lowcountry Lore." Ruby shares the stories of her ancestors and quickly becomes the voice of the Lowcountry. Maebelle has strictly forbidden Ruby from the oral tradition of story-telling, knowing this is the opening the HAINTS need to scratch and claw their way through her granddaughter and into the world of the living. Ruby, unaware of this fact, hosts her podcast in secret and unknowingly unlocks the passageway to the world of the supernatural.

Ruby wants to go to school and have friends. She wants to be what she considers normal, away from her Hoodoo roots. When she meets Dylan and his circle of friends, her life changes. It's not long before teen drama, with all its catfights and crushes, replaces her angst over her solo lifestyle.

In the pilot, Ruby is desperate to discover the meaning behind her nightmares and the nature of her emerging supernatural gifts. She's on a mission to find her grandfather - a man she's never met - with the hope that he can help shed light on the secrets she knows her grandmother is keeping and would take to the grave before she'd share.

As the season progresses, Ruby becomes aware of the fact she's a vessel for the HAINTS of the Lowcountry seeking a portal into the world of the living. Awareness of this curse sends Ruby on a quest for knowledge that will allow her to defeat these spirits, since completely reversing the curse seems unlikely.

Once Ruby is enlightened and the secrets from her past are revealed, Ruby sets out to gather and inform her ensemble of cohorts, so together they can take down the HAINTS terrorizing their coastal towns.



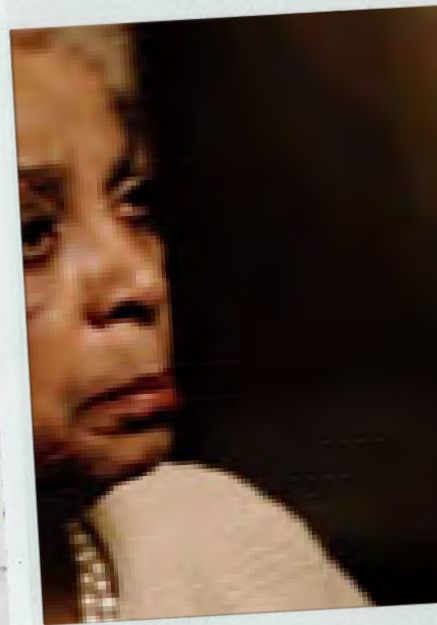
Maebelle Adams

Ruby's Grandmother

Believing she was protecting Ruby, MAEBELLE ADAMS (60s), aware of the dangers destined to hit her granddaughter, meticulously crafted a backstory for Ruby's life - a lie! She patiently planned and schemed with her sister June to keep Ruby in the dark about the existence of a family curse placed on their family dating back to the Civil War. Ruby's innocence is paramount for the protection spells to succeed that Maebelle and June have conjured. Ruby's awareness of the world around her shatters their efforts to shield her.

Maebelle is a gifted root practitioner - a healer of sorts. To some she's considered the Witch of the Lowcountry, to others she's nothing more than their local underground doctor. The type of medicine Maebelle practices is illegal and carries a stiff penalty, so Maebelle conducts business in secret in the basement of her sister's cafe.

In the pilot, Maebelle is attacked by a haint Ruby unknowingly brings into the world through her story-telling. This particular haint knows the threat Maebelle wields and needs her out of the way. Ruby is left to face her emerging supernatural gifts alone, and forced to navigate the changing world around her on her own with her best friend, Jamie — that is, until she befriends a group of unlikely allies: Dylan, Chloe, Alyona, Ethan, and Madison!



June Adams

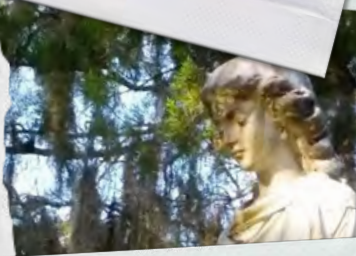
Ruby's Great Aunt

JUNE ADAMS (50s), Ruby's aunt, runs a coffee shoppe cafe. June's Coffee Shoppe is the local hangout for the teens of the area. This is where Ruby first meets Dylan, her love interest, and Chloe, our favorite girl to dislike.

June made the conscious decision to never marry and have children, fearing the enormity of the family curse. June does, however, have an admirer — Pastor Cuba, an ally until Ruby discovers his dark secret. June doesn't mix with the Christian faith like Maebelle. She can't quite get her head around believing in witches and Jesus at the same time, and she loves to poke fun at her older sibling for her Christian faith outside of her root lair.

June's heart is ruled by her niece Ruby and her Goddaughter, Ellie Thomas, the local detective. She would sacrifice her very soul to keep them safe, and who knows — she might! Decisions like that are what makes this world so much fun.

June always follows her sister, Maebelle's lead to the letter. Being the younger sibling to such a strong, domineering woman has left her with little drive of her own, except to enforce Maebelle's wishes. That doesn't mean June is the keep-her-mouth-shut type. Just the opposite, June is an outspoken pitbull. She just eased into her place in her sister's shadow and for the most part, she feels at peace there. This dynamic changes drastically over the series as June is forced to wear Maebelle's shoes and protect the one person she loves beyond compare - Ruby!



June's burden...

June honors Maebelle's right, as a grandmother, to disclose knowledge to Ruby on her own timetable. Even when June sees the danger signs, she keeps Mae's wishes at heart and doesn't violate their bond. June struggles with Mae's decision to keep Ruby in the dark. June fully believes Ruby needs to know about the dangers plaguing her family and the truth about the world around her.

Over the course of the first season, June's loyalty begins to crack when the awareness strikes that Isiah may have interfered with their protection spell for Ruby. Due to Maebelle's attack, June is left alone to deal with the perceived threat with the aid of Ellie, who refuses to believe in magic, at all - and most of the time thinks June has lost her mind. June soon begins to make decisions of her own. This includes divulging information to Ruby that is not hers to share - and there will be a backlash once Mae is back in action.

June confronts Kondo Abioye, Isiah's henchman when he meddles with Ruby's coming-of-age ceremony. June wages war, believing Isiah and Kondo have endangered Ruby. What June doesn't know is that Chloe, a local teen, whose family owns most of the Lowcountry, royally messed things up when she stole a doll from Mae's alter - a doll meant to protect Ruby during her coming-of-age ceremony. The doll personified Ruby in the circle and once that was broken, it couldn't be undone — the curse is coming!

Much like Cinderella when the clock strikes midnight on Ruby's 16th birthday, she'd better run. By taking the doll, Chloe unknowingly breaks the protection spell that had to be cast before the end of Ruby's 16th Birthday. Chloe's violation assures Ruby's fate will hit. The curse strikes and with it Haints are unleashed. June believes Isiah is the root of it when she finds the doll gone. This single, seemingly small event effects the entirety of the series.



Dylan Briggs

DYLAN BRIGGS (16), is just a really good guy, but he knows how to keep a secret and mislead everyone around him. What the rest of the world doesn't know about Dylan is that he was raised in a single bedroom house with a woman he believes is his mother. Life was hard, really hard until his guardian married a wealthy tycoon from Georgia.

Dylan's life was transformed and he finally had the courage to approach Alyona Petrov, his childhood crush — a girl he watched from afar, knowing there was no way she would respond to the likes of him. There was no chance he was going to share his past woes because in this town money is king — and Dylan had a new lease on life!

Dylan's relationship fell apart with Alyona prior to when our story begins. He couldn't take the person she became when she joined Chloe Montgomery's clique — the beast of the town! Chloe's family owns the Lowcountry, as she's quick to remind anyone who doesn't give her what she wants.

Chloe discovers the truth about Dylan because Chloe loves to collect dirt. Dylan's mother died in childbirth, having never disclosed the identity of his father. Her sister raised Dylan as her own, weaving a beautiful fairytale past that he wholeheartedly believes. He and his aunt have a special bond and she raised Dylan with plenty of love and laughs.

Let's hope that's enough to see him through the destruction and humiliation Chloe can inflict. Dylan's interest and relationship with Ruby fuels the series. We want these two to connect and stay connected, but that just may not be in the cards! Over the series, Dylan learns how to trust and open up.





At the onset of the series, Ruby is an isolated home-schooled teen with only one friend - JAMIE RUSSELL (16), a caucasian male from the wrong side of the tracks. Jamie lives with an alcoholic father and does his best to support and guide his childhood friend, even when she pushes him away.

Jamie struggles to suppress his growing feelings for Ruby while learning to curb his jealousy and cope with the intrusion of her new prep school friends.

Jamie can be really mischievous when he's hurt, and over the series, he learns how to accept what he can't change - though he does wreak a lot of havoc while he figures it out.

Jamie Russell

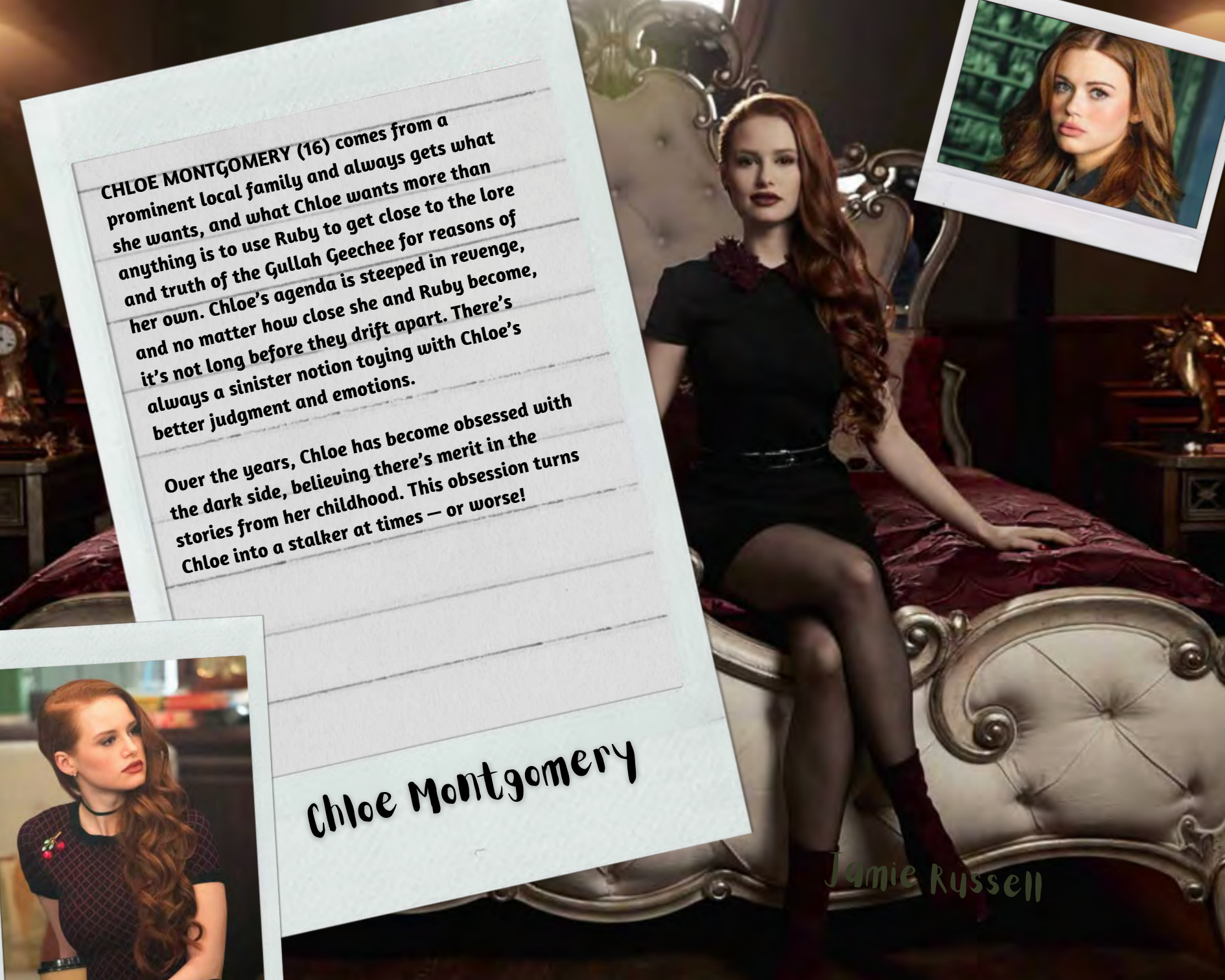


CHLOE MONTGOMERY (16) comes from a prominent local family and always gets what she wants, and what Chloe wants more than anything is to use Ruby to get close to the lore and truth of the Gullah Geechee for reasons of her own. Chloe's agenda is steeped in revenge, and no matter how close she and Ruby become, it's not long before they drift apart. There's always a sinister notion toying with Chloe's better judgment and emotions.

Over the years, Chloe has become obsessed with the dark side, believing there's merit in the stories from her childhood. This obsession turns Chloe into a stalker at times — or worse!

Chloe Montgomery

Jamie Russell



...with chloe it's complicated.

Chloe wants a taste of what Ruby has -- the mystique, the lore, and most of all the danger -- and Ruby would love to have had a life like Chloe's.



The more Chloe is exposed to Hoodoo, the more obsessed she becomes with learning more. She can't get enough. This drive soon shares equal footing with her desire to seek revenge for her own grandmother. This inner conflict often comes out in very evil ways.

Planning her annual Haunt weekend on her family's private island, Chloe is determined to sneak into Maebelle's root lair and snoop, believing the rumors are true about the LOWCOUNTRY WITCH — could it be Maebelle? Chloe is determined to find out.

Chloe succeeds, finding an opening when Maebelle is attacked, and scours the lair. What she finds exceeds her expectations, and there's no stopping her now. Chloe snatches a doll from Maebelle's altar. This doll was the key to Ruby's protection from the family curse. This secret lies at the heart of the series!



Although generally cold and unlikable, Alyona has her redeeming moments. Unlike Chloe, who was allowed to develop into a self-centered ego-maniac, Alyona knows better. Her conscience leads her when push comes to shove - a quality Chloe severely lacks. She and Chloe go head-to-head on more than one occasion.

Alyona's possession by a Boo Hag takes the entire first season to resolve. Once back in her right state of mind, free from the Boo Hag's control, Alyona is forever changed, torn between the version of herself she wants to be and who she really is -- can she be the version of herself the trickster portrayed? All she can do is try.

Ruby spends the first few episodes trying to figure out her connection to Alyona's disappearance. When Alyona mysteriously shows up, unharmed, Ruby must figure out why she's different. The journey begins to convince the others that Alyona is not Alyona.

The ensemble spends the entire season trying to figure out what they can do about it.

Alyona Petrov



Isiah Wiggins

Series Antagonist

ISIAH WIGGINS (60s), Ruby's estranged grandfather, is as twisted as they come. He is delusional, and places Ruby in harm's way over and over again, believing he can save her if his plans take a turn for the worse. He learned nothing from the loss of his own child (Ruby's mother) and is destined to repeat the same mistake if given the chance.

Maebelle has kept Ruby close and sequestered to assure Isiah stayed away - Mae is the only thing Isaiah truly fears. To Ruby's frustration, home-schooling was the only option to assure her safety. It doesn't help their relationship that Ruby has had zero clue as to why Maebelle has always been so strict and inflexible.

When Maebelle is attacked and winds up in a coma, June sends Ruby to prep school, believing she'll be safe from Isiah — major culture shock for our protagonist! Unbeknownst to June, finding her grandfather happens to be pretty high on Ruby's list and a secret she keeps close to heart. Being away from home gives her the chance to track him down and she doesn't have to look far.

Isiah's obsession for control of the spirits, and his sense of guilt over his role in his daughter's death, creates a powerful dynamic that Ruby must grapple with throughout the entire series. Isiah truly believes he can bring her back. Our series badass ain't all bad!



**When your nemesis is someone you
deeply & unconditionally love...**

Ruby loves her grandfather beyond measure and convinces herself repeatedly that she can sway him to some rational sphere of existence -- NOPE, NOT HAPPENING! Yet, she tries.

Given the family bond, Ruby naturally tempers the force of her gifts during their confrontations and never really hits him with all her might -- so his appearances really put a damper on Ruby's world. There are even times, as painful as they are when Ruby must seek his aid in dealing with an unknown evil from the other side. Bill Compton and Eric Northman had a similarly complicated relationship in TRUE BLOOD.

Isiah is a delusional madman, but we can't help but feel for him at times - especially when we discover he's on a mission to bring his dead daughter back. It's a feat he hopes will mend the broken ties with the woman he loves -- Maebelle! And a feat that tugs at Ruby's heartstrings, really fowling things up at times. This is a mission he never accomplishes! But major kudos for trying, dude! We GET you! even when we don't want to.

Some haints do manage to make their journey. Ruby's world is filled with the haints who become stuck, unable to make their transition. Some refuse to go, sticking around to protect a loved one. Others are around only to cause as much damage as possible. These haints are pissed and vengeful. These are the haints Isiah wants to beckon and the ones Ruby intends to hunt!





Secondary characters...

KONDO ABIOYE (30'), a mysterious ebony-skinned man whose past is a mystery, seems to always be waiting and watching Ruby's every move.

When Kondo shows up, it only means one thing — trouble!

He serves one purpose, and that is to follow out Isiah's wishes. He appears to be untouchable, the one person Ruby can never catch. It makes one wonder if he is human, or something else entirely.



Kondo Abioye

Isiah's Henchman



Ellie Thomas

June's Goddaughter & Local Detective

ELLIE THOMAS (20s), a ruthless, calculated detective, can never seem to put her finger on the odd disappearances and deaths plaguing the Lowcountry. Her desire to solve the sudden influx of mysteries following Ruby's coming-of-age ceremony pulls her from Ruby and June. This distance, and the reasons behind it, strains her relationship with Ruby over the course of the series.

Ellie refuses to accept the supernatural, and to her, the whole root-conjuring notion is entertaining at best — even when the search for Alyona presents indisputable evidence to the contrary.

Over the course of the series, Ellie struggles with the feeling that Ruby is somehow connected to all the odd occurrences taking place on her turf. Ruby is caught more than once with her hand stuck right smack in the cookie jar.

These moments create a world of turmoil for Ellie. Does she do her job? Does she look the other way? Does she investigate? Ellie's dedication to her job and her loyalty to the people she calls family are tested A LOT!



Pastor Cuba

June's love interest

PASTOR CUBA (60s) is Maebelle's pastor. Maebelle straddles two conflicting worlds; she needs to believe in a divine savior to balance out the horrors of her supernatural world. This belief in a divine plan is what fuels her focus. But her recruitment to the Christian faith was not an accident.

Over the series, we discover Pastor Cuba's ties to Isiah. He's Isiah's eyes and ears with the Adams' women. This knowledge gives Isiah the upper hand.

Pastor Cuba falls for June. This emotional investment pushes him to the right side over the course of the series. It's not long before Cuba struggles with divulging information or helping the object of his desire.

His transition from darkness makes it super sad when Ruby discovers the truth.





Ethan Lumpkin

ETHAN LUMPKIN (17), the trouble maker in the group, has traveled the world with his philanthropist parents and has homes in more exotic locations than he cares to count. He attends Savannah Prep only when his parents decide to take a siesta from saving the world and come home to recharge for the next mission abroad. Now that he's 17, he intends to stay home for good.

He's older and wiser than his peers and equally mischievous and manipulative. His travels have given him a ruthlessness that he never tires of wielding. Toying with others is one of his greatest past times.

Ethan is Dylan's closest friend. He knows a secret from Dylan's past that could land Dylan in juvenile detention, or worse! On Dylan's 14th Birthday, he was an unwilling accessory to a crime that ended in tragedy. Unwilling or not, his innocence would be tough to explain to the authorities.

Dylan's first year at Savannah Prep was challenging. He fell in with the wrong crowd - a group of mean-spirited practical jokers. The teens tricked Dylan into being at the right place at the wrong time. The boys had it out for one of their classmates and thought setting fire to his family's horse stables would send the right message. The teens started the fire and set Dylan up to take the blame. They never intended for anyone to get hurt. Dylan stumbled onto the scene as the fires raged, only to discover a horse trainer was trapped inside. Dylan bares heroic scars from pulling the man from the flames. Unfortunately, he was too late and the death of the trainer has remained unsolved. Ethan, being so close to Dylan, noticed Dylan's wounds and put two-and-two together.

Ethan takes an interest in Ruby and jumps at the opportunity to comfort her when Dylan, out of loyalty, chooses Alyona when she mysteriously returns after going missing the night of Chloe's Haunt on her family's private island. The tension between Dylan and Ethan heat up as Ruby's fondness for Ethan grows.



KARI MONTGOMERY (40s), Chloe's mother, is a real pain for everyone, including her daughter. Kari has a special dislike for the Gullah Geechee, having lost her mother to what she believes was root-conjuring. She remains unaware of her mother's fascination with the Geechee and her secret lessons to learn the art. Kari's mother accidentally killed herself mixing the wrong plants. When the body was found, Kari was left with only one conclusion. Chloe, believing the Witch of the Lowcountry murdered her grandmother, makes it her mission to exact revenge.

When Chloe meets Ruby, how can she resist the opportunity to bring her into her fold?

When Alyona goes missing on the Montgomery's private island, it's not long before Kari discovers her daughter's friendship with a Geechee (Ruby). Chloe's dislike of her mother's meddling outweighs her dislike of the Gullah Geechee, so Chloe decides to use Ruby in more ways than one. The problem for Chloe is that she actually really digs Ruby and the lore that comes with her.

Mrs. Kari Montgomery

Chloe's Mommy Dearest





The rest of the crew...

Mr. Brown:

Savannah Prep professor (30s) and Ruby's confidant in her brand new world.

Ms. Louise Perkins:

Ruby's house manager at Savannah Prep, LOUISE (50s), has it out for Ruby from day one.

Madison McAlister:

Chloe's body double and wannabe twin. She'd follow Chloe off a cliff to keep her position as top sycophant. She has her eyes on Ruby and is insanely jealous of her friendship with Ethan.

Logan Haynes:

LOGAN HAYNES (15) is Chloe's biggest fan. Her sweetness radiates when her slanted green eyes smile against her olive skin. She wouldn't harm a fly, but to gain Chloe's favor she'd certainly try!

Riann Su:

Logan's boyfriend, RIANN SU (15), a good-natured Asian teen with a distinctly edgy style.



Additional Antagonists...



Zabette's curse...

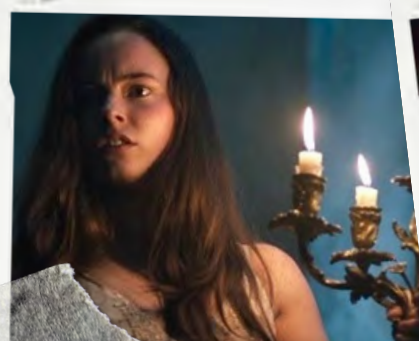
The curse placed on Ruby's Civil War-era ancestor Colonel William Stratton provides the over-arching antagonist for the entire series. The curse was placed upon Stratton by his jilted lover and former slave, Zabette Burdell, and it can never be removed. The best Ruby can do is learn to overcome the aftermath of Zabette's broken heart by defeating the haints that use her body as a vessel.

William was the founder of Cumberland Island, an isolated private spit of sand with Spanish moss-covered Oaks off the Georgia coast. There, William took a former slave, Zabette, as a mistress, granting her freedom and a place by his side. The couple had 6 children and were very much in love - or so Zabette believed. William sent Zabette and the children North during the Civil war, promising he'd join them when he could. (This is based on the Founder of Cumberland Island, Robert Stafford and his common-law wife Zabette Burnadey).

Zabette waited for years, yearning for William until she could no longer endure the exile. A year or so after the Civil War when it seemed safe to return home, Zabette decided to surprise William and made the arduous journey back home. Upon her return, Zabette found William had taken a new mistress— a much younger former slave named Judy. William didn't share Zabette's desire to reunite, and, in fact, had fathered three children with his new mistress. In the heat of the moment, finding William and Judy entwined in what Zabette still considered her marital bed, Zabette cast an eternal curse upon William and his new love's offspring. Her wails could be heard throughout the house as her heart ripped apart.

Zabette screeched the following words before dying a broken, shattered woman:

"May da path from Hell flow through yer offsprin'. Da Haints'n search of a way back home will scratch 'n claw their way outta them fer all eternity."



The girl becomes a hunter!

Over the course of the series, Ruby evolves from a passive vessel into an avid hunter of these dangerous spirits. She learns to lure them in and actively anticipates their arrival. She's fearless as she responds to her calling, using it to keep her beloved Lowcountry safe from the torment and mischief of these haunting beings.

The occasional misguided spirit wanders back, unwilling or unable to move on. Usually, there's a historical problem that must be solved or set right in order for the two worlds to retain a healthy separation. These lost souls are often disgruntled and angry, and as a result, they can be difficult to distinguish from the vengeful ones who are intent on causing mischief and pain — the ones that refuse to pass on and cling to the world of the living. Over time, Ruby learns to tell them apart and helps the lost souls navigate their journey. Those stories and those souls present new obstacles and a role for Ruby outside of the more common realm of battling evil foes.

On occasion, there is a reason a spirit finds its way back. A loved one of the spirit is in trouble, or a murder is left unsolved. In some cases, the spirit is a messenger that has returned to provide a warning. Those spirits become useful recurring allies. Ruby's grandmother passes away in a later season and reappears as one of these aides to Ruby.

Whatever the dilemma, Ruby and the ensemble cast help navigate the crux of the matter and send the spirit happily on its way. **THE GHOST WHISPERER** and **SUPERNATURAL** dealt with similar spirits and villains.





Inspiration for the Series...

Hoodoo graced my childhood!

Haints emerged from my upbringing in Georgia, where I was raised by Native American relatives with close ties to the traditions and culture of the Gullah Geechee (descendants of West African Slaves). My roots run deep in a rural south still steeped in the occult traditions of the Gullah and the animism of the Cherokees.

The world of Haints has always been a part of me, originating in a childhood filled with the lore and practices of these two magical cultures.

Ruby, the protagonist of Haints, sparked from my immersion in and love of these often dark, macabre worlds, mixed with my pretty amazing upbringing with Geechee women who were like family to me and my brothers.





Faces of the Low Country!

Gullah Geechee

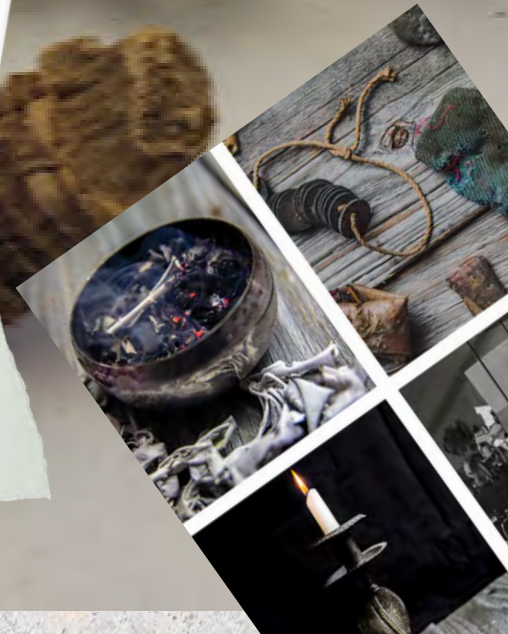


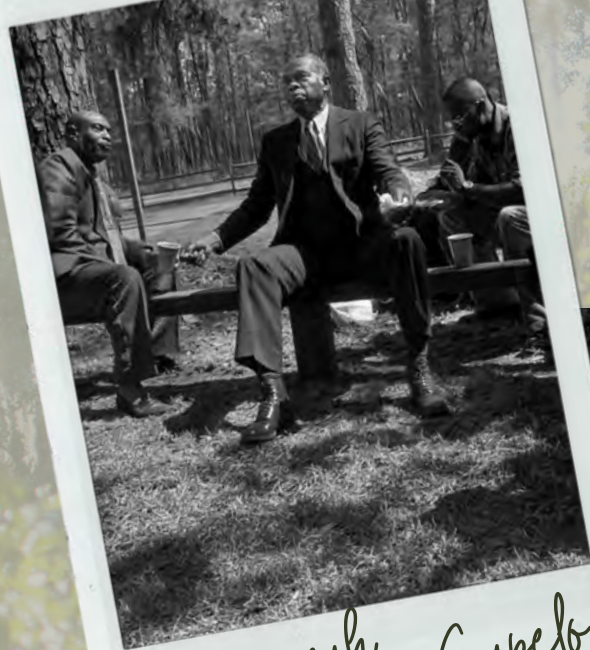
Back to the one
of this Dearest
Root & you can
think whatever you
want to happen to
them

Dr Buzzard



Root-Conjuring





Savannah Gapelo



St. Simons Island



Shadows of the Low Country







There is **NOTHING** like the Low country!

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