

SCRIPT TREATMENT

The Hidden
-The Year of the Reaper-

January 21, 2021

LOGLINE:

One woman's life will completely unravel when an unsuspected visitor suddenly appears, beset on unearthing a hidden life and past, long since forgotten.

CONCEPT:

The Hidden is a coming-of-age drama about elite-level, American athlete - Autumn Rux, and her incredible struggle to rebound from a broken back, to winning a national championship, all within the unlikely sport of amateur wrestling. This short is based upon a true story, juxtaposing between Rux' life 10 years into the future – year 2031, shown thru a slue of flashback and montage, as an unsuspected student suddenly enters for an interview that leaves Rux twisted, forcing her (Rux) to finally confront a past that Rux believed already since suppressed and forgotten.

Since *The Hidden* is based in and upon modern-day, traditional, 21st century, America, about an underdog - young, attractive, middle-class, female, all alone, who's trying to find a way to survive and better herself within a totally male dominated industry, it is believe that audiences will not only immediately identify with Rux' character, but also her story here; consequently, it is further believed that *The Hidden* might be a good fit to present to a more mainstream, Millennial, American audience, in this form (short), now.

The Hidden is expected to be more of a 'seasonal' offering. In other words, it is expected to be shown during a specific time of the year to be the best fit for all stakeholders associated. Yes, the filming is expected to be completed between late fall, to early winter, in Michigan. But, the film short is then not actually expected to be immediately released then, consequently, in spring or summer, but rather held till the following fall, of the next year – September or November time frame. Of course, certain early-release, pre-screenings, and or film festivals, will still be planned.

What's planned is to release *The Hidden* to not just the appropriate audience, but also at the right time, a time which might invoke a positive response to get more males and females into the sport of amateur wrestling in the upcoming seasons in question, annually, all while still informing them all on how to do such, what to expect, and entertaining them an others about such. The focus is to get students/viewers excited about returning to school and about wrestling.

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Based upon the current book in production - 'The Awakening' (Tisdale, 2021), *The Hidden*, is a film short set to screen in the fall of 2021, carrying a rating of PG-13, and a targeted run-time of 20 minutes. Pre-production is prepared to begin immediately, domestically, between two site locales - Los Angeles, California (HQ), and Lansing, Michigan (primary filming), USA. The budget is \$2500.00 dollars, American. It is laid out as again, a 'short,' so acts have been minimized for sake of time.

Farm-Boy Productions has been contracted to produce *The Hidden*, as Farm-Boy Productions owner/operator – Nicholas Tremblay, has been selected to serve as the project's specific producer, all working in association with Tisdale Technologies, via owner/operator – Shane Tisdale; Mr. Tisdale shall serve as the screenwriter, along with completing all necessary casting, a small, acting cameo appearance, and requisite direction responsibilities.

The Hidden will target more of a Millennial, American audience to start, ages 13 on up, and hence, screen initially online through all forms of social media and platforms available, have a dedicated website URL online, be available to view on public access television, and seen at various pre-screenings releases at a list of available film festivals – TBA.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Regardless, of the vision here and plan, trying to film on a 'shoe string' type budget, is expected to be a potential concern when filming, especially in the state of Michigan, whereas the climate could be a perfect match for the film in question, and scenes shown, but also problematic if the weather becomes unmanageable, and or the project falls behind schedule henceforth (aka – missed window, no way of further filming winter type climate scenes in Michigan, after winter has completed, no).

Surely, it is hoped that filming for *The Hidden* will allow the production staff to file and attain the proper filming permits for the times in question, for the future. But, the contingency plan is to still get the mission accomplished, even if having to shoot the short using guerilla type tactics, and no, initial permit. Budgeting is what could affect this decision, along with timing, of course. But, it is believed that some monies are out there, also, through the Michigan Film Commission or other places around the state, or even possibly federally, or privately to identify.

Casting may not be an issue yet. In other words, the project here is not projected to be in need of a large cast, or even large cast of extras. But, there are still a few scenes that would be in-need of enough extras still to fill the shots, both interior and exterior school, in winter, to note. It might be possible to apply for waivers to an existing school's students, or even to use some unrelated film footage from another school's students. But, that remains to be seen to start or agreed upon then, as a consideration.

This project may remain a two person job, actually, between the show's producer and director actually. However, it is believed that with the right amount of pre-production 'PR' or public relations, if shot mostly or entirely in the state of Michigan, that more help could be secured by way of either film actors or extras, and or production crew and support, indeed, especially if

filming can be planned to be shot typically on weekends – note, around existing peoples’ current work and school schedules. What is specifically needed, believably, is a school on break, closed down, or available for filming, either way.

Filming on location then, potentially, in Lansing, Michigan, is expected to be an additional note of interest here. For one, Tisdale Technologies owner/operator – Shane Tisdale, once again, is certified in production and post-production editing, to be able to utilize the local public access television station, called Lansing Public Media Center (LPMC), equally located right in Lansing also, right on the south side, just moments away, with a sleu of offerings available for members, such as Mr. Tisdale, to utilize.

The LPMC operates on the main floor of the previous Michigan Army National Guard armory, operations on one side, with various other offices and studios for filming, editing, sound, and more. On the other side of the armory, in fact, what used to be considered the ‘drill hall’ sits enough extra room to do other things also, and includes access to a green screen, along with various other media support services, and personnel already there, on staff.

Most importantly, a project shot in conjunction with, or through the LPMC, may have to still air or show on the LPMC station, yes, but the rights are still retained by the creator. And, furthermore, LPMC puts on an annual film festival, right in-house, in their same Lansing location. So, to start, it is believed that working with the LPMC might be a true asset to the project success that could or should be considered and or utilized, especially during a low budget type of consideration.

Sound is a consideration here, as due to the considerations of putting out a professionally engaging, finished project and film. Due to legal considerations with music royalties and copyright, in contrast to a still micro-budget, it is believed that audio and music selections, sound ‘scores’ and more, are all still a requisite concern, not just for post-production alone.

What that means above is this: The Hidden needs a soul, needs a score, and needs background music that is rich, regardless that the film is broke. Consequently, much time is expected needed to try and work in-house actually, through Tisdale Technologies, or through other potential musicians and or artists, to try and come up with a concept for the film score, sounds, and music, that could best be utilized for the future, from the offset.

For set design, the film is being shown ‘in the future,’ and hence, ascertains a true opportunity and responsibility to show things different, unique, and or new, for audience members alike. However, due to the same budget restrictions, for now, it is expected that in the time shot, in fall of 2031, things are expected to be the same or similar, to present day, winter, 2021 (sadly). If however, any B-Roll footage can be found, royalty free, that might show any type of background imagery, like hoover boards, electrical cars, more cell phone technology, potential chip tagging, or more, those would be ideal to find, and show also, if possible.

Same thing applies here, as a above, in relation to hair, makeup, attire and wardrobe. Anything found that might show or illustrate an advance in fashion for the future, is expected desirable to show, especially as it relates to current trends for piercings, tattoos, ripped jeans, and much more.

However, the biggest concern is that of makeup for one person, the film lead and protagonist – Autumn Smith, whereas, she may be playing herself here, and in need of looking 35, instead of being still age 25, at present. Hence, we may need a makeup ‘artist’ actually, a good one.

PROJECT GOAL:

“Find or create a way to afford producing a successfully, compelling story with enough dynamic content, that people want to see. Start small, through producing a basic, film-short as a means of a teaser to secure enough positive attention and potential backing, to allow transitioning into a feature-length, film in the future, possibly starting as an episodic web-series across a dedicated streaming service”

PREMISE:

A woman athlete – Autumn Rux, becomes undeniably broken and scorn when her amateur wrestling career is abruptly cut short - right at the moment that all her dreams appeared within reach. Leaving only remaining pain, sorrow, and dismay for Rux, she totally gives up and withdraws from almost everyone and everything in life, especially the sport, until an unlikely stranger appears 12 years later, with an offer that Autumn can-not but escape.

PLOT:

The Hidden was conceived to place in the future, fall of 2031, Lansing, Michigan, USA.

(NOTE: Film ‘plot’ to follow next. And, any potential profits, royalties, and rights, are to be fully retained ‘equally’ by both Farm-Boy Productions and Tisdale Technologies, and their agents ‘there-of.’)