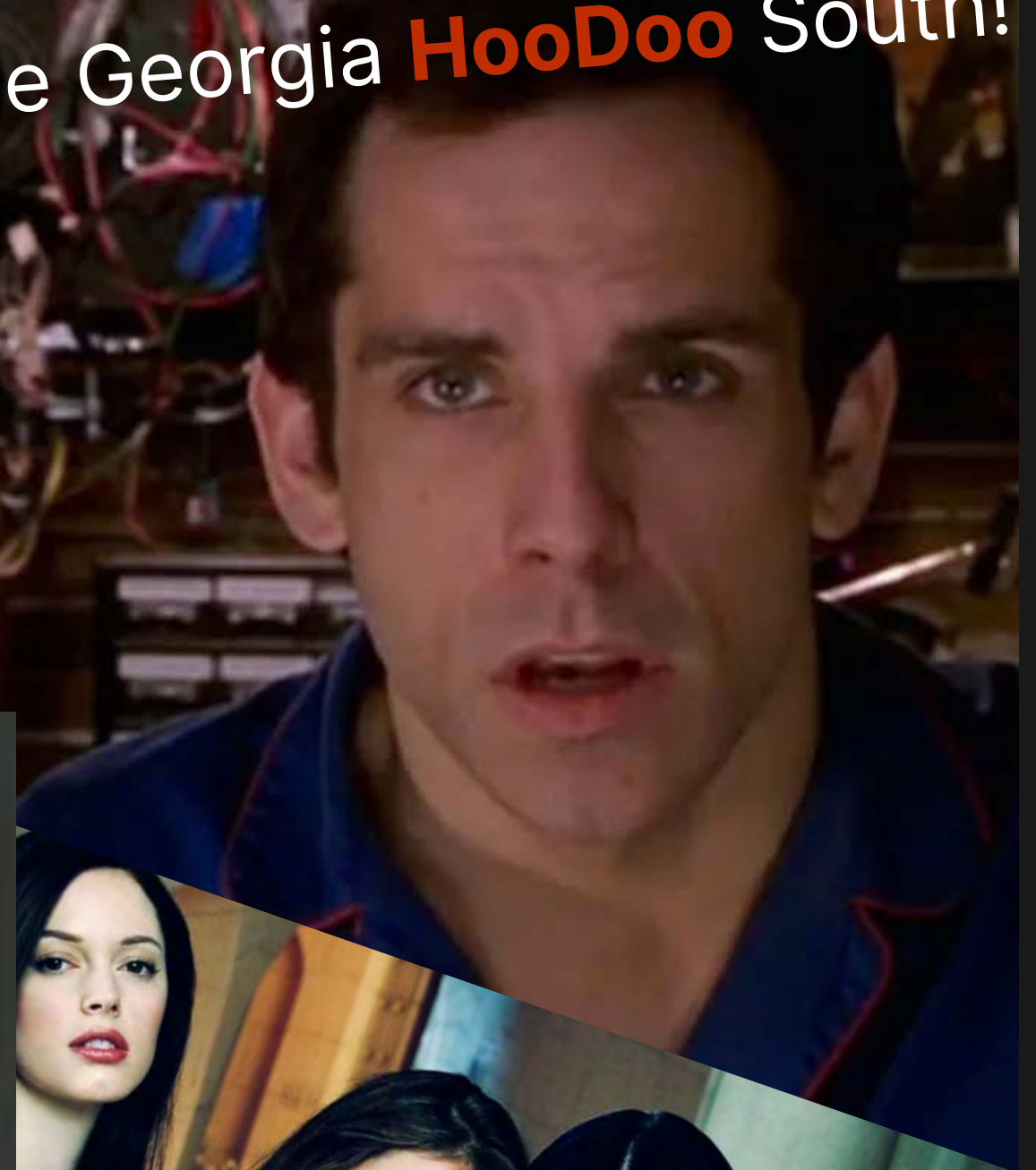




Secrets Series Bible

A Southern Gothic Dark Comedy Television Series set in the world of Hoodoo

Imagine if Greg Focker's seemingly normal fiancé brought him home to meet the family -- and they were BOO HAGS in the Georgia **HooDoo** South!



Secrets

LOGLINE

An estranged daughter from a family of Haints (spirit-like creatures from the root-conjuring South) must battle the zany antics of her family, who have found a way to cheat death when she returns home with her fiancé.

COMPS

CHARMED meets An Adult Version of **THE ADDAMS FAMILY/MUNSTERS** with a dose of **MEET THE FOCKERS**.

Why Me? Why Now?

The coastal regions of Georgia and South Carolina 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. I am one of those children, lucky enough to grow up surrounded by Native American relatives and our extended Geechee family (Lowcountry descendants), who were anything but normal. There has never been a better time to shed light on the incredible culture from my childhood — the Gullah Geechee. Secrets along with the much larger Haints Universe includes Boo Hags, Plat-eyes, Southern Ghost Tales, and the like, each with their own quirky ensemble cast.

Introduction

THE BACKSTORY

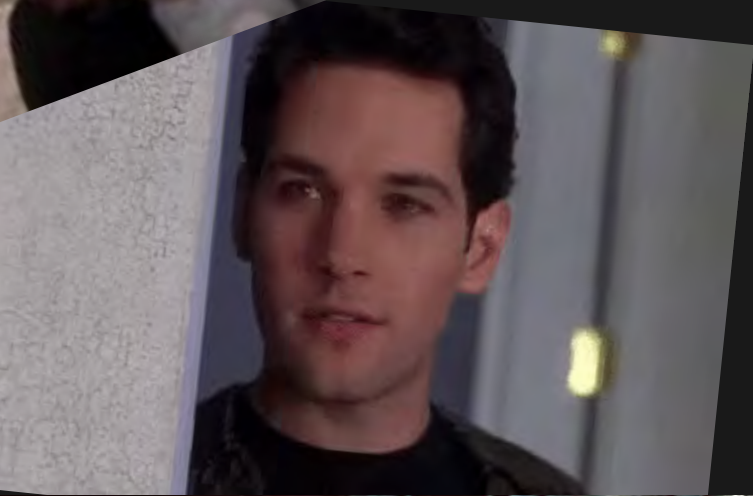
Every generation one of **THE COOPERS** must bring home a sacrifice. This isn't any ordinary sacrifice. It must be the sacrifice of their own heart -- LOVE! Without sacrificing the thing you hold dear, the "glue" that holds their skin together, so to speak, just comes undone. This burden ultimately falls on **MADLINE "MADDY" COOPER** and her TWIN **SAMANTHA "SAM" COOPER**.

THE COOPERS are monsters of a sort; what little emotions they do have aren't supposed to get in the way of staying amongst the world of the living. They have the ability to live on, so what's the harm -- in a hundred years you get over a broken heart, right? Well, for **MADDIE**, who is only half Boo hag and only half dead, the whole process isn't quite that easy.

Maddie had her heart broken and refuses to have it broken again. She has made a conscious effort to tempt fate by keeping her beloved **JAKE HARMON** away from her family and out of harm's way, until...

She discovers what she thinks is a way to get what her family needs most without truly sacrificing **JAKE**. Sure, she's using him; sure, she's taking a risk that may not work -- at the end of the day she may appear normal-ish but she **IS A MONSTER** underneath it all!





Only **MADDIE** isn't bringing **JAKE** home to "meet the family;" she's expected to bring home a sacrifice. And not just any sacrifice, only a sacrifice of the heart will do -- HER HEART! **MADDIE** has made it very clear she will not sacrifice her true love so her family can live in peace for another generation. She did that once a hundred years ago and made a vow to never do it again -- she's done! Or was, until she discovers her very existence may depend on it! Can she find a way to save **JAKE** and herself? Through a few comic twists and turns she may have found a way! Or so she believes...



HOODOO

(Known as Lowcountry Voodoo)

While Voodoo is a religion and a belief system, Hoodoo is the magic derived from Voodoo. Hoodoo is the craft and the practice -- Voodoo is the mindset and the monarchy.

Hoodoo is practiced using dolls, talismans, animal parts, body fluids, elixirs, tonics, crystals, powders, all manner of herbs, plants, roots, and the like.

While both Hoodoo and Voodoo are used to heal their practitioners and those seeking their influence, Hoodoo is a form of folk magic. Its main goal is to improve the daily lives of practitioners and those seeking their root-conjuring healing through rituals and a connection with the supernatural.

It's a magical world full of wonder and the occult.

ROOT CONJURER

"Although this West African spiritual tradition has retreated to the closet, rootwork is most assuredly alive in the Lowcountry.

Rootwork traveled with slaves to the Georgia and South Carolina sea island plantations. There, slaves and their descendants, called **GULLAH GEECHEE**, intertwined their folk beliefs with Christianity.

Afraid of slave revolt, plantation owners permitted this homegrown way of healing to continue. And even visited slave quarters for their own physical ailments. The practice flourished post-slavery, spurred on by the physical remoteness of slaves and their descendants who remained behind on the sea islands." -- *Beverly Willett*



JAKE HARMON unsuspiciously
enters the world of Hoodoo and
to his fiancée **MADDIE COOPER'S**
surprise he **LOVES** it!

SPELL

FX

BOO HAG

A malevolent spirit of 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. Boo hags kill for skin that allows them to walk in the world of the living, undetected. The rest is just a means of sustenance. Unlike vampires, Boo hags keep their life source very much alive, visiting their victims nightly, draining them slowly over time. Most of their prey wake up feeling like they had a horrible night's sleep, and that's the extent of the encounter. The old saying in my house was, *"if you wake unrested, a Boo hag must have rode you in your sleep."*

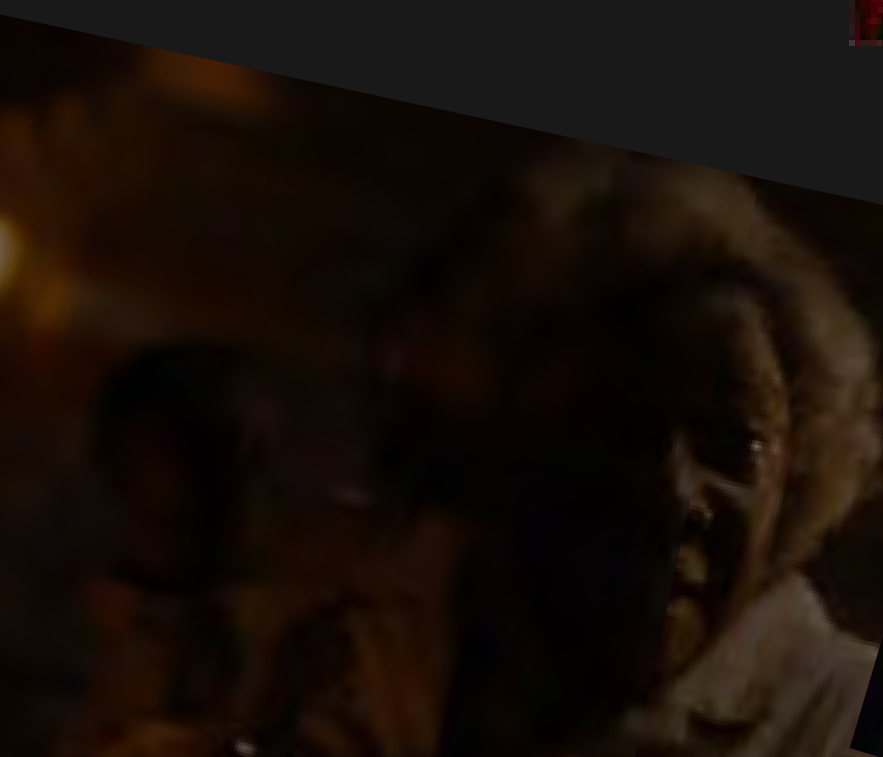
The Boo hags in **SECRETS**, with the exception of **MADDIE** and her twin **SAM**, are HAINTS (apparitions like spectres) that shed their skin when they need to feed. Like most the lore, their one downfall is being trapped before dawn from re-entering their skin, in which case they either vanish or are forced to stay in apparition form until something can be done about it. In some of the traditional lore, it's as simple as just barring their re-entry into the home of the victim's skin they've taken as their own, typically by painting porch ceilings Haint blue. The blue represents water, and Haints such as Boo hags can't cross water. And like vampires they don't do well in the sun. Trap them outside until sunrise and you've at least defeated them for a period of time. Ever wonder why there all those incredible blue ceilings in the South? I guarantee most the people who paint them don't even know.

Unlike the rest of their family, who are either Boo hag or just plain ol' Hag (witch), **MADDIE** and **SAM** are the product of an unholy union -- a Witch and a Boo hag. Not only are the girls half Boo hag, half Hag, but they are also only half dead! Underneath it all they are monsters of the worst kind, capable of immense harm. Neither girl knows their true power. It's a **SECRET** that's been kept from them. A **SECRET** that will undoubtedly be unleashed layer by layer over the series. And when their skin comes off, all that's left is a rotting, skinless creature. Keeping their skin sealed must be done at all costs. And this is where **SECRETS** gets fun! This is where the SECRET of **THE COOPER CLAN** actually lies.

In traditional lore, the problem with Boo hags is they are a bit of a Loki character at heart and have a way of tricking everyone around them into believing they are their loved ones or friends, only a better version! And who doesn't want a better version of people they are around day in and day out? This is how Boo hags coexist without being detected. The Boohags in **SECRETS** differ in that they've found away to survive without mixing with humans hardly at all, using **MADDIE** and **SAM**. Just wait until the girls find out -- especially **SAM**, who is already monster through and through.



MADDIE actually believed she had found a way to bring JAKE home safely with the aid of her root-conjuring grandmother, **ELOISE**. Protecting him from her mother **IDA** turns out to be a much more daunting task than she expected!



HAG aka WITCH

The witches of **SECRETS** are just like any other. This small detail grounds the series in a magical realm that is familiar, given the rest of the Southern Gothic world will take time to unfold and understand.

IDALINE "IDA" COOPER is your typical Hag, except this Hag has immense power due to the family she married into -- **THE COOPER CLAN**, a family of Haints/Boo hags who have been around since the 1800s and have found a way to keep their victim's skin from rotting for an entire generation at a time -- that is if everyone follows the natural order of things.

IDA married **HECTOR COOPER**, a Boo hag, to use to attain immortality by using his mother **ELOISE COOPER'S** one-of-a-kind Lowcountry magic. **ELOISE** is a famed root conjurer who is nothing more than a spirit inhabiting someone else's skin at the end of the day. Yet she's found a way to perfect the art of possession, landing her the role of Matriarch! Without her blessing, you might as well get comfortable being invisible. The role as Head of the Family is coveted by **IDA** and her envy knows no bounds!

Speaking of envy...

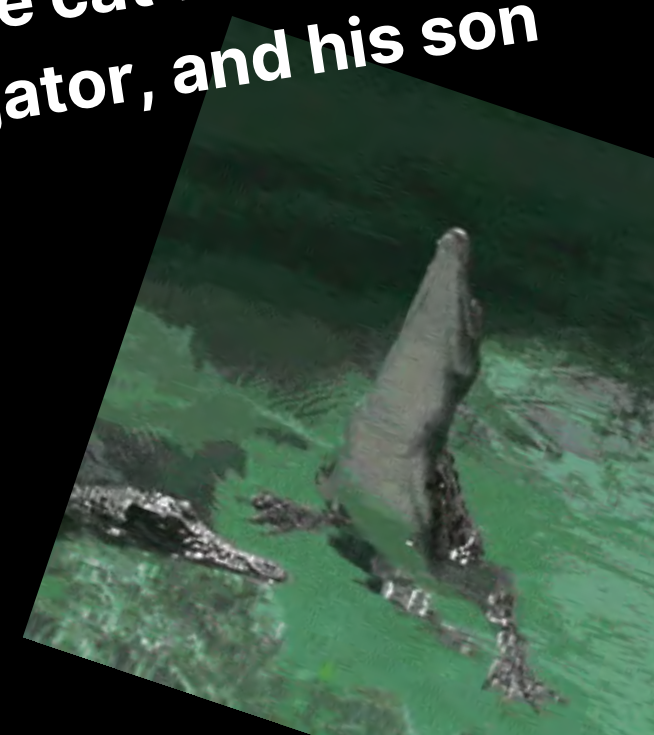
IDA'S sisters, **NESTER** and **HILDA RHEYS**, are nasty Hags who harbor their own sort of envy. They despise their sister for finding a way around the tried and true, familiar, old-fashioned hassles of staying young -- and leaving them out of it! **NESTER** and **HILDA'S** antics to either win their sister's favor or plan her demise is fun comic relief throughout the series, especially when pitted against each other. These two Hags will never succeed, and **IDA** will never bore from toying with them for pleasure. In fact, nothing and no one can stop **IDA** except **ELOISE!** Well, her daughters could stop them all, but since they are kept in the dark as far as their powers are concerned, the chances of that happening are moot!



ELOISE devised a magical miracle that allows her loved ones to remain amongst the world of the living with very little effort -- and they have for generations! Yet the strict rules that go hand in hand with that effort seem to be too hard to adhere to for two members of **THE COOPER CLAN** -- The **TWIN COOPER GIRLS** -- **MADDY** and **SAM**. Each have their own way of royally screwing things up for literally everyone!



SAM is deadset on disobeying the first unbreakable rule -- do not kill for pleasure. Do not be gluttonous when you feed. Only drain enough to leave the victim feeling confused and wishing they'd had a better night's sleep. Her kills require a clean-up crew. This usually involves the family pets **JINX** -- the cat who has had way more than nine lives; **BRUNO** a large alligator, and his son **RUFUS**, a rare albino.



HUNTERS

There are HUNTERS in **SECRETS**. Boo hags didn't begin with **THE COOPERS**. **THE COOPERS** have just managed to find a way to cheat time and evade those chasing creatures like Boo hags down.

After enough shriveled-up skinless bodies are found, someone evitably is going to take note. One of these somebodies is **MADDIE'S** ex-boyfriend, **DETECTIVE ROBBINS** -- an ex that still has the hots for her, making it really easy to mislead him time and time again.

He is in hot pursuit after **SAM** leaves a trail of bodies and it takes all **COOPER** hands on deck to throw him off their trail. This cat-and-mouse chase runs throughout the entire series.

APPARITIONS

Apparitions, aka spirits, are common in **SECRETS**. They are HAINTS in search of a body. **THEODORE**, **MADDIE'S** grandfather, is a black mist residing in his bag of ashes for much of the first season, a fate bestowed on him by his wife **ELOISE** for royally screwing up an important ritual.

He eventually does get a body, but not the body he expects! He just can't seem to get out of the doghouse with his wife and her frustration is always apparant.

THERE ARE OTHER CREATURES/HAINTS...

THE COOPER CLAN is a bit like royalty in the South amongst the other HAINTS. Their position is constantly challenged, and a few of the other Boo hags take it personally that they aren't invited to partake in the famed COOPER SACRIFICE that keeps them safely hidden away in their stolen bodies for almost 100 years, and lessens their need to feed in order to survive in the world of the living.

The World



THE COOPER CLAN melds into the human world much like the Wesen in the GRIMM World, or The Cullens in THE TWILIGHT SAGA. They are as weird and strange as THE ADDAM'S FAMILY or THE MUNSTERS, just much more adept at hiding in plain sight.

THE COOPER CLAN has been around for generations, feeding off the life force of others so they can walk in the world of the living, undetected. Much like vampires need blood, this family of Boo hags needs a piece of our soul in order to keep up their charade. Once every generation or so, they need a tailor-made suit of skin, sealed tight by a root doctor's hand -- human skin!

To keep up their shtick and avoid raising suspicion, they try to only make one sacrifice a generation -- anything more and the Hunters catch wind and rise to the occasion. A battle **THE COOPERS** always win, but wish to avoid nonetheless. If they've fed properly through the years -- which means taking just enough from their victims to keep their skins intact -- they can successfully live in peace among the humans.



Setting



THE COOPERS reside in an aging mansion on an island off the coast of Georgia. The GULLAH GEECHEE culture is paramount to the series. In fact, this series and the larger HAINTS UNIVERSE is a tribute to my childhood and my own GEECHEE ROOTS.

THE COOPERS' neighbors know they're strange but leave well enough alone. There is the occasional BURB'S type meddling, but nothing this family of Boo hags can't handle.

Tone



This dark comedy brings to mind **WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS** in terms of sheer fun, and **SANTA CLARITA DIET** in terms of absurdity -- just with more explanation and depth. It is grounded in a rich and alluring, yet vanishing culture that deserves a spotlight.

The world of **ANGEL HEART** is the backdrop for this adult version of **THE ADDAMS FAMILY** meets **MEET THE FOCKERS**.

There is a **PRACTICAL MAGIC** element with the sisters **MADDIE** and **SAM**.



Madeline "Maddy" Cooper

MADDIE has tried to survive by feasting off animals instead of humans, much like the occasional vampire that tries to cheat fate by sucking the blood from a rabbit instead of a human. Her skin suit, that should last for an entire generation, is rotting, and unbeknownst to her, she is taking her sister **SAMANTHA** right down the tubes with her.

As it turns out, the girls missed a crucial step in sealing their own skins and separating from the human lives they only partially left behind in the 1800s. This means what happens to one happens to the other until this wrinkle is corrected.

There is only one place to turn, a place she is determined to avoid as long as she can -- HOME!

MADDIE has a hard on against her family for their lack of compassion for the Living. If she can find a way to outwit them, she will -- all except for her younger naive sister, **DARCY**, who owns her heart, along with her fiance, **JAKE**.

When **MADDIE** is forced home to save her own hide, literally, through a series of comical unfortunate, even tragic events, **MADDIE** is forced to stay with the family she would give almost anything to leave.

In order to save **JAKE**, **MADDIE** takes her own life, and her TWIN **SAM'S** at the same time, only to come back as something much worse than a Boo hag -- and only **JAKE** can save her.

Talk about a sacrifice of the heart!



Jake Harmon

JAKE is our eyes and ears into an unknown world. He, like the rest of us, is navigating this Southern Gothic Hoodoo landscape we know nothing about. We are learning about **THE COOPERS** right along with him, at his pace, layer by creepy, demented, outlandish layer.

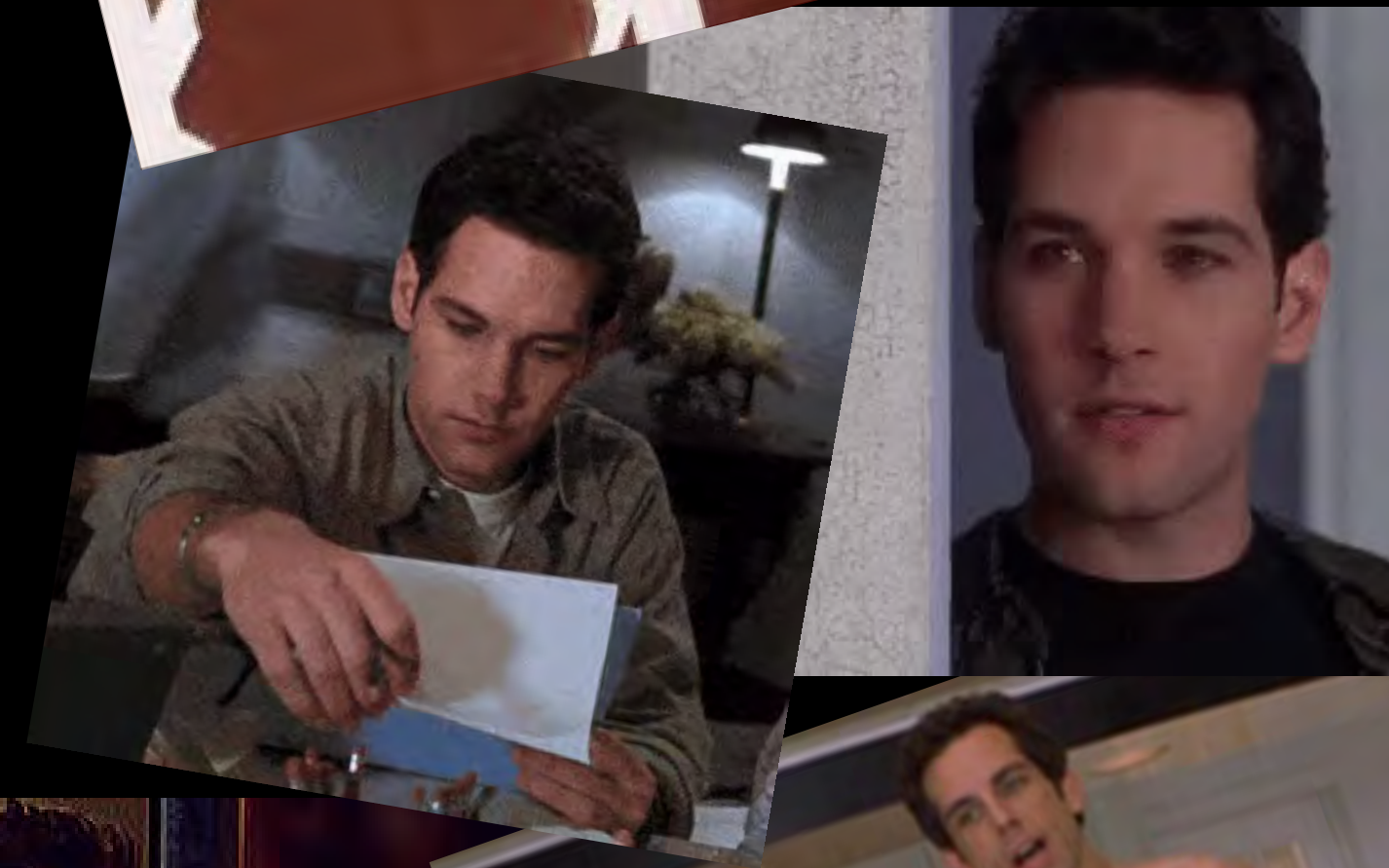
JAKE and **MADDIE** really only have one issue. **JAKE** is not okay with the fact that after three years he hasn't met her family, and he wants to ask for her hand properly. It bothers him that **MADDIE** keeps her childhood and past a SECRET. He doesn't even know she has a TWIN sister.

JAKE is ready for a change, any change. His business just tanked; he has lost everything including his house. He refuses to go to HIS PARENTS for help, and he is hopelessly in love with **MADDIE**. He would follow her anywhere. Even though he feels inadequate, that doesn't stop him from proposing to **MADDIE**. Little does he know that proposal is the very reason **MADDIE** feels safe taking him home. Well, she may have set a few other plans in motion to assure her plan works.

When **MADDIE'S** parents **IDA** and **HECTOR** welcome him with open arms, he can't resist the urge to beg **MADDIE** to stay -- and why shouldn't he? He has nowhere else to be. He is enamored by their weirdness and wants to learn all he can about the woman he loves.

That is, until they trick him into accepting their proposal to marry their daughter the very night they arrive. They make him promise to keep it a SECRET from **MADDIE**.

The Boo hags in **SECRETS**, again much like vampires, can only sacrifice a willing participant. **MADDIE** should have been the one to propose but she waited, knowing that would shield **JAKE**, even if only long enough for her to get the help she needs from her grandmother, **ELOISE**. However, that didn't stop **IDA** from twisting things back in her favor. Poor gullable **JAKE**!



Samantha "Sam" Cooper

SAM isn't like her sweet TWIN sister, **MADDIE**. **SAM** is a vicious killer. She could care less about the attention her repeated kills summon, or the fact she keeps putting her family in danger. When **SAM** is hungry, **SAM** hunts.

SAM hunts men who are vile. She targets men who are abusive or sexist or mean or any other excuse **SAM** can conjure on the spot. If she even assumes an older man is hitting on a younger girl, or a father is mistreating his child (the list goes on), she kills without question. She drains her victims of every ounce of body fluid. What she leaves behind at best can be described as a human-sized prune. She's leaving a trail of breadcrumbs for the HUNTERS to follow.

SAM is key in **IDA'S** plan to trap **JAKE** into becoming the necessary COOPER SACRIFICE. Since **SAM** and **MADDIE** are identical, **JAKE** has no idea he is marrying the wrong COOPER. Hell, he doesn't even know **MADDIE** has a TWIN. In fact, he's kinda turned on by this new attitude **MADDIE** has all of the sudden. Only it's not **MADDIE** and that presents a whole lotta problems later.

This twisted mishap leads to a sacrifice of the heart alright. **MADDIE** takes her own life, taking **SAM** down right along with her!

Don't worry, they come back! But what they come back as takes the entire first season to sort out! And pretty much guarantees **THEODORE**, the TWIN'S grandfather is not getting his body back anytime soon, since his carelessness aided **IDA** in her sinister plan -- and Eloise is anything but forgiving!



Eloise Birch

ELOISE is as wise and gracious as she is cunning. Not many people can pull the wool over her eyes, if anyone can at all. In the world of the living, **ELOISE** was a famed root-doctor. People traveled miles to seek her aid and advice.

ELOISE discovered a way for Boo hags to walk amongst the living without being a danger to themselves or to anyone else for the most part -- the need to feed still exists but they don't have to necessarily kill anyone.

She stumbled on the remedy when a man came to her for a love potion. His devotion to his intended was a curious affair and followed the man into death when he took his own life to save that of his beloved. His spirit was so strong he was able to reach **ELOISE** from the other side, begging for the object of his desire to be sent to the underworld with him.

The whole notion of true love gave **ELOISE** an idea. The power of sacrifice was it! That was all she needed to make sure when her family passed, they'd come back without the burden most Boohags are faced with -- constant feeding and rotting bodies.

For the most part this meant **THE COOPERS** would be able to live out their many lives in peace.

The only issue with this plan is that everyone is past the age of falling head over heels save for the TWINS. Of course, they could fall, but the odds are unlikely especially considering they never venture off their immense estate off the coast of Georgia.

Given **SAM** is incapable of love, or so we think, the burden falls to **MADDIE**. Her sister, **DACRY**, is too young. Her dimwitted cousin, **LESTER**, isn't capable and **ISABELLE** just doesn't seem quite ready, but she is being groomed by her aunt **IDA**. **ISABELLE'S** day will come.





How do you control a Boo hag? He who holds the ashes of the deceased's body calls the shots. It's a touch like burning the bones in SUPERNATURAL.

MADDIE stole her mother's ashes before she left home. This was her kill shot and the very reason she thought it was safe to bring **JAKE** home. Turns out **IDA**, as always, was one step ahead of her daughter.

Gaining control of another's ashes does become a thing throughout the series, especially with meddling Boo hags outside **THE COOPER CLAN**.

And **THEODORE**...this poor man may never gain control of his own fate! Ever!





What makes this **Series** unique

The Georgia Lowcountry

The Hoodoo South is notorious for its haunted mansions and eerie graveyards. There's a wealth of unexplored territory for a series like **SECRETS!**

The cultural lore, urban legends, and Gullah Geechee tales are virtually unknown (given they are passed down generation to generation orally) which is both a blessing and a curse.

The **SECRETS** Universe requires immense world-building, but it is fresh and captivating -- and even better, it isn't as widely known as tales like Bloody Mary, or The Woman in White. There are no vampires or werewolves but there are monsters. The world is populated with HAINTS, commonly known as spirits, ghosts, ghouls, and creatures from the Gothic South.

SECRETS contains an entire mysterious world just waiting to be unleashed at a time when audiences are hungry for compelling content. And the best part of a series like **SECRETS** is how sparsely explored Hoodoo has been in film.

Theodore Birch aka The Apparition

THEODORE, bless his heart, will never be half the conjurer his wife **ELOISE** is, yet the man gives it his best shot. His best shot on most days equates complete catastrophe. He meddles and messes up literally everything on a continual basis.

This is how he lost his body. **ELOISE** is so enraged over his last botched attempt to help that she refuses to suit him in a new skin. He is forced to roam around as a BLACK MIST who sleeps with his ashes in a burlap sack that the family carries around with them from room to room. He is not all that dissimilar to The Thing (the hand) in THE ADDAMS FAMILY.

THEODORE'S blunder on the day of the TWINS' funeral is a SECRET that only he and his **CAT**, **JINX** know about. He royally messes up the girls "awakening" from the other side, rendering them something akin to Zombies. If **THEODORE** doesn't come clean, he could lose his granddaughters to the darkside and that will not be good for anyone. Keep in mind, everyone is aware of the girls' power except for them. **THEODORE'S** SECRET is a major SECRET that will take the entire first season to come to light.

ELOISE finally bestows a body on **THEODORE** in the second season. **THEODORE** is so excited to get his new skin -- until he looks in the mirror. **ELOISE** is so enraged over what he put the girls through that she suits him in a white man's body. And she refuses to let **IDA** work her magic.

IDA is the reason the family's bodies appear as they always have -- like their former selves while alive -- rather than keeping the appearance of the skin they've taken. It's just an illusion but, hey, it works!



Idaline "Ida" Rhoyz-Cooper

IDA is a beast unlike any other, but she does love her girls. She just has a Witch's way of showing it. **IDA** would do anything to keep her girls safe and close to home. This not-so-small fact is why she finally agrees to leave **JAKE** alone.

JAKE'S safety is the only thing on **MADDIE'S** mind, even if he belongs to **SAM** now. It's a love triangle that has its ups & downs through the first two seasons. Come on, if the girl gets the guy, what's gonna keep the audience on edge, right?

MADDIE has a hard time forgiving her mother for making sure **JAKE** and **SAM'S** fateful wedding night was consummated.

IDA attempts to win back **MADDIE'S** affection by putting a spell on **SAM**. **SAM** has actually fallen for **JAKE**, too, so **IDA** goes out of her way to fix the problem, which only leads to more issues. Witches have a way of doing that!

IDA would do anything to take over as Matriarch. **ELOISE** has to stay vigilant to outwit the scheming Hag.

For all **IDA'S** mischief, she has a streak, albeit small, of goodness in her core.



Hector Cooper

HECTOR is a level-headed, loving father and devoted husband. He loves his malicious wife, even if she only married him to avoid a Witch's cursed life.

The relationship is not entirely one-sided. **HECTOR** saw the benefit from a union with a Hag like **IDA**. **THE COOPERS** are a force to reckoned with, unlike any other -- and they do need each other!

HECTOR is smart enough not to get caught in the crossfire between his mother **ELOISE** and **IDA**. At first glance, he appears spineless, when in reality he just knows his mother will always win, so why get involved? A trait that enrages his daughters to no end. His girls would love him to show some muscle on occasion regardless of who wins. When push does come to shove, rest assured **HECTOR** does come to the plate. And when he does, everyone listens.

He is a man who chooses his battles wisely.



Isabelle Rhoyz

ISABELLE is the TWINS' younger cousin. **IDA** tolerates her, at best. She reminds her too much of her mother, whom **IDA** was insanely envious of in every way possible.

ISABELLE is the voice of reason in the family. Everyone comes to her with their SECRETS, and she never chooses sides, even when she has an opinion.

ISABELLE tries her best to make others see their own flaws. She is stronger and more capable than she is given credit for, and she fixes many problems from behind the scenes, while the rest of the Clan dukes it out.

It's no SECRET **MADDIE** is her favorite but she would never actually say it out loud.

ISABELLE is a Goth Hag still adjusting to being dead. She is still stuck in her teenage phase from when she was alive. It takes a few Seasons for her to mature.



Darcy Cooper

DARCY is the angel of the family. She can do no wrong. She worships her big sis **MADDIE** and wants to follow in her renegade footsteps.

DARCY is frail and weak because she refuses to take part in feeding on humans or partake in any of the family sacrifices. She lives on small animals, and that's not quite cutting it. Her malnourished state takes its toll on her in the third season.

MADDIE is forced into a sacrifice in order to save her.



Lester Rhoys

LESTER is **ISABELLE'S** slow brother. He's not the brightest bulb in the chandelier. He hides in the walls and watches everyone from the eyes of portraits and holes he has bored into the wood paneling throughout the house.

If **IDA** needs him she knows exactly where to knock.

His crush on **JAKE** is eerily similar to Cleary from THE WEDDING CRASHERS.

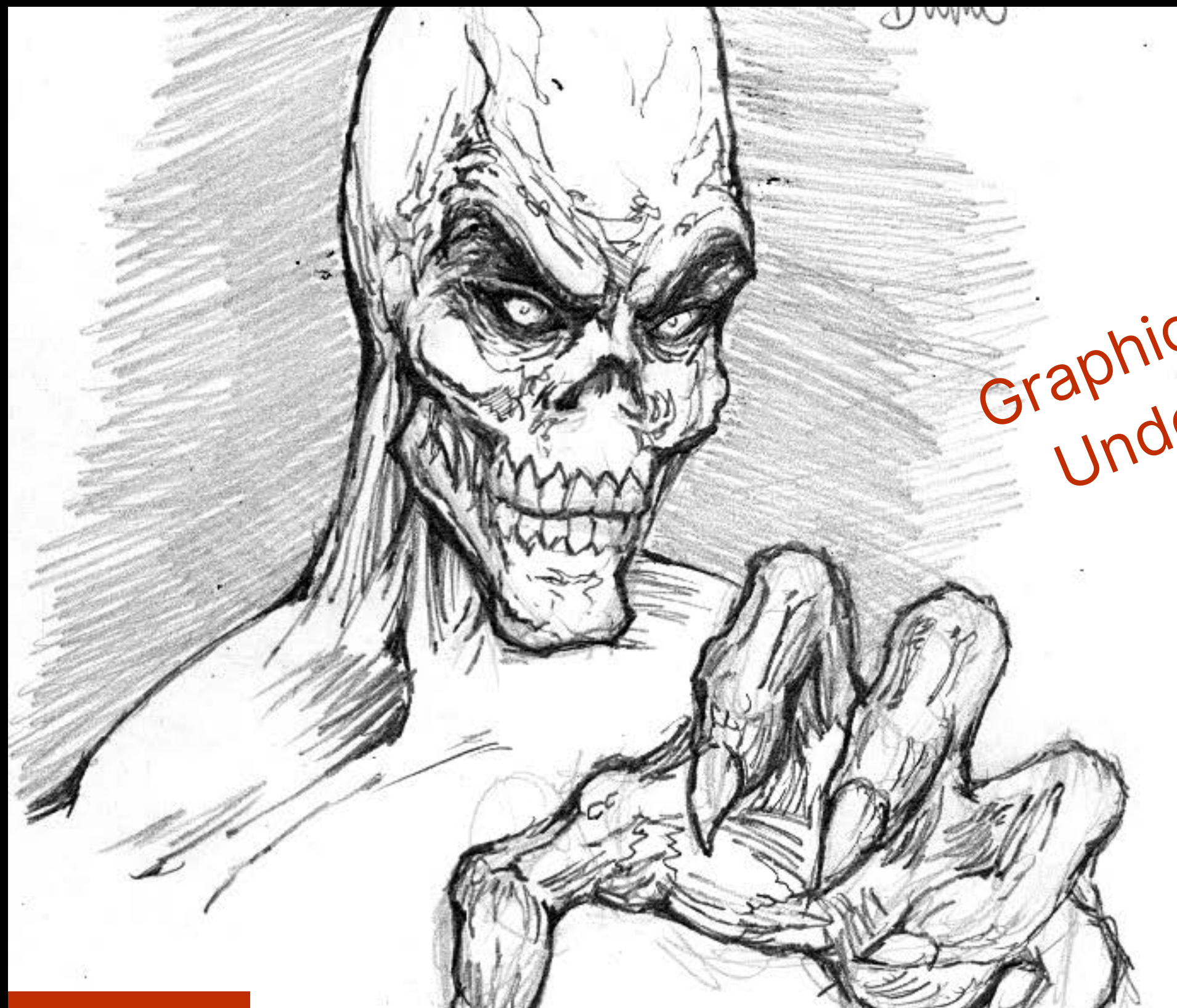


Jinx

And **JINX THE CAT** !

THEODORE can't be without his trusty companion. He communicates with **THEODORE** with nothing more than a sideways glance. He could care less about the rest of **THE COOPERS**. He tolerates **DARCY**, at best.





Graphic Novel
Underway!

The Mischievous Haint of the Lowcountry

THE BOO HAG

Graphic Novel
Underway!

A malevolent spirit of 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!

The coastal regions of Georgia and South Carolina 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. It's no wonder the Lowcountry is among the Nations' most haunted destinations.

So, what exactly is a Boo Hag?

We've all heard stories of Bloody Mary or the Woman in White, but unless you're from the root- conjuring South, you've probably never been fearful of a bedtime story villain steals your breath at night, or worse, your skin.

Imagine a vampire, mixed with a witch or a hag, except this haint doesn't suck blood. It sucks the breath of its victim while riding them at night. It doesn't bite or need an invitation to come inside. It merely slips through a crack, crevice, or keyhole, that is,

unless you paint your porch ceiling Haint-blue. So, as long as you're sporting that blue porch, you should be safe from a hag riding you in your sleep and stealing your soul.

A Boo Hag is something akin to a body snatcher or maybe even a zombie. They are undead, skinless beings who steal skin in order to walk amongst the living. It seems they are even a bit like Loki, given their inclination to trick everyone around them. They leave you believing they are the person whose skin suit they're wearing; a brother, a child, a mother, a lover — until the flesh begins to wear out.

These trickster haints shed their skin at night to hunt for sustenance and search for a victim to ride, rendering them helpless. The worst part is they keep them alive and come back night after night, leaving them with no memory of the attack. So, if you wake feeling restless and tired it is possible a Boo Hag rode you while you slept.



The only way to rid yourself of this mischievous, deadly haint is to prevent the Boo Hag from returning to its discarded skin after its nightly hunt. Close your windows, block the keys holes, and keep those porches painted Haint-blue. Of course, you could always keep an old broomstick

by the door or toss some salt as a safety measure. You see, Boo Hags can't fight the urge to stop and count every grain or strand of hay. This trick will at least buy you some time to run like the hounds of hell are nipping at your heels!

Secrets Series

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