




HER INNER DEMON
JUST CAME OUT TO PLAY.

BAD LUCK

A SCREENPLAY BY ROBBIE ROBERTSON



“This is a good old fashioned horror/psychological thriller and it is terrifying throughout. There are scary moments all along the way that will keep readers on the edge of their seats. The budget would be manageable and it could best be described as INSIDIOUS meets GOTHICA with visual elements in the vein of SHUTTER ISLAND. The visuals are very deliberate and mesh the real world with the supernatural, flowing in and out nicely. Due to the character driven, lower budget concept and feel it could potentially find success at a company like Blumhouse Productions.

The strong female protagonist character could surely garner attention from a talented/bigger actress due to the wide range of emotions Luck goes through over the course of the script.”

“There is good reason to be hopeful for this script's prospects. All the fundamentals – premise, characters, dialogue – are strong, the execution is good, and it wouldn't be prohibitively expensive to make. It may have a slightly outdated feel, but ultimately that's a good thing: a good story is more important than shocks and gore, and should never go out of style.”

**BLACK LIST
COVERAGE**

BAD LUCK

After recovering from years of mental illness, Luck Williams is finally released from an insane asylum to start a new life in a small, southern town. But soon after, Luck realizes that her inner demon has returned in the form of a supernatural manifestation that wants to destroy her for good.



“ARE YOU STILL HAVING VISIONS?”

It's a question that 33-year-old LUCK WILLIAMS is often asked as a 10-year resident of a state mental facility. And the person asking the question? Her long-time counselor, DR. LANIER RAY, 55, is a psychiatrist and scholarly author. A victim of childhood abuse, Luck is haunted by the vision of her tormentor – her twisted stepfather, BERN. Now deceased, Bern appears as a ghostly vision, with Luck insisting Bern is real. Dr. Ray is intrigued, mainly since Luck seems perfectly sane except for her haunting visions, and Luck can see that Dr. Ray is using her as research for his latest textbook.

In the mental asylum, Luck interacts with other patients, including PREACHER, a frail man who routinely talks of possession and his ability to cast out demons. Preacher is intrigued by Luck and tricks her into meeting him in an abandoned section of the hospital, where he forces her to endure electric shock therapy – a crazed attempt at a religious exorcism. As she falls victim to Preacher, Luck sees alternate visions of Preacher and Bern, unable to discern what is real. Dr. Ray and a visiting intern, CALEB, 30, eventually rescue Luck as a security guard kills Preacher, and the evil vision of Bern seems to disappear.

Soon after, Luck is shocked that her visions of Bern have vanished, and after a medical review, Dr. Ray reluctantly releases Luck. Luck then returns to the abandoned site of her childhood abuse in the coastal town of Southport, N.C., where she soon meets ANNIE CABOT, 50, her new-age neighbor. Luck also meets JONATHON GANT, 30, a graduate student working on his dissertation in social work. But now, back at the site of her childhood terror, Luck has memories of Bern again.

Jonathon tries to get closer to Luck, but she withdraws—so frightened that her visions have returned. Annie believes that Luck is possessed by the spirit of the past and attempts to help her. But as Bern's hauntings become more terrifyingly real, Luck pushes both Annie and Jonathon away just as she is revisited by another person from her past—Dr. Ray.

Dr. Ray is obsessed with Luck's current mental state, but she orders him out. Frightened and doubting her sanity, Luck turns to Jonathon. Jonathon is sympathetic to Luck's plight and tries to comprehend what she is enduring fully.

But Annie, on a random visit to Jonathon's house, soon discovers that Jonathon is hiding his real agenda: working with Dr. Ray to observe Luck for a breakthrough documentation on the correlation of mental illness and the supernatural. Annie confronts both men and plans to tell Luck the truth – but as she tries to escape from a furious Jonathon, Annie accidentally falls to her death. Dr. Ray is beside himself with regret, but an empowered Jonathon tells Dr. Ray they must proceed with their original plan.

As Jonathon attempts to move Annie's body, he is visited by an unsuspecting Luck. Just as Luck ultimately lets her guard down, she makes a startling discovery - that Jonathon was CALEB, the intern working with Dr. Ray the night Preacher attempted his exorcism. But before she has a chance to escape, Jonathon drugs Luck and frames her for Annie's death—the perfect reason to have Dr. Ray readmit Luck to the state mental facility where Jonathon and Dr. Ray plan to document Luck's hauntings.

Luck soon realizes Jonathon is the vessel for Bern's reemergence just as Jonathon and Dr. Ray return Luck to see her exorcism from Preacher—in the abandoned electric shock therapy room. Trying to prove their theory, they reattach Luck and shock her—but not for long. After Luck reveals she has stolen the writing pen that Dr. Lanier always carries with him, she frees herself from her bindings and stabs the doctor in the neck. Dr. Lanier quickly bleeds out as Luck turns her fury toward Jonathon. Fueled by revenge, Luck manages to attack Jonathon, but with the spirit of Bern very much alive in him, Luck is no match for him.

As Jonathon attacks Luck—and with only seconds of life left in her—Jonathan is brutally assaulted by Dr. Ray, who has survived his attack. But Luck needs no help from Dr. Ray and kicks him aside. She then attaches electrodes to the wounded Jonathon and turns up the power—forcing the spirit of Bern out and killing Jonathon. Luck walks out of the hospital—never a victim again.

One year later, Dr. Lanier is back in a doctor's office—but now he's asked the same question he once asked Luck: “Are you still having visions?”

A terrified Dr. Lanier is revealed to be on the other side of the psychiatric desk this time. He looks to the wall and sees a very familiar vision:

Bern, who is right at home with his newest victim.



LUCK WILLIAMS



A 33-year old patient of a mental institution who exhibits no signs of mental illness except for her claims of being personally haunted by the vision of her abusive stepfather, Bern - a horrific man who Luck had killed years ago in self-defense.

But once Luck experiences a self-styled exorcism by a deranged patient, she appears to have been purged of the spirit that haunted her -- until she returns to her home and the site of her abusive childhood to learn her inner demon may have returned.

DR. LANIER RAY



A psychiatrist and scholarly author, Dr. Lanier Ray, 55, is the asylum authority who oversees Luck's mental health care. Dr. Ray is intrigued by Luck's case, mainly because she exhibits no other mental health issues except of being haunted by her deceased stepfather.

Dr. Ray sees that Luck seems perfectly sane except for her haunting visions, and the ambitious doctor is using her as research for his latest textbook.

JONATHON GANT



A graduate student working on his social work dissertation in a small town, Jonathon seems like the good guy that Luck finally deserves. But as he gets closer to Luck, he learns of her claims of being haunted by the visions of her deceased stepfather.

But Jonathon is slowly revealed to have personal motivations related to Luck's case and more than a passing interest—and relationship with Dr. Ray.

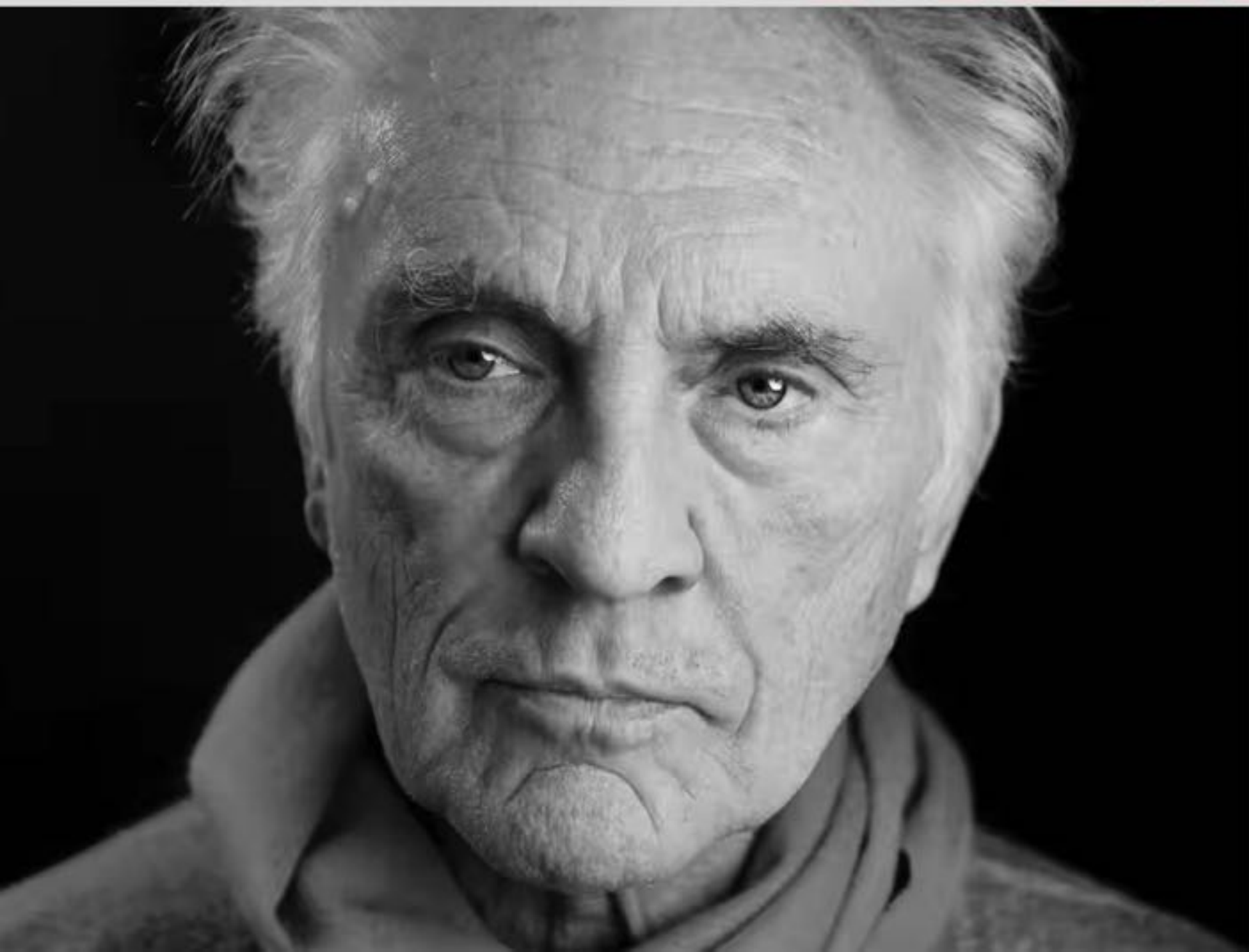
ANNIE CABOT



When Luck returns to her small town and the home of her childhood abuse, she learns that she has a new neighbor, a new-age retired actress named Annie Cabot (55).

Annie is the one bright spot in Luck's new life, and she not only believes Luck's claim of supernatural possession, she helps Luck learn to fight her inner demons. But when Annie becomes wise to the real men who are taking advantage of Luck, she comes to her new friend's defense... but possibly too late.

PREACHER



One of the long-term patients of the mental institution, Preacher (60s) is a frail man who routinely talks of possession and his ability to cast out demons.

Preacher is intrigued by Luck and tricks her into meeting him in an abandoned section of the hospital, where he forces her to endure electric shock therapy – a crazed attempt at a religious exorcism.

But Preacher might have helped Luck more than anyone can realize.

BERN WILLIAMS



The face and soul of evil... Bern Williams is the supernatural being that has haunted Luck both in life and beyond.

His deathly manifestation has only made him more insidious and he revels in tormenting the one person on earth who has been able to stop him.

Bern now seeks eternal revenge against his killer, but may soon learn that even evil spirits may have their limits.



Worldwide (all five films) \$730 Million



Worldwide (all five films) \$500 Million



Worldwide \$141 Million

PSYCHOLOGICAL HORROR COMPS

PRODUCTION NOTES

Minimal locations, minimal cast, STRONG FEMALE LEAD, potential for franchise with the Bern character.



MINIMAL LOCATIONS & CAST



STRONG FEMALE LEAD



FRANCHISE POTENTIAL

ROBBIE ROBERTSON

Robbie Robertson is a playwright, screenwriter, and graduate of UCLA's professional screenwriting program.

His first short film as writer/director, WHISTLER'S MOTHER (a dark fable based on the iconic painting), was produced in 2019 and enjoyed an active festival run. Robertson also wrote, directed, and produced his latest short film, COMMON AS RED HAIR, concerning the body autonomy rights of intersex children in 2023. The script was a finalist in the Austin Film Festival Screenwriting Competition, where it received a live read and the Page Turner Awards in the UK. After a successful crowdsourcing campaign, Robertson produced and directed COMMON AS RED HAIR and it went on to international acclaim with screenings and awards at the Big SYN International Festival in London, the Social Justice Film Festival in Seattle, the US Embassy in New Zealand, the Festival of the Moving Image in NYC, and the Colombia Embassy in Washington, DC.

Robbie's latest comedy, JUST IN TIME, is in active development with producer Alexandra Hoesdorff and Deal Productions.



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