



Sacrifice of the Sisters Lot

(Feature Film)

Have you ever tapped into the power to grant your wishes, only to find it came at a cost?

When **four sisters discover a malevolent force in the walls** of their family home, a struggle with self-interested adults ensues—and the consequences could be disastrous.

12-year-old Emery and her three sisters discover a powerful entity within the walls of the family house that grants them whatever they desire. The girls treat themselves to everything from fresh lipstick to revenge against a local predator until they discover **each time the wall grants them a favour, it also causes a terrible tragedy**. When their faith healer uncle forces them to use the wall on his behalf, the four sisters work together to sabotage his efforts but accidentally destroy the town, killing thousands.

After four young sisters' new kitten disappears during the summer of 1988, they discover a powerful entity lurking in the walls of the family house. By stroking the wallpaper and stimulating the entity, the girls are granted whatever they desire, from protection against perverts to new boyfriends.

Middle-child Emery is horrified when she learns each time the wall rewards them, **terrible misfortune befalls a member of the family**. This knowledge puts her at war with her rebellious, teenage sister Rebecca, who refuses to stop.

Emery and Rebecca's battle of wills is **interrupted by the arrival of Uncle Todd, a disgraced TV faith healer**, who, after conspiring to have the girl's parents locked away, forces the four sisters to draw power from the wall on his behalf to perform "real miracles."

Emery and Rebecca's attempt to save their parents by sabotaging Uncle Todd's massive tent revival triggers The Great Niagara Tragedy, a horrific calamity that kills thousands, and thirty years later is still blamed on the Sisters Lot.

An exploration of the powerful bonds of sisterhood,

***The Sacrifice of the Sisters Lot* is a riveting tale of love, betrayal, and sacrifice.**

This fantastical but all-too-real story of struggle and solidarity in the face of injustice and abuse is a gripping commentary on how we fail to listen to the most vulnerable among us.

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Principals

Emery

Emery’s commitment to doing the right thing is always undermined by her naivety. She focuses on protecting her family from the malevolent influences of the entity in the wall.

For a sense of Emery, watch this character trailer performed by Lillian R:



Character Specs: 12 years old, average height, undernourished, any ethnicity.

Quotes

“My sisters and I hide indoors, but when we venture out for supplies—always early morning, under the cover of dark for maximum anonymity—we sense it: hatred from the store clerks and hobos who cross our path. *Unbelievable. Thousands dead because those brats wanted a goddam cat.* Let it be known: the cat was my idea. That’s on me.”



Rebecca

Bossy and self-centered, Rebecca is fixated on the idea of physical beauty, believing that to be the key to successful womanhood. Despite her negative traits, she genuinely loves her family, and even when her decisions are misguided, they are made in the interest of helping her loved ones.

For a sense of Rebecca, watch this character trailer performed by Isabelle Bidal:



Specs: 16, slightly taller than Emery, thin, any ethnicity.

Quotes

“Who made you the big sheriff of the house, telling people what they can do? I’m the one who got you idiots home safe. If I listened to you and didn’t touch the wall, you’d still be stuck out there with Uncle Todd. Remember that.”

Please note: Casting for all trailers is non-committal and for illustration purposes only.

Uncle Todd

Uncle Todd has the personality of a salesman; always smiling, proclaiming everything the greatest, exuding toxic positivity. We never see a crack in this façade, but never for a moment trust anything he says or does.

For a sense of Uncle Todd, watch this character trailer performed by Nick Hunter:



Character Specs: Mid-thirties, squat, pudgy, any ethnicity.

Quotes

“I want to tell you ladies about my vision. Every night, I have the same dream. I see a tent. A lone bright tent in a field of black, like a ship on the ocean. People come from miles around out of the darkness and into the light, pouring inside. There had once been a Golden Age for healing. Preachers didn’t confine themselves to churches. They raised tents. They laid their hands on the sick, and the sick were cured. When the doctor or surgery could do nothing, and someone was told to go home and wait to die, people didn’t give up. They had a hunger for spiritual things. When they saw a miracle happen, you better believe word spread.”



Grandma

Focused, non-nonsense, yet loving grandmother. She allows her heart to harden, suggesting she was perhaps grooming the girls so that one day they could be exploited for her and Uncle Todd’s benefit.

For a sense of Grandma, watch this character trailer performed by Esther Brzezinski



Character Specs: Late fifties, early sixties, average height, weight, any ethnicity.

Quotes

“I’ll not allow my granddaughters to starve in filth because you’re too proud to let your own mother look after you. If disobeying your wishes and making you angry is what it takes to protect them, then tough titty. Imagine, a house where the cutlery is cleaner than the people.”

Please note: Casting for all trailers is non-committal and for illustration purposes only.

Key Scenes

ONE: THE SEARCH

REFERENCE PAGES: 10-28

PLAYERS: EMERY; REBECCA; THE TWINS; MOM; DAD; GRANDMA

MOTIVATIONS: The sisters want to find their missing kitten.

SYNOPSIS: Emery and her three sisters are gifted a new kitten from their Grandmother (much to the annoyance of their parents). When the kitten goes missing in the walls of the house, the distraught girls try desperately to lure her out. During their search, they awaken an eerie entity hidden within the walls of the house, which manifests itself with disturbing vibrations.

TWO: THE CONTEXT

REFERENCE PAGES: 47-62

PLAYERS: EMERY; REBECCA; MOM; THE PINCHER.

MOTIVATIONS: Rebecca wants to earn extra money for the family. Emery wants to keep hidden the abuse she is suffering in the acreage.

SYNOPSIS: While working as a picker in the local orchards, Emery is repeatedly harassed and physically abused by another worker, whom others are afraid to stand-up to due to his supernatural powers. Rebecca shows Emery how the entity in the wall can be harnessed to make things happen, and they use this power to put a curse on Emery's abuser, causing his slow, painful death.

THREE: THE BETRAYAL

REFERENCE PAGES: 144 - 160

PLAYERS : EMERY; REBECCA; THE TWINS; MOM; GRANDMA; UNCLE TODD

MOTIVATIONS: Uncle Todd and Grandma want to exploit the girl's powers for their own use.

SYNOPSIS: After the mysterious disappearance of the sister's father, Grandma betrays their mother by having her institutionalized. Left on her own to raise the girls, she is joined by their Uncle Todd, a low-rent faith healer interested in learning how to use their powers.

FOUR: THE CRISIS

REFERENCE PAGES: 249-262

PLAYERS: EMERY; THE TWINS; UNCLE TODD, GRANDMA

MOTIVATIONS: Emery wants to stop Uncle Todd from using the dangerous powers from the wall.

SYNOPSIS: Uncle Todd holds a massive tent revival, where he uses the sister's powers to perform healings on sick worshippers. Having learned that due to Uncle Todd's meddling, the entity in the wall is killing her mother, Emery stops the religious event by destroying Uncle Todd's source of power and causing the tent to collapse.

FIVE: THE TRIBULATION

REFERENCE PAGES: 262 - 276

PLAYERS: EMERY; REBECCA; THE TWINS; UNCLE TODD; GRANDMA

MOTIVATION: Emery and Rebecca want to save their younger sisters and themselves from the cataclysmic fire raging outside.

SYNOPSIS: As a result of Uncle Todd's actions, Mom creates an apocalyptic fire that devours the city. While Uncle Todd and Grandma hold the twins hostage, Rebecca and Emery escape into the wall, discovering an alternate dimension that seemingly goes on forever.

SIX: THE FINAL SACRIFICE

REFERENCE PAGES: 280 - 287

PLAYERS: EMERY; REBECCA; THE TWINS

MOTIVATION: The sisters want to be free of the entity in the wall and for normal life to resume.

SYNOPSIS: After Grandma and Uncle Todd are killed in the fire, the sisters unite to turn the power of the wall back on itself, destroying the entity. Although their actions stop the fire, their attack on the wall also kills thousands of people across the city.

Comps

Setting/Location

The Niagara Region (St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Niagara On The Lake)

Tonally Similar Films

Sabrina the Teenage Witch
Tideland
Beasts of the Southern Wild

Tonally Similar Paintings

Henry Fuseli's "The Nightmare"
Henry Fuseli's "Titania and Bottom"
Luis Ricardo Falero's "Witches Going to Their Sabbath"

Tonally Similar Literature

Charles Burns' graphic novel "Black Hole"



The Palimpsest Press Team

Chris Kuriata's

dark fantasy and horror fiction has appeared in publications in Canada, the US, the UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, and Japan. He spent fifteen years as a writer and editor of documentary series about true crime, ancient legends, and faith healing. Chris is prepared to creatively contribute to the development of a screenplay.

Aimée Dunn

is the owner/publisher for Palimpsest Press, a Canadian literary press based in Windsor, Ontario. The 20-year-old press is supported by Canadian Heritage, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Ontario Creates. The press publishes beautiful poetry and fresh, innovative fiction and non-fiction. Recent award wins for Palimpsest Press include the 2021 Governor General's Literary Awards for Poetry and Non-fiction (*The Junta of Happenstance*, Tolu Oloruntoba; *alfabet/alphabet*, Sadiqa de Meijer) and the 2022 Griffin Poetry Prize (*The Junta of Happenstance*, Tolu Oloruntoba).

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is an up-and-coming Canadian filmmaker whose practice connects theatre, poetry, film, art criticism, journalism, and the visual arts. In 2021, he published *the correct fury of your why is a mountain* (Gordon Hill Press, 2021); in 2022, he founded Astoria Pictures, an independent film production and distribution company; and in 2023, he released his directorial debut, *mo(u)vements*. (Astoria Pictures, 2023). In addition to active practices in the visual, literary, and performing arts, Kevin works as a producer representing titles from award-winning publishing houses towards stage and screen adaptations.

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