

MASKED

LOGLINE

When a city girl visits her family's country home and helps force a detox on her drug-addicted brother, her life becomes threatened by his hallucinations and she realizes too late the drugs were the only thing keeping him sane.





SYNOPSIS

CARRIE visits her mother MAGGIE at their country family home. She intends to stay for only a night but of all the nights for Carrie's drug-addicted brother, RYAN, to resurface, it's the night she was home.

When the town Sheriff drops Ryan off high on drugs, Carrie feels obligated to stay longer to help her mother force a cold-turkey detox on Ryan. To Carrie's surprise, Maggie has been planning for this day. She's turned the basement cold cellar into a rehab room fitted with a thick metal door and lock.

Carrie tends to Ryan as he suffers withdrawal--comforting him when he pleads for drugs and being the victim of his violent outbursts. It takes several days for the worst of it to pass before Ryan can be released out of the cellar to join his family in the house while he continues to recuperate. Unfortunately, recuperation is not the direction he's headed. What Carrie and Maggie don't realize is without access to street drugs, Ryan begins to tumble down a dark hole of peril that puts them in jeopardy.

Ryan's hallucinations and unpredictable actions compel Carrie and Maggie to call the town's doctor for help, which only makes matters worse. They discover Ryan suffers from paranoid schizophrenia, causing him to interpret their help as an intention to harm him.

Everyone becomes the target of Ryan's madness and not even Carrie or Maggie can sway his fear of them. Ryan's tormented mind is convinced the only way to survive the danger that surrounds him is to kill those he fears—even if that includes his mother and sister.

With the Sheriff, Doctor and Maggie dead, Carrie is the lone survivor of her brother's psychotic delusions. Ryan has ensured there is no means to get help, trapping Carrie with the seclusion of their country home. But, there is one way out—one last hope for survival. Carrie must run.



BUDGET GOAL \$1.2mil

CARRIE

He needs to see a doctor. He needs medication or something.

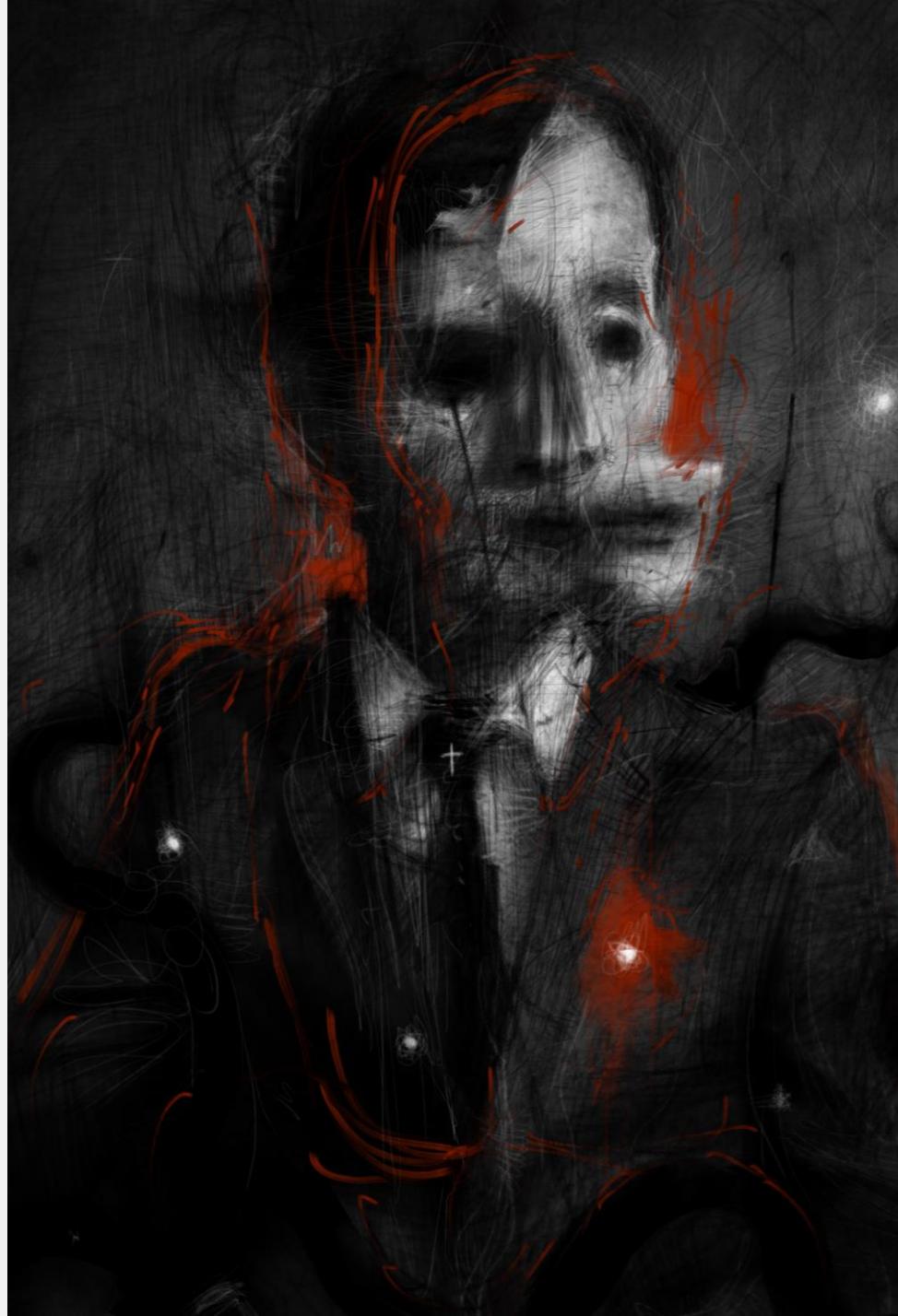
MAGGIE

He'll be fine. He always acts a little weird when he comes off of them drugs.

CARRIE

It's not the drugs. He's seeing Crystal again.

Maggie stops chopping. She looks at Carrie.



THE CHARACTERS





CARRIE COOPER

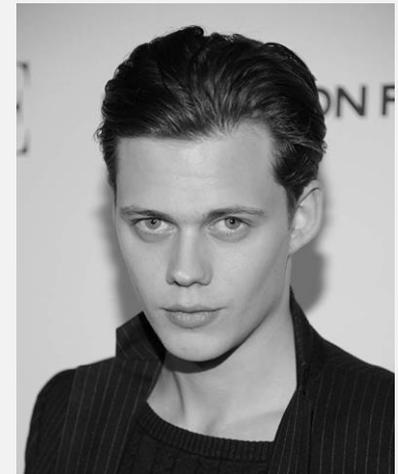
Wishlist: Amanda Seyfried | Emmy Rossum

Although Carrie can fit right in with being a country girl, she tries her best not to. She is a caring daughter and sister but she finds it difficult to manage her patience when she's constantly anxious to get back to the city making her quick to become agitated. Smoking is her vice; something she doesn't want her mother to see but like in all things, Carrie can stand up for herself and is the strong one in the family.

RYAN COOPER

Wishlist: Bill Skarsgård | Cole Sprouse | Lucas Till | William Moseley | Hunter Parrish

Ryan battles with paranoid schizophrenia which he's never been diagnosed with having. He uses street drugs to self-medicate his emotional and psychological problems but when he is forced off of them, his schizophrenia makes him become weird, awkward and creepy with odd twitches and reactions to normal situations. He also becomes more and more fearful of everyone around him. He believes he is wiser than everyone else and knows that everyone wants to harm him. Of course, this is only in his mind but he will kill to protect himself.



CRYSTAL

Wishlist: Julia Garner | Amanda Stenberg | Kiersey Clemons

A strong-willed, spunky small town girl who can flip on sexual seduction in the bat of an eyelash as the need arises. When she is getting her way she is charming, playful and peppy; when she has to get her way she becomes a great manipulator with enough confidence for two.



MAGGIE COOPER

Wishlist: Dianne West | Gina Rowlands

Maggie is a kind woman who smiles easy and gets hurt even easier. She comes across as being weak, sensitive and the type of mother you worry about being on her own. She doesn't make the best decisions because she's simple minded and when she 'acts tough', it is out of character for her and more of a desperate plea for strength.



ANDY

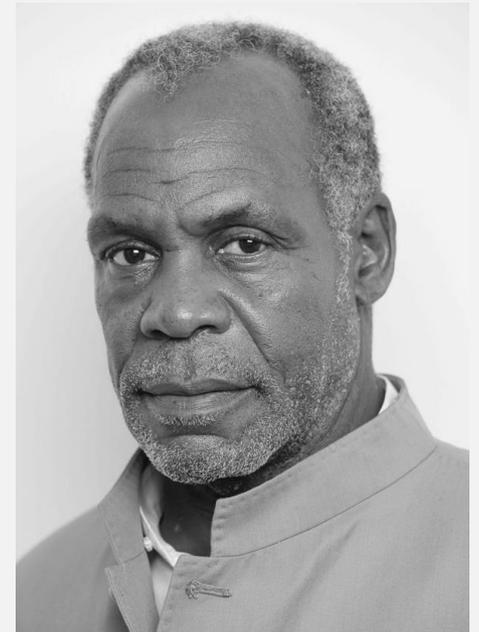
Wishlist: Josh Flitter |
K. Trevor Wilson

Andy is a small town “loser”; the awkward neighbor type who doesn’t get that no one wants to be his friend. Although he comes across as dorky and desperate, he almost makes you feel sorry for him--if he didn’t have that slightly crazy look in his eyes. Confident enough to exert his presence, in bad situations Andy is quick to become nervous, uncertain and show his awkward side.

SHERIFF HOUSTON

Wishlist: Danny Glover | Clarke Peters

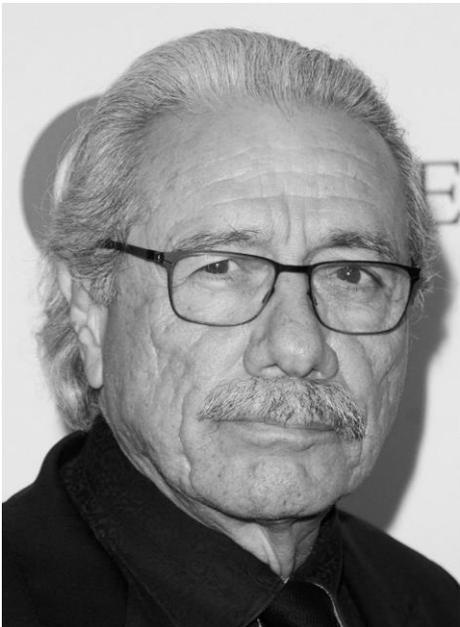
Sheriff Houston is a gentle, caring and kind man who is easy to point out as the good cop in any situation. In matters of the heart, he is too much the gentleman to even show interest.



DR. BERNARDO

Wishlist: Edward James Olmos | Hector Elizondo

Dr. Bernardo has worked in this town for many years and has a close relationship with everyone. He's friendly but has worry permanently pressed into his expression.



DEPUTY GREEN

Wishlist: Chris Cooper

Deputy Green is a relaxed kind of guy but when he gets called to duty he quickly turns 180 and becomes a stiff-shouldered straight to business kind of cop.





Ryan points the gun at Crystal -- his expression hardens. He cocks the gun. Crystal stares with certain confidence.

BANG! Crystal falls against the door. There's no blood but she looks dead.

Ryan grips his head, still holding the gun in one hand. His eyes are closed, BREATHING HARD.

CRYSTAL
I told you, you can't kill me like that, baby.



BEHIND
THE MASK



JUPITER J. MAKINS
DIRECTOR, SCRIPTWRITER
& PRODUCER

An award-winning filmmaker, Jupiter J. Makins has a passion for telling stories. She has written and sold features and short scripts and has a published novel.

As a director, she took a leap of faith in herself by directing her feature film as a first time director. The film, *Bigfoot and the Burtons*, was licensed by Showtime and Amazon and sold to many international territories. Since then, Jupiter has written and directed shorts. *Bully Fighters* she claims to be “*the short with long legs.*” It premiered on ShortsTV, has shown in schools and communities across America and the State of Arizona has placed it in their juvenile detention centers.

Due to her unyielding determination to make quality films with strong stories and ensure they get sold, Jupiter has produced almost all of her written work. Her drive and ability to bring a strong team together and see a project through to success is steadfast and her background in advertising/marketing makes her know this is as important to a film’s success as is the film itself. However, Jupiter seeks a strong producer to take lead on the project.

MASK INSPIRATIONS

Leather | Metal | Hair



ABOUT THE STORY

When Carrie stays at her family home to help her widowed mother try to get her drug abusive brother back to health, she discovers there is much more to Ryan's odd behavior. The longer he's off of street drugs the stranger things get and the more dangerous he becomes. Carrie and Maggie believe they are helping him to get clean not knowing Ryan is paranoid schizophrenic and the street drugs were the only thing keeping him from his demons--his imaginary friends especially Crystal, who influences his paranoia.

Although exaggerated for the purpose of being a thriller, *Masked* depicts the reality of a family dealing with a paranoid schizophrenic family member. The story shows their unpredictable behaviour, how good intentions can be interpreted as threatening and how a caring family can be regarded as the enemy. The story draws on the threats and awkwardness within a family experiencing mental illness and how it feels impossible to help. It also shows how real hallucinations can be true to those with mental illness. The aim is to make Crystal feel real to bring the audience inside Ryan's reality until it is revealed around the midpoint that Crystal is an imaginary character—similar to the *The Sixth Sense*. From the midpoint on, the audience will see Crystal as the true enemy until just before the end when Ryan releases Crystal and owns his evil.

Masked is a tragedy. Our hero fights a good fight but doesn't survive in the end—a final, unexpected fate. The film is left with the antagonist on the loose leaving it open to the potential of a franchise like *Friday the 13th*.



Masked is a contained horror/thriller set in the present day and told in a classic style of horror/thriller films.

The focus of the film will be on character performances in this highly character-driven story. Outside of character performances, the film will focus on the unexpected, both in the ordeal of our characters' lives and surprises for the audience. Camera angles and movement will be used as part of the storytelling both with pace and reveals. Holding certain shots a little longer and some very slow pans will be used to build tension and, in moments, character POVs will be used to help stimulate fear in the audience.

The mood will begin playfully but very early hit a dark turn, then move in and out of an uncertain feeling within the home. This will in part be reflected through character and lighting in a sunny happy start to the movie, an awkward night and a hopeful day until the days no longer promise ease and become just as dangerous as the night. The film ends with a long night of terror that will bring us to the coming of evil.



Carrie looks at her mother in shock.
She covers Maggie's mouth with her
hand, stares at the door in fear.

CARRIE

(soft to Maggie)

Hsh... you'll make it worse.

Maggie lowers Carrie's hand from her
mouth, shaking her head 'no'.

MAGGIE

(whisper)

How can it get worse than this?





CONTACT

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