

Horror Thriller - Feature Film

Hug Me

*Embrace
your childhood
nightmares*

PITCH - When Emma discovers that her 12-year-old cousin was walled alive inside her childhood holiday home, she begins to unravel a horrifying family secret that forces her to confront her traumatic past.

TONE & GENRE

"Hug Me" is a psychological thriller based on a family secret and childhood memories. Mystery and tension will keep you on the edge of your seat, with an insidious monster who claims he just wants to hug you, and twins who sleepwalk together at night.

Emma is a strong female lead who fights her inner demons. She needs to face and overcome a childhood trauma that has been haunting her and her twin sister since they were nine.

Death is unpleasant, but living the rest of your life stuck in a never-ending nightmare is much worse, especially if you're trapped in a concealed space with a creepy boy.

"The Orphanage" meets "Walled In", "Hug Me" relies on tension rather than violence, mystery rather than blood, and claustrophobia rather than gore.

PRODUCTION

"Hug Me" is a horror thriller created by writer-director Berty Cadilhac, whose first feature ("Art Ache") was picked up by Disney+ despite having a very low budget. His latest feature film ("Tide") was released in 25 cinemas across Asia, also despite a tiny budget.

"Hug Me" was written with production efficiency in mind: a single location, a small cast and limited VFX.

It has the ambition to reach a mass international audience and not limit itself to horror fans.

SUMMARY

Emma (35) is still grieving the recent death of her parents when she moves into her family's abandoned holiday home with her boyfriend Stan (35) and her catatonic twin sister Olive (35).

Olive has been unconscious for nearly a year following a hypnosis session gone wrong, leaving her mind trapped in a never-ending nightmare. Both sisters suffer from dissociative amnesia. Their memories from before the age of ten are erased, or perhaps simply inaccessible.

Emma hopes the house will unlock her own memories, she wants to identify a possible trauma that led the sisters to have this massive gap in their memories.

From the very first night, the house feels alive with malice. Creaking floorboards. A chubby 12-year-old boy who appears and vanishes in the shadows, seemingly calling for help from a concealed space inside the house.

The twin sisters seem to communicate beyond consciousness as they sleepwalk together towards key locations connected to their troubled past.

During a hypnosis session, Emma remembers discovering a young boy in a remote cabin in the middle of a forest. He was chained like an animal and demonstrated a deeply disturbed mind when he killed his dog by hugging it to death.

An elderly and disturbed neighbour reveals that the boy is Emma's cousin. Emma learns from the police that the boy killed multiple victims by giving them a "death hug".

Emma is convinced that she can reach her sister's psyche and free her from this never-ending nightmare. Emma meets the priest who conducted the fateful hypnosis that led her sister into her current condition, and asks him to conduct a "dual hypnosis" that will bring her into this world of fear and haunted memories.

LINKS - DEMO

These two shorts video were created to give the tone of some scenes.
They were shot without crew or budget.

Demo #1 - Emma and Olive synchronise their sleepwalk

<https://vimeo.com/1218926453>

Password: Hugme

Demo #2 - Emma accesses the concealed space

This scene uses AI for demo purpose only, this is for illustration purpose only

<https://vimeo.com/1218923351>

Password: Hugme

Full script and bible
available on request

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