



THE WITCH HAS BEEN CRAFTED FROM THE
DARKNESS BETWEEN THE STARS

-SARAH J. MAAS



INHERIT THE DARK

WRITTEN BY JENNA LYNN WRIGHT PRODUCED BY TARA L. CRAIG DIRECTED BY SCOTT MILAM

SYNOPSIS

The background image is a dark, moody scene. In the upper left, a person is silhouetted in a doorway, illuminated from behind by a warm, yellow light. The rest of the scene is dimly lit with a blue and green color palette. In the foreground, a woman with red hair is shown in a state of shock or fear, her mouth wide open in a scream. Her hands are raised, and she appears to be reaching out or recoiling. The overall atmosphere is one of suspense and horror.

Aisling 'Ash' Fitzpatrick isn't living up to her potential. While struggling as an artist with a low paying job and a controlling, manipulative boyfriend, her world is dealt another blow when she's informed that her last living relative - her grandmother Fiona - has died. As they were estranged, Ash can't understand why Fiona has requested that she be present at the reading of the will, but the promise that she's been left an inheritance entices her to go. What she finds when she arrives is that the inheritance comes with a catch: she must spend the night throwing Fiona a traditional Irish wake - complete with Fiona lying in her casket in the next room. Despite her misgivings, Ash agrees to stay the night.

Darkness falls. Nobody shows. And over the course of one terrifying night, Ash will realize that Fiona has called her home for a reason, and her inheritance isn't at all what she thought it would be.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Screenwriter Jenna Lynn Wright's INHERIT THE DARK is more than a horror story about a young woman who sits with her grandmother's body over the course of the night only to discover her heritage as part of a coven of witches. At its core, it's about the cycle of abuse and how we break it.

In the current zeitgeist of the world where our rights, especially a woman's, is under constant threat, I feel this is a very timely film about people reclaiming their voices and power.

While told from a female perspective, I knew being a male filmmaker I needed to find my own voice to tell this story.

I felt that the abuse subtext was universal and having been on the receiving end of it, I used that experience to shape my vision for the story.

Considering the film takes place in the late 80's, I feel a visual balance between the time period and something where traditional filmmaking inspired by the greats Kubrick, James Whale, and Del Toro is reflected here while at the same time, not relying on the current trend of nostalgia ala Stranger Things and Fear Street but instead twisting those aesthetics towards something more in the realm of surrealism; complementing the psychological paranoia and isolation of being with a dead body, to exploring the netherworld of black magic and the pure horror and sometimes, enlightenment, that comes from it.

There's horror in the mundane, tension in the silence and suspense and fear with the unknown, all ingredients that can make a scary film but my goal is to not only frighten audiences with new and inventive scares but also wound them emotionally with characters we care for and can relate to. This isn't CHARMED, SABRINA, or The WITCH, it's much more. A film that will be profound, emotional, and frightening.

There is hope in the darkness.

-Scott Milam

Director

INHERIT THE DARK

CHARACTERS



AISLING 'ASH' FITZPATRICK, 30.

A talented artist and friendly.

With a kindness that's often taken advantage of,
there's an edge to her waiting to surface.

CHARACTERS

The image is a composite graphic. On the left, a woman with long, wavy white hair and a tattoo on her forehead is shown in a close-up, semi-transparent style. In the center, a woman with blonde hair, wearing a red halter-neck dress, is shown in a more solid, realistic style. On the right, a woman is lying in a coffin, partially visible. The background is dark with red accents and lit candles.

FIONA O'BRIEN, 50-60s.

Ash's grandmother and matriarch, a mysterious woman, yet respected in her community who harbors a family secret that only in death will be revealed.

With an "otherworldly" connection, Fiona guides Ash to learn of her inheritance and a horrific family truth while haunted by a series of terrifying visions.

CHARACTERS

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is looking out of a window at night. She is wearing a dark, sleeveless top. The background shows a cityscape with blurred lights.

ARLO COLLINS, 30.

Ash's pothead boyfriend and wannabe musician. His manipulative and needy nature continues to sink its figurative claws into Ash. And with her possible inheritance, Arlo isn't going away. As with Ash's mother and grandmother before her, a pattern of abusive and manipulative men in their lives continues to be a chain unbroken.



VISUAL REFERENCES

Inspired visuals and settings.



VISUAL REFERENCES

Inspired visuals and settings.



EXT. O'BRIEN HOUSE - DAY

VISUAL REFERENCES

Inspired visuals and settings.



INT. THE AROUND BACK CAFE - NIGHT



VISUAL REFERENCES

Moods



VISUAL REFERENCES

Moods



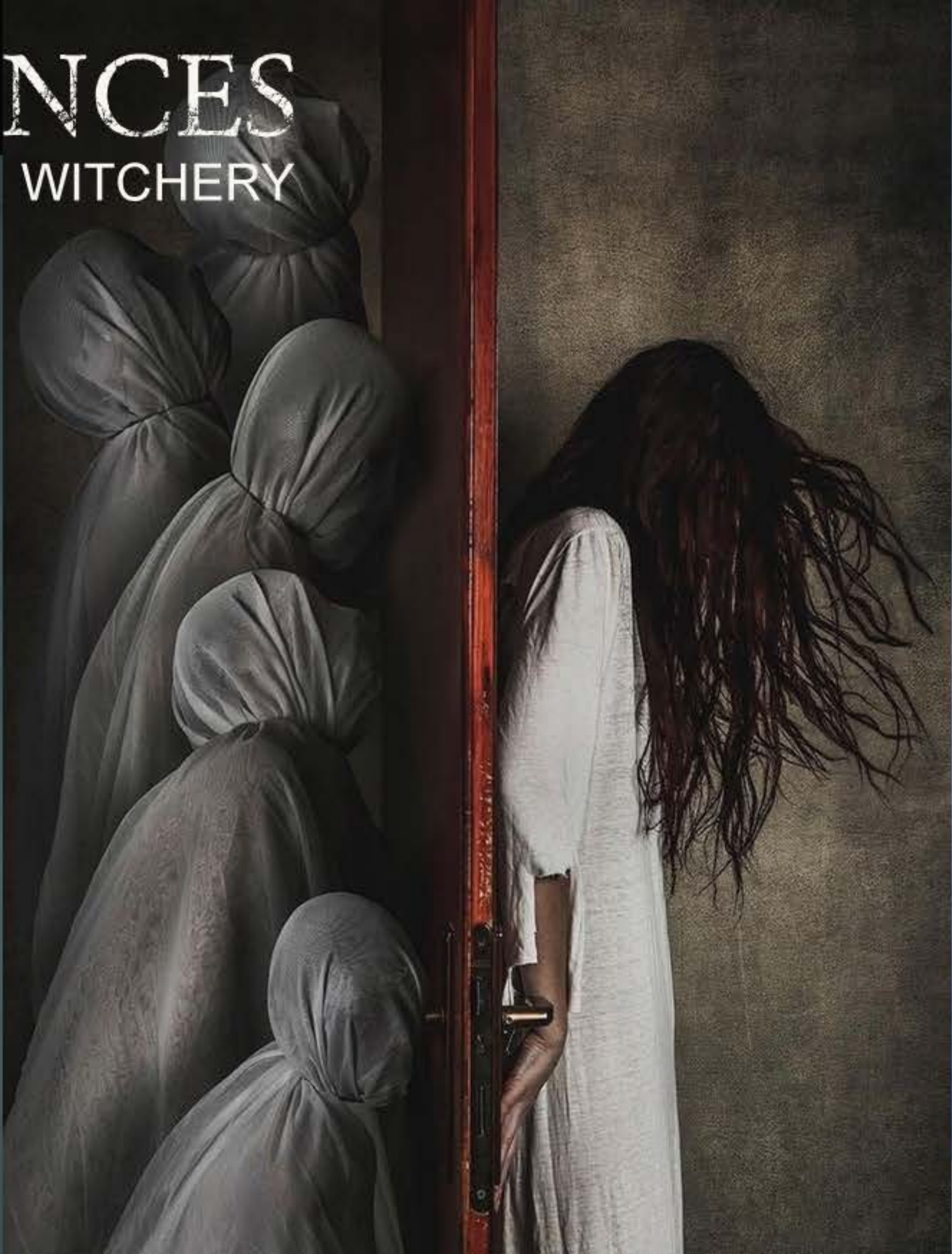
VISUAL REFERENCES

WITCHERY



VISUAL REFERENCES

WITCHERY





Originally from Seattle Washington, Scott Milam moved to Los Angeles in September 2006 after selling his first screenplay, **WICHITA**, to Dimension films. He went on to sign a two-picture deal with Rogue Pictures as well as write scripts for Paramount Pictures, Dark Horse Entertainment and Universal Studios.

Before moving to Los Angeles, Milam worked in film and video production. He was the editor and co-director/producer on the **SLAMDANCE 2004** film festival documentary winner, **BIG CITY DICK: RICHARD PETERSON'S FIRST MOVIE**. The doc told the story of a musical rain man and featured among others, Jeff Bridges and reclusive music legend Johnny Mathis.

Milam recently sold the horror feature **TENSION** to Rebel Way Pictures.

In his free time, he spends with his wife Michel and their dog Stella.



SCOTT MILAM
WRITER DIRECTOR

Let's cast a spell.

CONTACT:

TARA L. CRAIG

The Squid Farm

O: 310-564-6942

D: 323-253-7211

Tara@Squidfarmproductions.com

