

SHEPHERD'S GATE



A SHORT FILM BASED ON A TRUE STORY

PRESS MATERIAL

SHEPGATEFILM.COM

SHEPHERD'S GATE

[15 minute narrative short - based on a true story]

LOGLINE

When a hotshot executive is threatened with a resignation from her protégé, she's forced to confront a mysterious past.





SYNOPSIS

Based on a true story.

MONIKA COULD **LOSE A FRIEND** IF BETH FOLLOWS THROUGH

with her threat to resign for not getting a raise. Beth thinks Monika's perfect successful life was handed to her (the only thing Monika has to complain about is a lousy commute).

Meanwhile, across town at a women's shelter called Shepherd's Gate, a social worker fights to keep his own young protégé, a little girl with big dreams, from being influenced by an unwelcomed visitor.

What is the connection between Monika's company and the shelter?

Is Beth right about Monika's privileges?

What can Monika do to convince her friend to not make a catastrophic mistake?

The answers lie at Shepherd's Gate.

CELEBRATING WOMEN IN FILM

Although the film's director and producers are male, we have strived to be diverse behind the camera



CONSULTING PRODUCER **NIKOLE CASTRO**

The character of Monika is loosely inspired by the real life experiences of Ms. Castro. In addition to serving as a positive role model for those who work under her as a Vice President at a Fortune 500 international corporation, Ms. Castro has been instrumental in providing guidance and support to the filmmakers as they strive to tell the most effective story possible. Ms. Castro's passions lie in Web Technologies, Information Architecture, and User Experience, as well as photography, running, boating, canine rescue, and her family and friends.



CO-WRITER **MICHELLE LARUE**

In addition to acting in the lead role of Monika, Ms. LaRue has a proven passion and talent for cinematic storytelling. Having been educated in newswriting at the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, her experience has translated to the big screen and she has contributed greatly to making the Shepherd's Gate script as compelling and universally digestible as possible.



DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **ANDRIA CHAMBERLIN**

A cinematographer based in Los Angeles, Ms. Chamberlin's visual style is naturalistic, but with cinematic beauty. Her cinematography career has led her to various parts of the world - across Africa, Europe and South America. Looking at so many various cultures through the lens, she's absorbed a genuine sense of how to tell human stories with a camera. Ms. Chamberlin grew up in New Jersey, went to Boston University and have been working in film for almost 10 years.



ASSISTANT CAMERA
SOPHIA HARBO

Ms. Harbo is a working A.C. who has crewed on several productions in Southern California. She once worked for Panavision in Hollywood before starting her freelance career.



PRODUCTION DESIGNER
& CO-WRITER
SUSAN BRADLEY

Ms. Bradley was Design Lead and Manager of Walt Disney Studios' Title Graphics Department for six years, producing title sequences and graphic design on films such as QUIZ SHOW, THE LION KING, TOY STORY 1 and 2, A BUG'S LIFE, MURDER IN THE FIRST, MULAN, ROMY & MICHELE'S HIGH SCHOOL REUNION, MONSTERS, INC. and many more. From 2005 to 2014, Susan designed title sequences for Pixar Animation Studios including motion graphics for marketing and graphic design for sets and film production, beginning with the film RATAOUILLE and ending with MONSTERS UNIVERSITY.



SCORE COMPOSER
JULIA NEWMANN

Ms. Newmann has scored many seasons of Fox's hit TV series BONES with 3 time Emmy award winning composer, Sean Callery. ASCAP honored Julia with three Film and TV Music Awards for her musical contribution to BONES in 2012, 2013, and 2014. The score was also nominated for Best Primetime Television Music of 2011 from the "Hollywood Music and Media Awards." Julia is an accomplished graduate from the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music. In 2003, she earned her BM degree in music composition and doubled majored in USC's acclaimed Film Scoring Program.

THE MAIN CAST OF



MICHELLE LaRUE

MONIKA

THE MIDDLE
WORKAHOLICS
BETTY WHITE'S OFF THEIR ROCKERS



ALISHA MULLALLY

BETH

12 DOGS OF CHRISTMAS
13 REASONS WHY

SHEPHERD'S GATE



DORIAN LOCKETT

DERRICK

13 REASONS WHY
THE WALKING DEAD (TELLTALE GAME SERIES)



LIZ ANDERSON

GERTRUDE

SANFRANLAND
TRAUMA



LAUREN LANE

STEPHANIE

HOUSEHUNTERS

ABOUT THE SHEPHERD'S GATE WOMEN'S SHELTER

THEIR VISION: RESTORE, REBUILD, REACH OUT

The Shepherd's Gate shelter is a Northern California non-profit residential campus, freeing women and children from the destructive cycles of homelessness, addiction, and abuse. They offer short & long-term programs and tailored job-skills training, financial education, nutrition and health lessons, childcare, parenting classes, and case management.

Shepherd's Gate was established in 1984 by Alice Ann Cantelow. It began as an emergency shelter, serving 16 women and children at a time in a small three bedroom home on Portola Avenue in Livermore, California. It has since expanded to two campuses, in Livermore and Brentwood, providing rehabilitative care to women fleeing abuse and homelessness. Since its inception, **over 13,000 women and children have benefited from the care Shepherd's Gate provides.**

They believe that in order to get their lives back on track, their residents need to have essential services available to them. These services include things like job-skills training, financial education, nutrition and health lessons, childcare, parenting classes and case management.

Find out more about them at shepgate.org.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I had a complicated childhood. The details of which I don't intend to divulge here, but I have desired to make a film based on my experiences someday.

Then, I recently found out why the corporate department I work for consistently did service projects at a local women's shelter called Shepherd's Gate.

I can't tell you why right now, because that will spoil the film.

Hearing this story made me think, "Now THAT is a movie."

If you've read this document and wondered, just why does this story about a corporate executive facing the resignation of her friend and protégé have anything to do with Shepherd's Gate mission and purpose?

Well, sorry to sound like a broken record, **but you have to watch the film to find out.**

Thank you in advance for your support.

-BILLY HIGGINS

CREW

DIRECTED BY BILLY HIGGINS

WRITTEN BY SUSAN BRADLEY, BILLY HIGGINS, MICHELLE LaRUE

PRODUCED BY MITCH EASON AND MICHAEL KOFSKY

CO-PRODUCER CHRIS DE PRETIS

CONSULTING PRODUCER NIKOLE CASTRO

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ANDRIA CHAMBERLIN

PRODUCTION DESIGNER SUSAN BRADLEY

MAKE UP DESIGNED BY MOLLY GARDNER AND TRISH WARD

MUSIC SCORE BY JULIA NEWMANN & CODY WESTHEIMER

BAY AREA UNIT CREW

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MITCH EASON

ASSISTANT CAMERA MACARTNEY STEVENS

GAFFER TOMMY JORDAN

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHER SETH VLACH

SOUND MIXER JERRY GIRARD

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS MORGAN KING, BRENDAN SAUER, JAKE SHUPP

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS JACKIE BATEMON AND JUSTIN BRADFORD

LOCATION MANAGERS STEPHANIE FISCHER & KRISTYN HIGGINS

MOTORCYCLE MECHANICS RYAN PETERSON & MARIO PERNETTI

LOS ANGELES UNIT CREW

ASSISTANT CAMERA AARON CHEUNG AND SOPHIA HARBO

GAFFER AXEL JOHNSON

SOUND MIXER TAD CHAMBERLIN

LOCATION MANAGER ERIC BAHR

VISUAL EFFECTS PHOTOGRAPHERS SEBASTIAN GRUBAUGH & TOM NORRIS

DITS

PRE-PRODUCTION

SCRIPT CONSULTANTS STEVE ALT, LIZ ANDERSON,
DIANA CASTLE, CAROL PATTERSON

POST-PRODUCTION

COLORIST DARWIN CLARK
VISUAL EFFECTS CONSULTANT NICK ASBILL

SPECIAL THANKS TO BEL AIR CHURCH, TITO HAMZE, NANCY LYNN DARLENE HIGGINS
ROBERT HALF MEDIA SERVICES, SHEPHERD'S GATE
USC ANNENBERG SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM

CAST

MONIKA MICHELLE LaRUE

BETH ALISHA MULLALLY

DERRICK DORIAN LOCKETT

GERTRUDE LIZ ANDERSON

STEPHANIE LAUREN LANE

SHEPHERD'S GATE RESIDENT SIERRA BRADFORD

ALSO FEATURING NICK ASBILL, BARBARA LoFRISCO, LEN LoFRISCO, GIL MURILLO
JAKE SHUPP, EMMA SEITZ, ANDREW STRIEMER, GENENE STRIEMER
SHILOH STRIEMER, LEXI BRADFORD, ANDREW BRADFORD, ADA SEITZ
SUSAN BRADLEY, LEX JOHNSON, MICHELLE PETERSON, RENEE ROMO
MARISSA SHANNON, RENEE VIEHMANN, LISA WALLACE, KARI FREESE
MAYA FREESE, NATALEE FREESE

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