



THE LEATHERFACE LADY

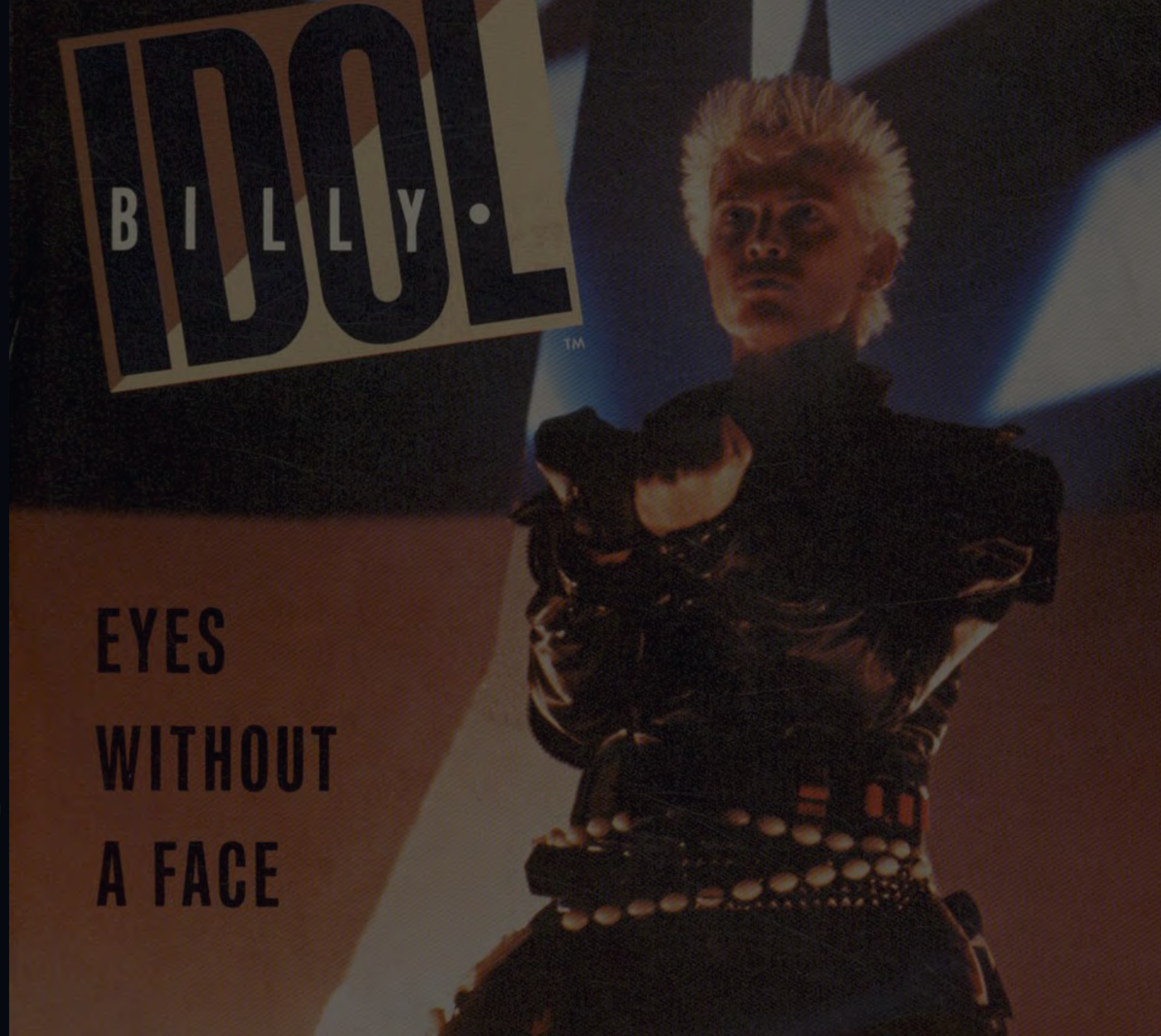
OLD ORCHARD LORE

PITCH DECK

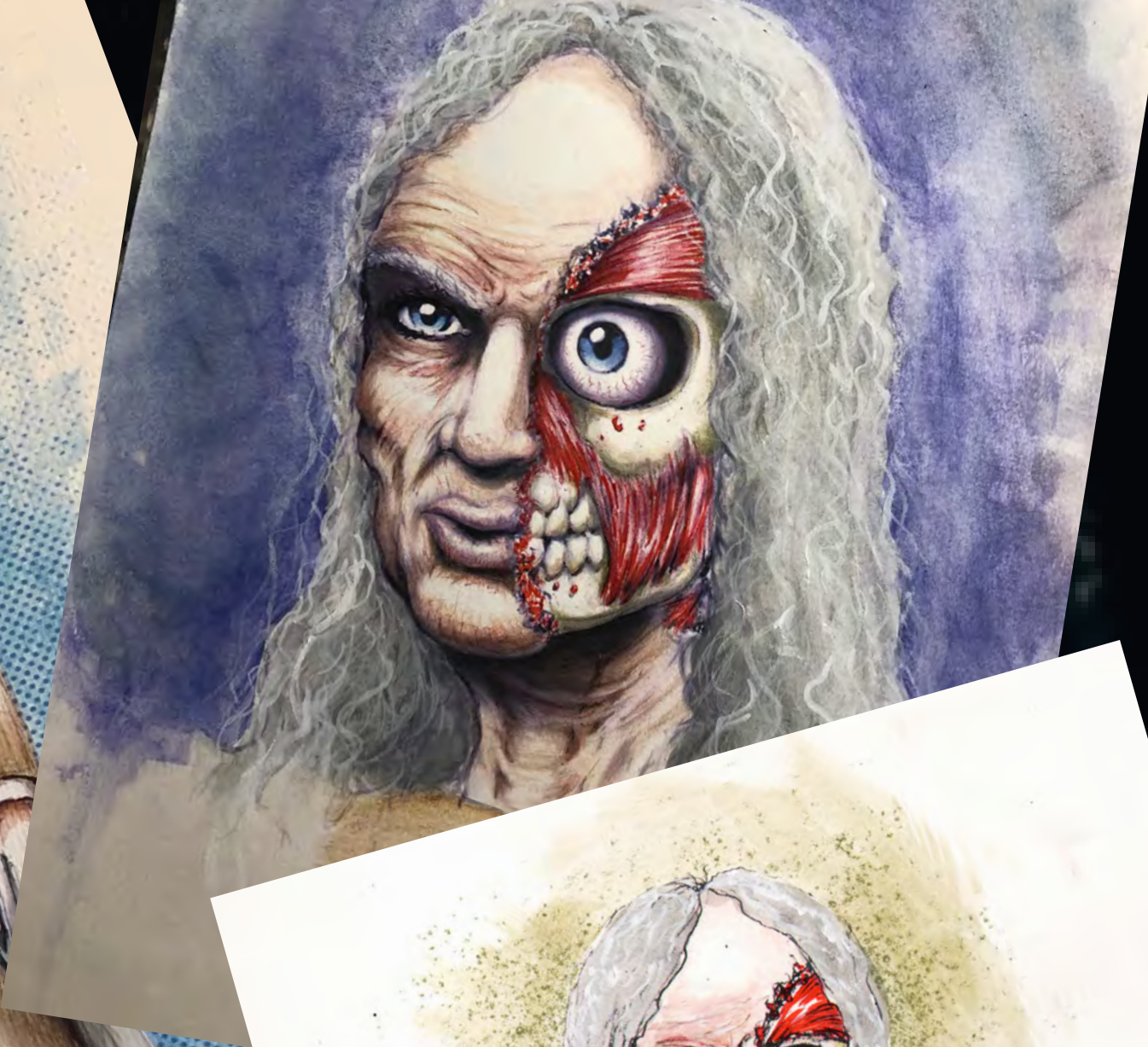
2022

PROJECT STATUS

- Status: Development/Pre-Production with Radar Pictures (Ted Field).
- Who we want to attach: **Billy Idol** as a character or cameo. The film is a perfect fit and he has been on the radar since pen went to paper.
- A creepy nursery rhyme cover of **Eyes Without A Face** has already been done. Similar to the Nightmare on Elm Street theme song "One, Two, Freddy's Coming for You..."
- Location is covered. A portion of post is covered for the \$1,000,000. production budget. We have deferments in place for the 10% of the budget.
- Social Media Influencers attached with 27 million followers (collectively) so far.
- Securing brand sponsorships and placements, such as Bushnell.



She was made a monster and her legend lives
on in the VT Green Mountains.



Graphic Novel in development.
Comic (June Harper's Story) Vol. 1 published.

JUNE HARPER (THE LEATHERFACE LADY)



June Harper's misfortune is the backstory for The Leatherface Lady Universe, encompassing a forthcoming graphic novel, comic series, podcast, and feature. Her story embodies an unsubstantiated threat in the Green Mountains of Vermont due to disappearances from an unknown source. An urban legend about a woman who lures hikers off the Appalachian Trail in order to steal their skin to stitch to her disfigured face. Whether June's story is the actual origin story of The Leatherface Lady or just the tragic tale of one woman's fate will not be disclosed. Whether or not The Leatherface Lady is real, alive, dead, a ghost, or simply never existed at all will never be made known. Or at least not anytime soon. She is the villain of local lore and nothing more!

HYBRID FOUND-FOOTAGE HORROR

(Based on Old Orchard's lore of the Leatherface Lady who slays hikers on the Appalachian Trail)

A young woman and her friends come face-to-face with the fabled Leatherface Lady, believed to slay hikers on the Appalachian Trail, only to discover the killer may, in fact, be the local urban legend's grandson.

The Leatherface Lady melds Creep with a touch of Psycho and Friday the 13th.

The distinguishing feature is the combination of something akin to Grimm's Darkest Fables and the blend of horror sub-genres. The Leatherface Lady pays homage to films of the past while keeping the found footage element front and center, paving the way for franchise potential with the local legend -- June Harper (The Leatherface Lady).

Footage sources will include smart glasses, security cameras, hidden spy cams, trail cams, cell phones, and police cams.

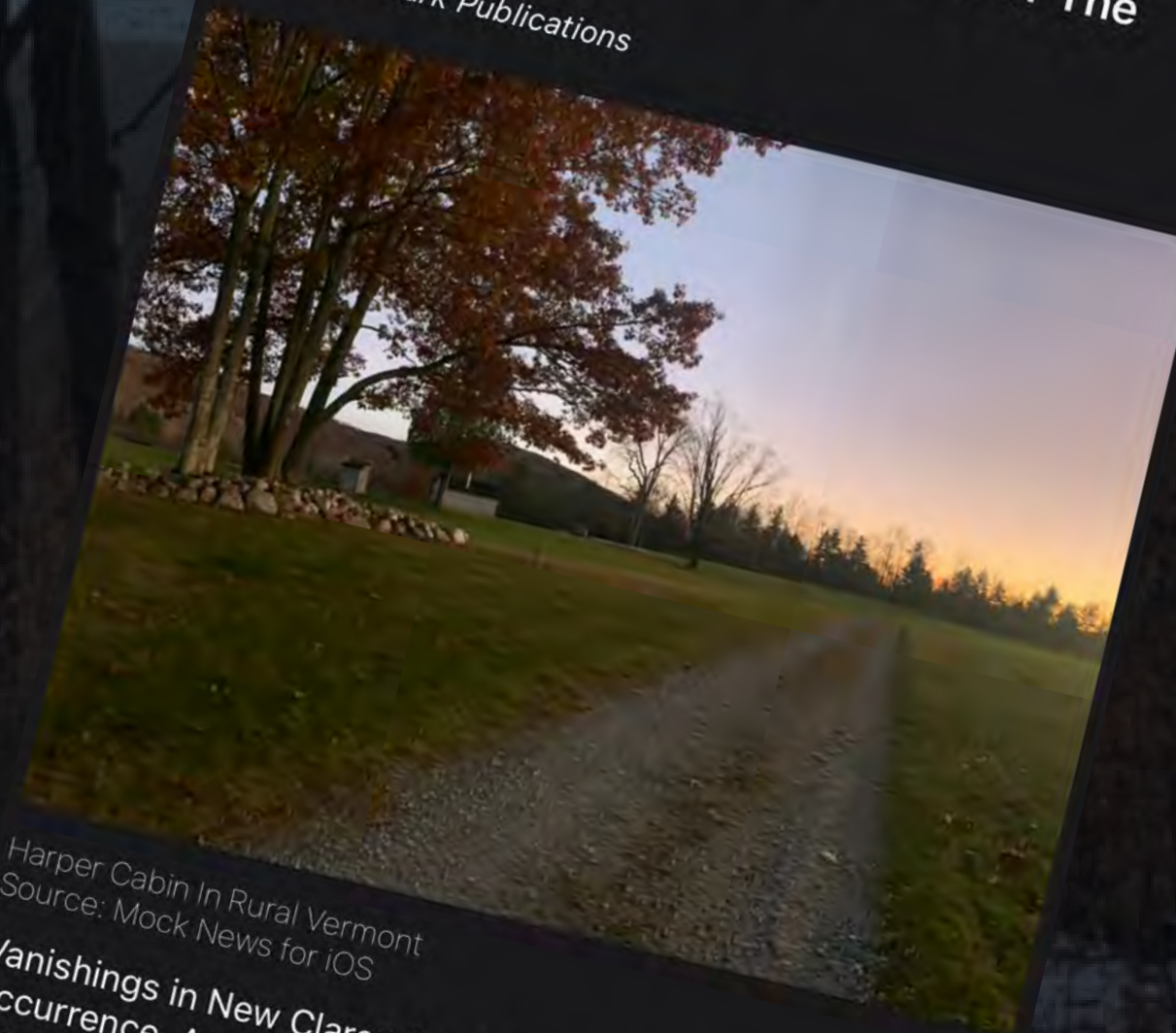


BREAKING NEWS

HIKER VANISHED ON APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Another Missing Hiker In Clarendon, VT

October 9, 2021
**Missing Hiker Has Locals Citing A
Clarendon Urban Myth
Is The Leatherface Lady To Blame For The
Disappearances**
True Dark Publications



Harper Cabin In Rural Vermont
Source: Mock News for iOS

Vanishings in New Clarendon, Vermont are not a recent occurrence. Around this time every year hikers are warned to stay off the trails, particularly the Appalachian Trail known for its bear and bobcat sightings.

A recent disappearance has this close knit community on guard. Some are certain a bear is to blame, while others aren't so sure.

The woods around what locals call the accursed Harper Cabin are once again being scoured in hopes of finding Melissa Jenkins, a 22 year old, who drove up from Brattleboro for the day to try out someplace new, reports a source close to the missing girl.

THE LORE

There are stretches along the Appalachian Trail where you shouldn't venture out too far, especially alone. According to the urban legend, you could vanish without a trace. The North Clarendon pass in the rural Vermont Green Mountains is one of them.

It is believed an old hag inhabiting the mountains makes a sport out of luring hikers to her cabin -- the unlucky souls are never seen or heard from again.

To this day, every time a hiker goes missing near the pass, the locals repeat the tale of THE LEATHERFACE LADY. The tale of a woman known for her beauty and feared for the tragedy that altered her fate.

A Recent Disappearance On The Appalachian Trail Resurrects The Tale Of The Leatherface Lady

The Lore That Daunts A Small Community In Rutland County

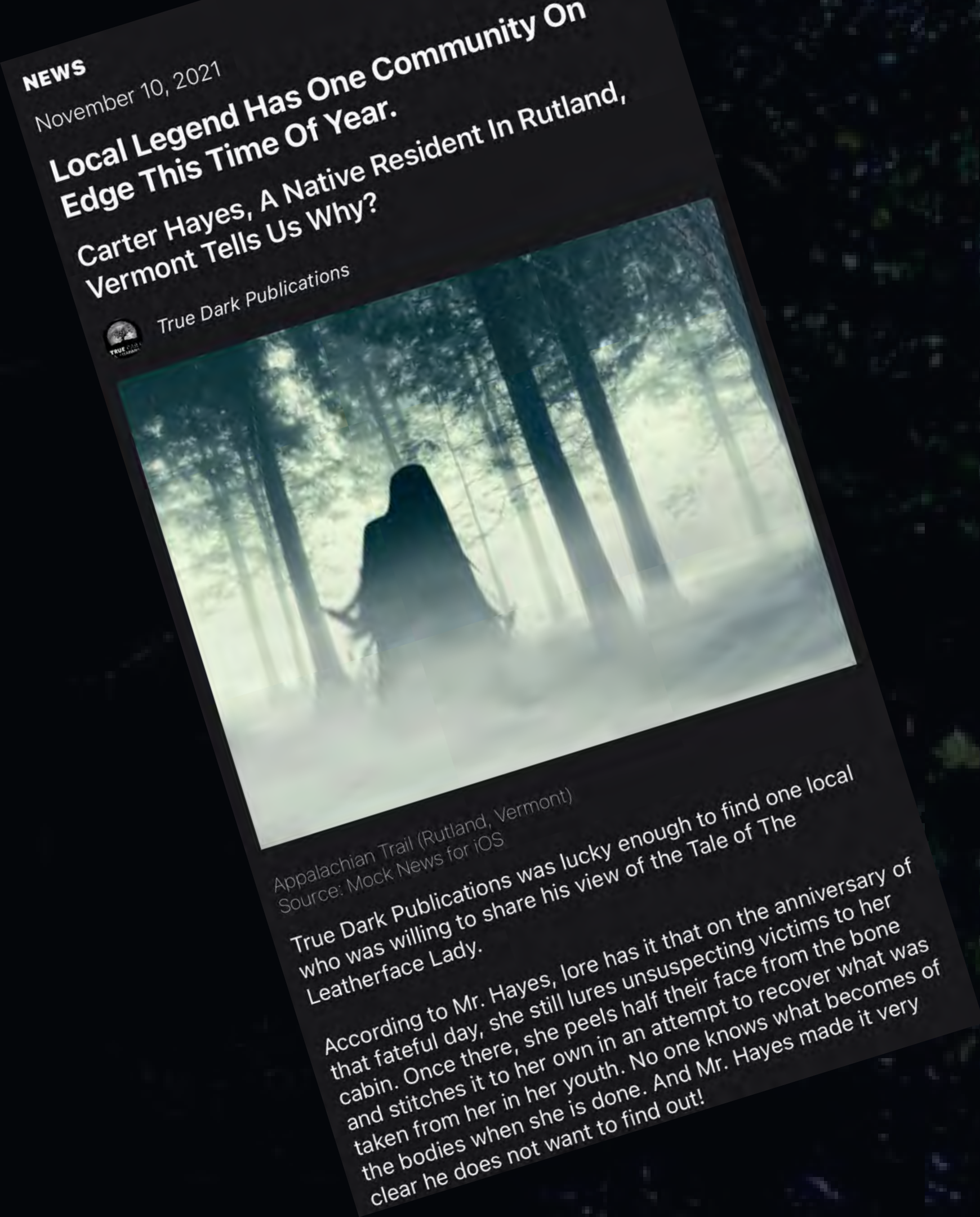


True Dark Ent



Courtesy Vermont State Archives
Source: Mock News for iOS

A resident in Clarendon, Vermont who wishes to remain anonymous shares her version of the lore: "as kids we were told to stay quiet about it. They say one day, as she was clipping laundry on a line to dry, a hiker came down from the Appalachian Trail, looking for a hot meal. When he laid eyes on the woman, he knew he had to have her. It is said she put up one hell of a fight, even clawed out one of the hiker's eyes. In a fit of rage, he beat her mercilessly and tore off half her face with his bare hands, leaving her grotesquely disfigured. Ironically, we were told it was the hiker that went missing, vanished as though he never existed. We heard she lived out the rest of years in isolation."



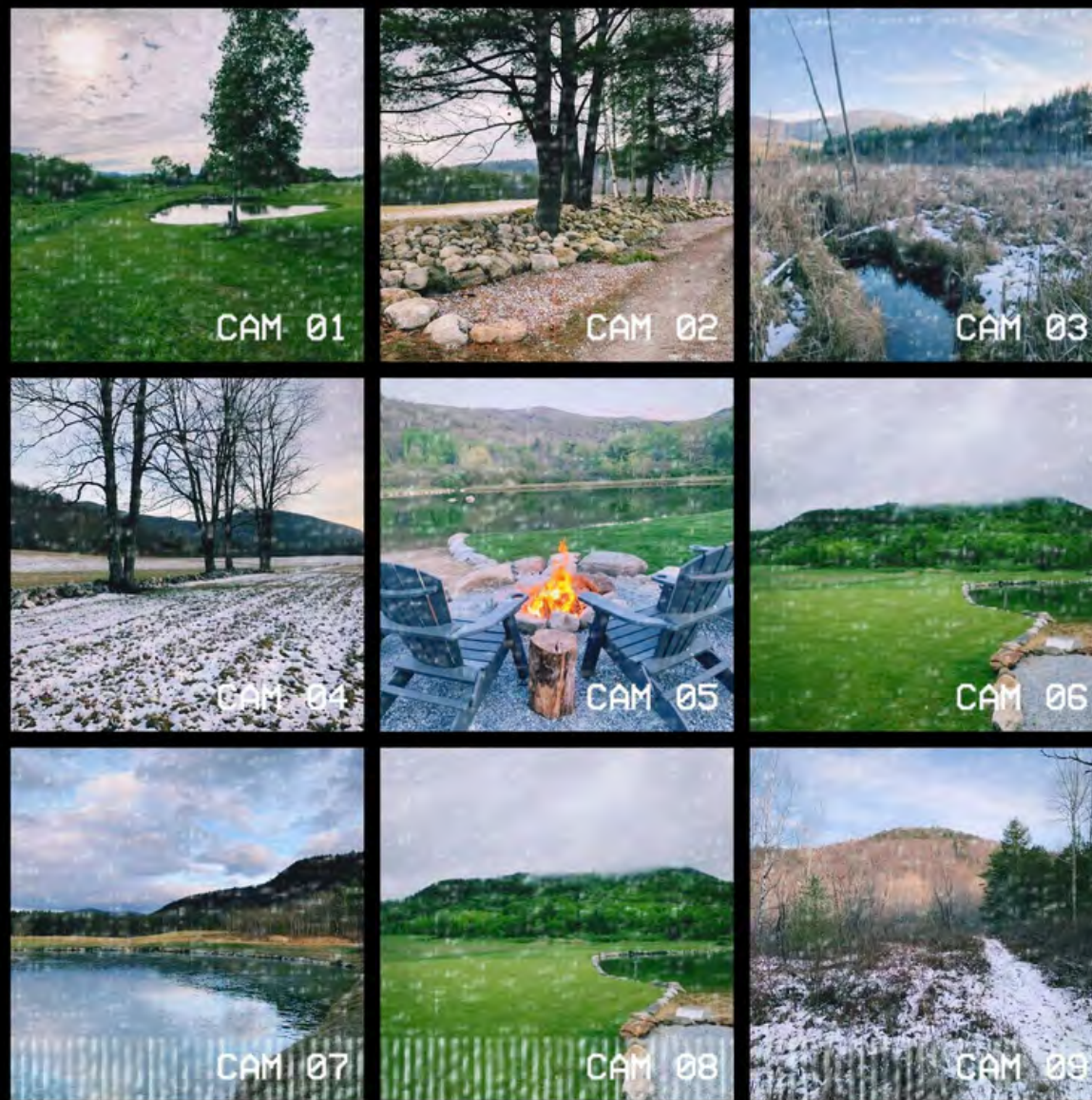
As it turns out, the sad truth is that June Harper better known as The Leatherface Lady, was forced to live in isolation, feared by the townsfolk because of her looks. No one knows what became of her, like her victims, one day she just disappeared. An unspoken fact, that this rural community in Rutland Vermont would prefer to keep hidden.

Locals tend to look the other way nowadays, when a hiker goes missing on the trail, for fear the old hag will turn her vengeance on them should they interfere. Seems they have good reason to fear her wrath, especially around the anniversary of the fateful day that altered her life forever. It's live and let live for the tiny population of 1600. And this is where our story begins...

THE SETTING

● UCR

2021-01-01



Location Secured

A cabin in the woods, surrounded by pristine forests, the Vermont Green Mountains, and hundreds of acres of complete isolation.

Imagine three New York City girls leaving the city behind and stepping into complete silence. The only sound one hears is nature's bird song. The tranquility doesn't last long when one visits Harper Cabin.

The town is on the verge of depression, run-down enough to nudge you to look over your shoulder, but nice enough to convince you to quiet the little voice in your head whispering "you should run."

The locals are odd in a subtle, disquieting way. Sure they smile and ring your tab, but they look at you as if they're hiding something. A sinister secret full of darkness and evil. Their upside-down grins and feigned ignorance causes the hair to raise on the back of your neck.

It's as if they know something's coming for you and won't share -- or worse, CAN'T!

(* All location photos are the actual location for the film 300 acres in North Clarendon, VT which does back up to the Appalachian.)

TONE

● UCR

2021-01-01



A diabolically sinister world shrouded in disguise and unsettling perceptions and truths.

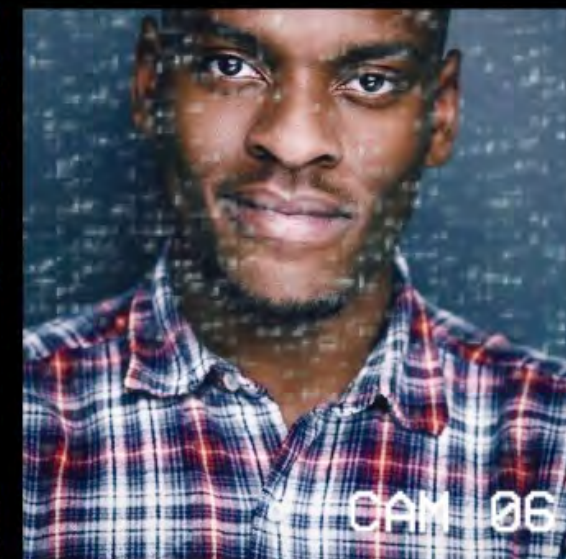
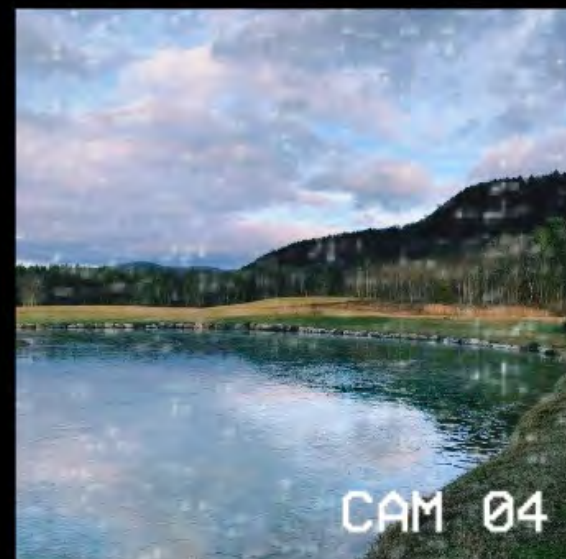
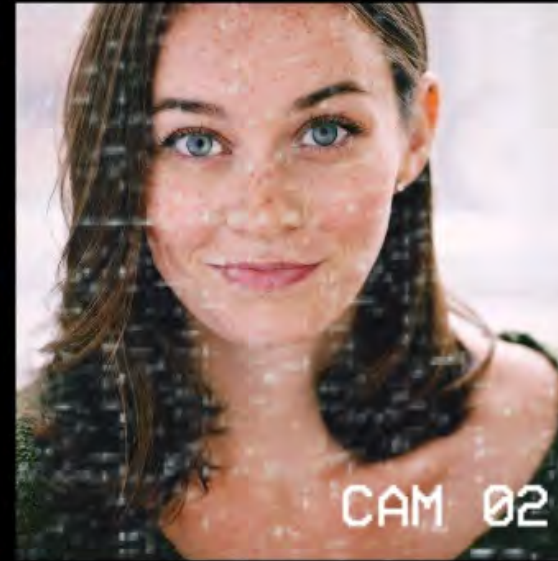
The style stays true to the rough around the edges found footage sub-genre while paying homage to the classics. A dash of slasher is thrown in just to keep it fun!

A wide-angle landscape photograph of a golf course. In the foreground, a lush green grassy area slopes down towards a calm pond. The pond is bordered by a low stone wall on its left side. In the background, a large hill is covered in a dense forest with trees displaying vibrant autumn colors of red, orange, and yellow. The sky above is a deep blue, filled with scattered white clouds. The word "CHARACTERS" is written in a white, stylized, handwritten font across the middle of the pond.

CHARACTERS

● UCR

2022-03-05



KHLOE MURPHY

(DUAL PROTAGONIST)

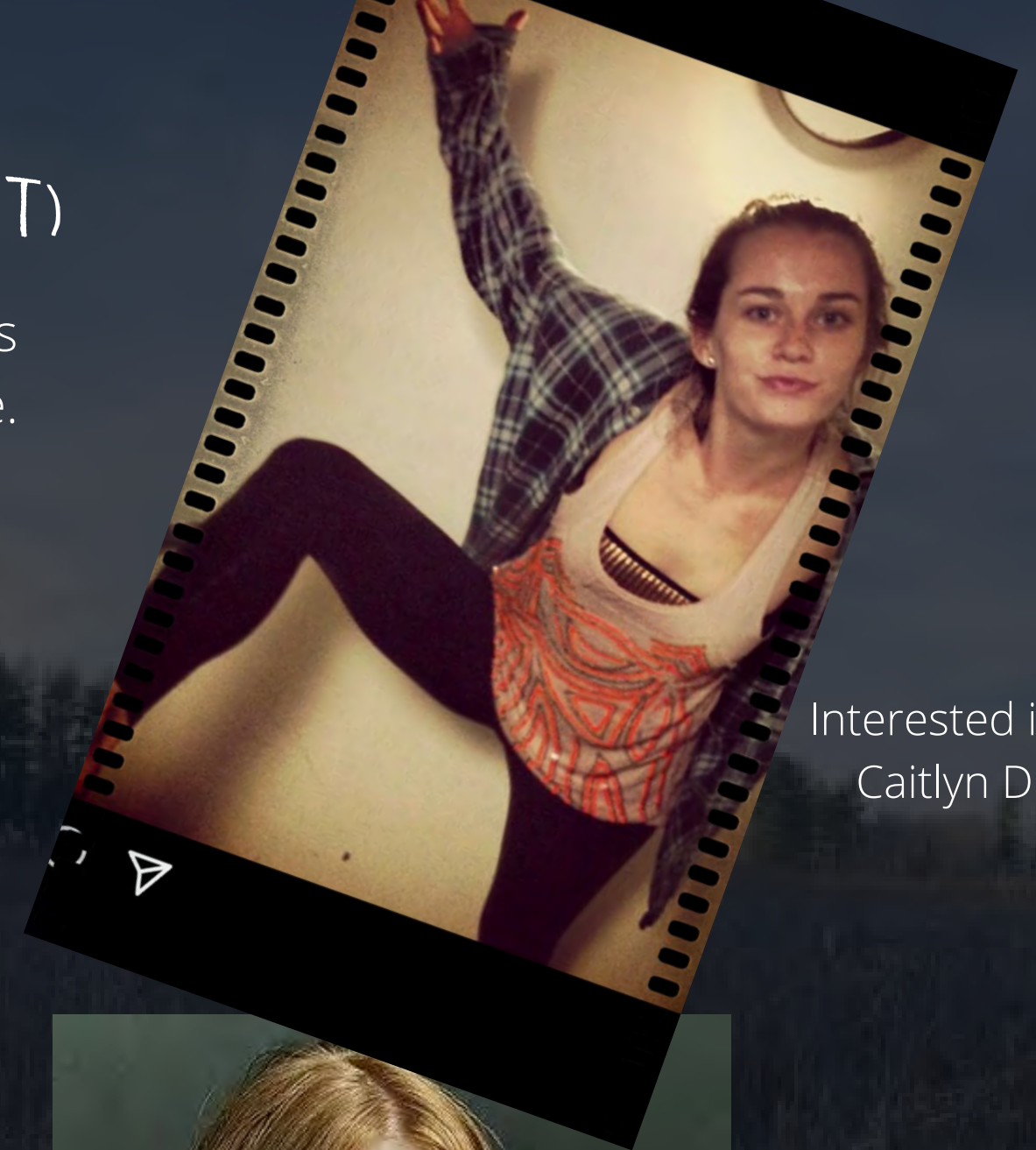
KHLOE MURPHY is not only setting up a promotional opportunity for her new company, she is fleeing heartbreak. Turns out her boyfriend FREDDIE may have had someone else on the side.

Khloe is an ambitious, calculated, confident introvert. So, dwelling on a cheating man isn't something she is going to spend her time contemplating – not when she has the opportunity to shine in her new position with a trendy influencer branding company.

Khloe and her friends, JEMMA and SIMONE, take off to promote Harper Cabin in the rural Green Mountains of Vermont. Their host, Tom Harper, isn't just the guy who hired them to promote his cabin; he is also June Harper's grandson.

Khloe grew up in the area and hasn't been back since her grandmother passed away, or so that's the story she tells. The secrecy around her grandmother and her early life poses a question. Who is Khloe really? Her friends discover the truth too late – Khloe is really Anna Harper, Tom's sister.

The two siblings play a sinister game of Tag every year around the time of their grandmother's attack. June used her grandchildren as bait to lure hikers down from the trail to be slain. They've developed a tendency toward killing for sport as a result.



Interested in role
Caitlyn Duffy

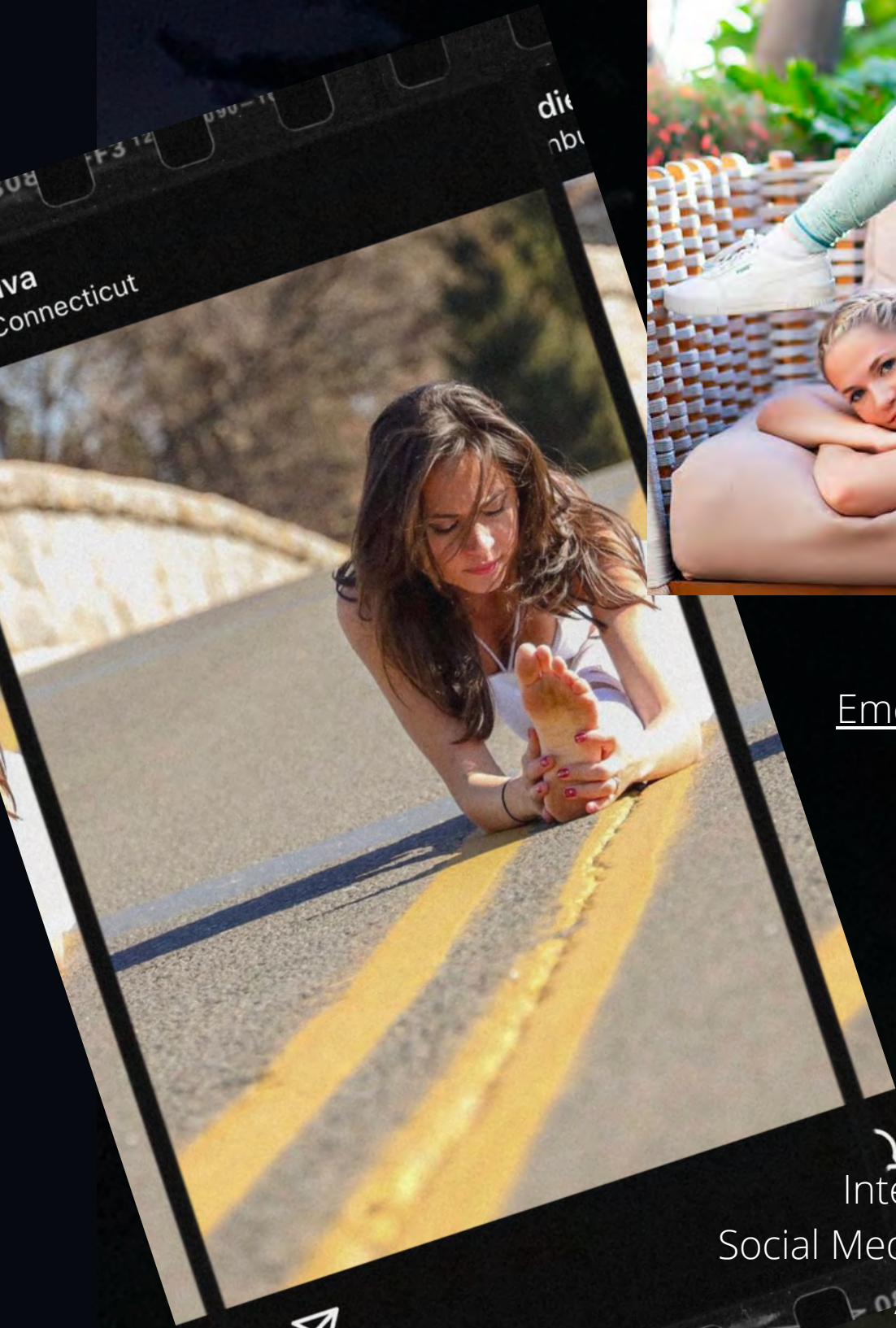


Reached out to
Abigail Cowen

JEMMA SILVA (DUAL PROTAGONIST AND VICTIM #3)



In talks with:
Emerald Gordon Wulf



Interested in role
Social Media Influencer/Actress
Addie Silva

JEMMA is the life of the party everywhere she goes. She's an outspoken extrovert who loves to both shock and attract the attention from everyone around her - at all times! At the heart of her joyful, fun-loving nature is a kind and generous soul that her friends (and followers) cherish.

She drives SIMONE crazy with her incessant need to post provocative selfies. To say she's an exhibitionist would be putting it mildly. Underneath it all, Simone adores her, but you wouldn't know it from their constant bickering about literally everything.

Jemma is obsessed with cameras and is dead set on filming the townsfolk.

She bought spy glasses with cameras as an added promotional op, bringing Simone, the company's founder, an even bigger check. These come in handy when Simone goes missing and Jemma fears the locals know something they're not sharing.

SIMONE GALLAGHER

(VICTIM #2)

SIMONE carries the notion of entitlement to a whole other level, and her jealousy of Jemma will be the death of her.

Simone still lives at home with her mother and younger brother, JOSH, who shows up at Harper's Cabin in the sequel with one quest -- to find his missing sister!

Simone perceives the world around her through a very shallow lens. Simone doesn't take orders. She gives them. She has no problem using Jemma, her top influencer, to get what she wants, and she has a small crush on her new hire, Khloe. But then, Simone has a crush on literally everyone.

It is not until Freddie calls Simone searching for Khloe that we discover the breakup was just one big misunderstanding. We glimpse Simone's softer side in her endeavor to right the wrong and find Freddie, who she believes is in trouble when yanked from view during their call.

Reached out to:
[Ella Balinska](#)
Actress: Charlies Angels

Interested in Role
Social Media Influencer

3.7 mil followers on TikTok with 100 mil views. 2 mil monthly views on insta





Comp

FREDDIE (VICTIM #1)

FREDDIE worships his girlfriend Khloe and would never do anything to hurt her. He takes off to Harper's cabin to explain the truth and save his relationship, ignoring the fact that Khloe strictly forbade him from coming.

Freddie's only flaw was recruiting his cousin, Katherine, to buy a gift for Khloe. When Khloe sees messages on his phone from someone named Kat talking about restraints and whips, she gets the wrong idea. Who wouldn't?

Freddie explains the mix-up to Simone on his way to the cabin to set things right with Khloe, if he can. He explains that Kat is his cousin and was buying a special gift at Freddie's request. Freddie never gets the chance to explain himself to Khloe due to his encounter with THE LEATHERFACE LADY!

TOM HARPER (THE VOYEUR)

TOM HARPER, the boy next door, all-around good guy that everyone fawns over -- or is he?

Tom owns Harper's Cabin and has a knack for dropping by just to be helpful. His warm grin has a way of shrouding his sinister side.

As a child, Tom's grandmother, The Leatherface Lady, dangled him as bait, luring hikers from the Appalachian Trail into her lair. Tom would act like a lost child, claim a pet was in trouble, or that his grandmother had fallen in order to pull the hikers from the trail.

After Tom's grandmother vanished (or did she), he assumes her identity each year in the weeks leading up to the Anniversary of the attack that changed her life. The IMO is different from what the townsfolk have grown used to and even covered up in order to stay safe from the Leatherface Lady's wrath. So, this new uptick in death count has Deputy Greene and the town's guardian angel, Grace, on edge.

In addition to hikers, Tom is starting to kill indiscriminately. And these two just aren't going to have it.



In Conversation

SHERIFF BRIGGS

(DON'T ASSUME HE DIES, THERE WILL BE A SEQUEL)

SHERIFF BRIGGS, the town sheriff, has one focus -- finding out what happened to his wife, Sherry. Sherry went missing two years prior, when she went to the area for a hike.

Briggs, an outsider, stepped in as Sheriff after the previous Sheriff went missing while digging too deeply into the new disappearances that were starting to seep into the town. Killings that historically stayed out on the trails.

Given he's an outsider to the town, the whole notion of the lore strikes him as ridiculous nonsense. One too many disappearances have been shrugged off as bear attacks or The Leatherface Lady for his taste. He's on a mission to find out what the hell is going on. A mission he keeps to himself.

He seems to be the only one in town deadset on solving the mystery of the missing hikers and getting to the truth behind the Leatherface Lady rumblings. He tries his damndest to discover the fate of the missing hikers and is unaware that Greene and Grace may have some of the answers.

When he goes missing, Officer Anderson makes it his mission to find him.



Attached to Project
Bulent Gurcan Actor/Discovery



Comp

OFFICER ANDERSON (VICTIM #5)

OFFICER ANDERSON is a young Rookie cop with a bright future. He looks up to Briggs and has been taking note of his interest in the missing hikers. When Briggs doesn't show up to work, Anderson knows exactly where to look -- Harper Cabin.

When he gets there, there's not a single trace of Khloe and her friends, let alone Briggs.

A dark, grainy night photograph of a building. The building is mostly black, with two windows on the left side that are brightly lit from within, showing a warm orange glow. The sky is also dark and grainy. The word "SYNOPSIS" is written in white, handwritten-style capital letters on the right side of the image.

SYNOPSIS

THE STORY

A weekend trip turns deadly when Khloe, faced with the harsh reality that her boyfriend may be cheating on her, takes off with her friends Simone and Jemma to promote an AirBnB in Vermont.

The story starts with Officer Anderson walking into Tom Harper's house, the owner of the cabin the girls are promoting. A computer screen has a movie file open, and Anderson hits play. He's engrossed and alarmed by what he sees -- an old woman sends a small child into the woods to bring her another victim. A dead man with half his face missing lies on an old butcher's table. The old woman holds a curved needle and waxy thread. Another file begins to play on its own, and the story unfolds...

Tom Harper couldn't be more accommodating when the girls arrive. His giant smile and good nature win them over instantly. The girls, enamored with him at first sight, let their guard down. His cameras planted around the cabin and trails do not alarm them in the least. They fall for his explanation that he has to keep an eye out for both hunters and dangerous wildlife.

A trip into town leaves Jemma and Simone on edge when they learn about the lore of THE LEATHERFACE LADY and discover a hiker has gone missing near the trail that backs up to their cabin. It doesn't help that the people they encounter in town have an unsettling vibe -- one they just can't put their finger on. Both girls are surprised to learn Khloe is familiar with the local lore and grew up in the area. The girls haven't known each other long, but the notion she didn't share the not-so-small fact is off-putting.

When K

THE STORY CONTINUED

Once back at the cabin, Simone's rude remarks cause Jemma to storm out. Khloe goes to search for her, leaving Simone alone. Freddie while on his way to the cabin, calls Simone to help him explain to Khloe that there is no one else for him but her. Their call is interrupted when Freddie encounters The Leatherface Lady on the covered bridge leading to the cabin. Simone hears his entire encounter through his phone's Bluetooth. She isn't quite sure what she hears, but it's enough to cause her to panic.

When Khloe returns to the cabin after her fruitless effort to find Jemma, Simone forces her to go see if Freddie is okay. Khloe doesn't seem to be all that worried when Freddie never shows up at the cabin.

Jemma returns to the cabin while everyone is asleep. The cameras catch someone in the room, hovering over them while they rest soundly -- the silhouette of an old woman. Simone wakes to find some of her things in Jemma's bag. In fact, odd things are misplaced in the cabin. Simone accuses Jemma of taking her belongings and takes off. She ends up at Tom's house, which leads to her death at the hands of The Leatherface Lady.

Having lost WiFi at the cabin, Khloe and Jemma head to town to look for Simone. Everyone in town ignores them except Sheriff Briggs, who promises to have a look around. Briggs finds the missing hiker's dead body and is killed (or so we are left to believe) before he can do anything about it.

Back at the cabin, the girls lose power, and Khloe leaves to find Tom, warning Jemma to stay inside. Jemma discovers Khloe's true identity and takes off in a terrified state, only to be attacked by the Leatherface Lady!

THE STORY CONTINUED

Khloe Khloe

Khloe actually cares about Freddie. He was never supposed to be a part of her and Tom's twisted game.

A gift is left for Khloe– a doll with human skin stitched to its leg. On closer inspection of the doll, the henna tattoo on the piece of skin is the same one Jemma put on her thigh the night before. This leads to a cat-and-mouse chase between Khloe and The Leatherface Lady. A chase that leaves Jemma dead, and Khloe's awareness that Freddie isn't worth her effort after he leaves her for dead in an effort to save himself. Khloe's harsh reminder that family always comes first!

This brings us back to the opening...

Officer Anderson's search for Sheriff Briggs leads him to Tom's house, where he finds the footage we've been watching all along. The spy glasses, trail cams, iPhones, and Briggs body cam are lying beside the computer. Anderson is killed while viewing the footage. The Leatherface Lady's clothes and a white wig hang on a hook on the wall next to a photograph of the old woman, a little boy, and a little girl. Is the little boy Tom, and is the little girl Khloe, in the photograph? Is Tom the killer dressing up as his grandmother? Was he the little boy sent into the woods to lure another hiker from the trail? Did Khloe lure her friends to the cabin? Is there a Leatherface Lady? Seems we need the sequel to find out.

Last scene: Tom knocks on the door of the cabin and introduces himself to his new renters with the same giant, boy-next-door smile.

(* In the sequel, we expand on the game of Tag that Khloe and Tom played in an effort to distract their young minds from their grandmother's brutal killings. A game they still play. Greene and Grace aren't going to stand for the locals being killed any longer, and Briggs is dead set on finding Khloe.

not l



THEMES

*A tale of vengeance rooted in brutal revenge
that leaves no survivors or redemption, only
a thirst for more bloodshed.*

The Leatherface Lady is just as much of a tale about the unbreakable bond of family and the fragile ties of friendship as it is about a wretched hag who steals skin in order to take back what she lost in her youth.

The undercurrent is a story of a woman's strength, endurance, and ability to stand tall amongst adversity. And to survive in spite of the odds stacked against her.

June Harper survived with no help from anyone and her story lives on.

WHY ME? WHY NOW?

Horror never goes out of style and a low-budget horror done right with great marketing can turn an 80k production into a \$131,000,000.00 grassroots hit or even a \$660,000,000 franchise.

I'm a horror girl who grew up surrounded by the lore of the Gullah Geechee and my Native American extended family. The tradition of oral storytelling is in my DNA.

When we bought our property in Vermont, I knew I had to write a horror. Crafting the lore of The Leatherface Lady began the first night I took my kids out for a midnight hike in the woods. Creating lore and fright nights emerged from my family of storytellers who turned every family vacation into an excuse to plan an unforgettable nightmare just to frighten us kids. Making stories up on the spot was not just a necessity for my family, it was second nature. The horrors we crafted in woods across the country are legendary. And, yes, a few of us did wind up in emergency rooms along the way due to our extravagant antics -- but it was worth it!

I met my creative partner Bulent Gurcan who truly is the Huntsman, Ash Williams, the Winchesters, and a Vampire Slayer all rolled up into one and here we are about to start production on our first feature.

FOUND FOOTAGE SUCCESS STORIES



The Blair Witch Project

Production Budget: \$22,000

Marketing: All said and done, Artisan spent \$25,000,000

Box Office: \$248,000,000

4 of the 35 Most Profitable Movies of All Time, Based on Return on Investment were Found Footage Films



#3 Paranormal Activity

Production Budget: \$450,000

Box Office: \$89,376,549

#6 The Gallows

Production Budget: \$100,000

Box Office: \$6,898,494

19 Paranormal Activity 2

Production Budget: \$3,000,000

Box Office: \$77,221,343

#35 Unfriended Dark Web

Production Budget: \$1,000,000

Box Office: \$11,191,847

TARGET AUDIENCE AND DISTRIBUTION

Horror fans are loyal. The genre maintains a consistent fanbase regardless of industry highs and lows. Low-budget horror investments have proven to generate a good return on investment and when it comes to attracting a more diverse viewership, horror is one of the few genres ahead of the pack.

The Leatherface Lady combines popular tried and true genre elements, borrowing from the classics like Psycho and Friday the 13th to elevate this independent film above the typical run-of-the-mill found footage feature.

The film touches on a socially relevant, forward-thinking theme, has a female lead, a female producer/director/writer, a female line producer, a female production coordinator, and a female camera operator -- a combination that will position it for success at festivals and distribution across multiple markets worldwide.

Preliminary Marketing/PR:

- The Leatherface Lady Lore has already begun to spread, utilizing a grassroots approach to social media outreach
- A graphic novel is in the works to be pushed alongside the feature
- Hire a PR Firm to generate a grassroots campaign during the pre-production stage (and after)
- Incorporate Social Media influencers both in the film and for services to heighten reach
- Develop a Marketing strategy with a reputable firm prior to production

Distribution Strategy:

- Pre-release on influencer social media platforms via a secure link.
- A world premiere at a prominent, genre-friendly festival (e.g. Fantasia, Sitges, Tribeca, Sundance, SXSW, AFF, BFF, etc.)
- A buzzworthy, global festival run
- Active PR/Marketing Campaigns
- Inclusion at Film Markets (AFM, The Gotham)
- Theatrical runs (Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta, etc.)
- Ancillary markets (streaming, VOD, cable, airline)

HORROR NOW



Horror is Dominating the 2025 Box Office



From 'Babadook' to 'Raw': The Rise of the Modern Female Horror Filmmaker

From 'Babadook' to 'Raw' – how the rise of the modern female horror filmmaker has helped elevate the genre and brought fresh blood to scary movies.

 Rolling Stone / Oct 26, 2016



How Horror Movies Are Changing: The Rise of Elevated Horror

Horror movies have always been a reflection of our deepest fears and societal anxieties. From the grotesqu...

 author-blog / Dec 2, 2024

Women Directors of Horror add value

The Rise of Elevated Horror

PRODUCTION

Tonia Kempler/Bulent Gurcan
(Producer/Director/Writer) Brings:

- Established Financing Relationships (10 - 100 million +)
- Established Industry Relationships in both Film and Television
- Established Actor/Artist Relationships
- Proven Development Track Record

Schedule: Auugust 2026

Development -- Continuing

Pre-Production -- Now

Production -- 23 days

Post -- 90 days

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS/FUNDING PLAN

Production Budget: \$1,105,500.00

- Talent: \$254,000
- Name Talent: TBD
- Above the Line: \$360,000

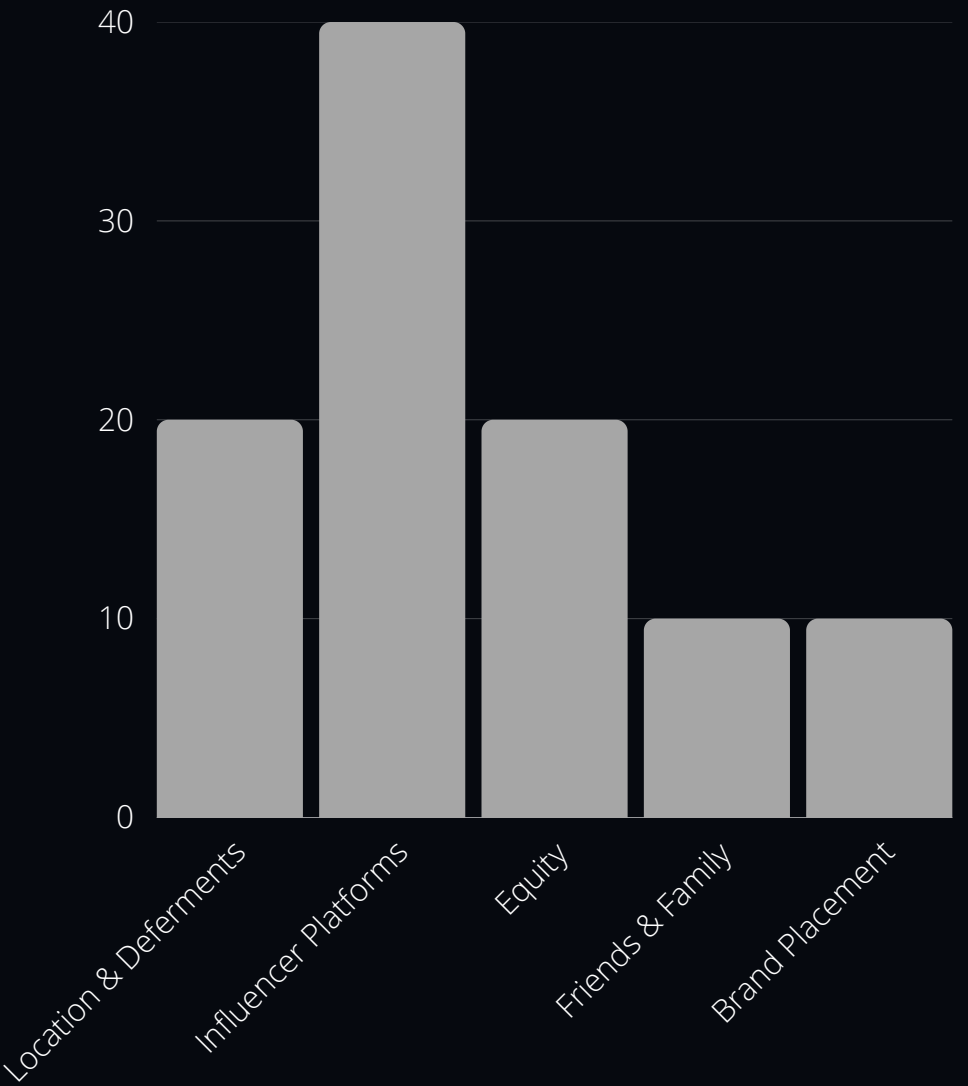
Additional Funds (Not in Production Budget):

Preliminary Marketing Budget: \$100,000.00

- Marketing: \$40,000.00
- Social Media: \$20,000.00
- PR: \$40,000.00

Festival Budget: \$25,000.00

- *Eyes without a Face* Mechanical License for festival run
(already obtained)\ - Feature TBD



Production Budget

20% Secured to date (Personal/Deferments, and location secured/cost covered)

Recoupment Schedule Waterfall

- Friends & Family (Obtained- Soft)
- Equity (3rd)
- Deferments (2nd)
- Gap – If Any (1st)

THE LEATHERFACE LADY MOVERS AND SHAKERS

TONIA KEMPLER (Multi-hyphenate Producer/Director/Writer): Tonia is an award-winning screenwriter with accolades in the film, publishing, and music arena. Her achievements include Top 10% Academy Nicholl Fellowship, a No. 1 best-selling comic, numerous festival wins, and managing a stable of Grammy-Award-Winning songwriters and producers. *www.bellementertainment.com*

BULENT GURCAN (Actor/Producer/Director/Writer): Bulent, an immigrant, known for his survival skills on Naked & Afraid, is an Iraq war veteran, Federal Law Enforcement Agent, turned filmmaker. He has produced, directed, and written multiple short films, while actively pursuing his acting career and writing feature-length screenplays.

BUFFALO 8: Development and IP Services. *www.buffalo8.com*

ORLANDO CALZADA (Audio Engineer): Orlando, a Native Puerto Rican, is a Grammy Award-Winning mix engineer. In addition to a career in music, Orlando has worked in post-production for several networks and is an award-winning editor. *www.orlandocalzada.com*

KOVAS MYVETT (Composer): Kovas is a multi-award-winning producer, composer, and recording artist, known for his musical flair as well as for scoring several series for multiple Networks, including Netflix *On My Block*. *www.musicbykovas.com*

MICHAEL SYMONDS (Music Supervisor): Michael has worked for several Record Labels, including Universal, CBS, J Records, and Island/Def Jam. His previous experience includes working for major publishing companies (Zomba, Sony/BMG, and Warner). While at Warner Chappell Music Publishing he partnered with major players in Digital Music, including YouTube.

SHAUN BLESS (Sound/Composure/Influencer Relations) 3X Grammy award-winning producer, turned filmmaker, and Influencer Agent, representing talent with more than 90+ million followers.

WHAT THE INDUSTRY IS SAYING...

LEATHERFACE LADY is a by-the-book splatter film that flips the gender of the psychopath antagonist (Leatherface man into a Leatherface Lady), who attacks a group of colleagues when they venture into the remote woods for a birthday retreat. While there is a large cast of characters, the story isn't a true ensemble, as it is told through the lens of Khloe, who has the Final Girl paradigm. The script checks all the boxes for the horror paradigm (cabin in the woods, no cell or WiFi signal crazed lunatic on loose, etc) which should appeal to splatter / gore fans of Shudder, Sites, Blood In The Snow, and other indie horror platforms. There's plenty of tension and octane coursing through the veins of the screenplay, as the writers throw set pieces at its characters, as the body count piles, which crescendos into a hellacious third act. The script takes real effort in fleshing out Khloe and Jemma's friendship and there are some nice moments of chemistry between the group, each with their own problems and complexities, however, it is the murders and chaos which drive the story's engine. The premise is simple, yet effective, and managers expanding their roster of horror writers could spark to the material. -- **BlackList**

Prospects: The story would be best suited in the hands of a true independent horror producer who has produced micro-budgets previously, as studios are focused on developing popular IPs. If the completed film was selected/screened for a major festival, then a streamer might consider acquiring it for distribution. It feels like we have seen this type of horror film before, and it is a film that checks all the boxes of the paradigms (but with a gender flip as Leatherface is female), thus is a story that should be produced for as inexpensively as possible. Thus, the film should aim to be produced for under \$300K, which is the SAG Ultra Low Budget tier break. This is a film that could easily be slapped with an NC-17 rating, and, justly or unjustly, some agents don't want their clients appearing in splatter/gore projects, and some producers, investors, and distributors seek more commercial fare. Thus, this is one reason why the film's finance plan should be as fiscally responsible as possible so that the return on investment could attract financiers. It would help the chances of the story if the director was represented by one of the Big 5 agencies so that they can have them assist with casting. -- **BlackList**

Highlighted Strength: Khloe, Jemma, and Simone all have really believable relationships with each other, and the tension/drama that comes up between them feels very realistic and accurate to their personalities. It's a great touch how Simone refuses to curse, and how Jemma has a need to film everything around her. Being a social media influencer is such a clever way to justify them filming everything around them, and helps to make the found-footage format feel natural to these characters instead of forced. The relationship between Simone and Freddy is also a really interesting dynamic -- It comes as a surprise, but it really works. It helps to strengthen Simone as a character when she doesn't want her past with Freddy to affect her growing friendship with Khloe. -- **We Screen Play**

Pacing is one of the strengths, as there is tension, mystery, and high stakes throughout. The fear of witnessing something grotesque also keeps things intense. Dramatic irony is used throughout to boost tension and there's a strong mystery regarding the identity of the Leatherface Lady, the fate of the missing persons, and why the townspeople are acting strange. There are also smaller sources of relationship tension and mystery, such as whether or not Freddy cheated on Khloe. -- **Slated**

"The Leatherface Lady" uses dialogue to effectively characterize its ensemble and imply threads of underlying tension and meaning in conversation. The varied use of slang and speech patterns in characters helps to express their differing backgrounds, ages, and attitudes. The banter between characters can be humorous and biting. Conversations are filled with organic miscues that further accentuate the naturalistic qualities of dialogue. The dialogue never sounds stilted. -- **Slated**

WHAT THE INDUSTRY IS SAYING...

The Leatherface Lady has real appeal and potential. First thing we really liked about this is how well it all plays out as a limited cast and location script. This reads as being very budget friendly with some ROI (return on investment) potential.

The characters are well-developed. Overall, there is some good depth and dimension with each of these leads. The writer does a nice job of pushing purpose and identity with each of the three protagonists.

Dialogue also reads well. The writer gets out of the way and lets the characters tell their own stories. As a result, we like the overall feel and authenticity as it comes to these interactions.

As a concept, the writer scores well here with some interesting and very workable choices. To start with, what we have here is a limited cast/limited locations script that puts a heavy focus on building tension and pushing some fast and easy scares. In other words, this reads as a solid, very affordable production that would sit well in the genre.

The writer also takes the 'found footage' sub-genre to a new level by invoking a ton of found footage by way of iPhones, security cameras, and even smart glasses. Most of this script is written from the perspective of one 'footage' camera or another. That's a good plan and for a good reason. Consider the film that popularized this sub-genre. The Blair Witch Project was shot on a remarkably small budget and generated one of the largest returns on investment in the history of cinema. It began with an early outlay of 35 thousand dollars and quickly generated just over 249M in revenue. Keep in mind that this was before the advent of smartphones and like-minded technology.

Now, cameras are cheap and basically everywhere, even in the middle of an isolated area like the woods featured in this script. As well, the writer does a solid job of explaining this, assuring the reader or viewer that the cameras are there to catch potential poachers. As a result of this, the cameras actually feel very organic to the unfolding story. But, of course, that's not why the cameras are actually there.

Overall, The Leather Face Lady pushes some great content. We love how this limited cast and limited location story plays out. The writer does a nice job of crafting these characters and bringing them to life on the page. -- **ISA**



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