

IN YOUR SHADOW PROPOSAL

FORMAT: Short narrative film

LENGTH: 8-10 minutes

GENRE: Psychological thriller, Socially conscious horror

PROJECT WORKING TITLE: In Your Shadow

LOGLINE: A social backlash ensues when a photographer exhibits his latest provocative creation, sparking mocking visitations from the subject in his photo that force him to confront repressed feelings of desire.

SYNOPSIS: Avoiding grieving for his deceased fiancé, photographer Matthew Berg publicly displays his latest provocative creation. Public opinion rapidly escalates against him, twisting his intentions of exhibiting a photo of his late fiancé that he holds dear into something more sinister and perverted, triggering unsettling visitations from The Shadow, the subject from his photo. As Matthew's livelihood and sanity is stripped away from him, the visitations increase, The Shadow questioning the principles behind her creation, leading him to confront a repressed desire for his lost fiancé.

THEMES:

- Confronting grief and repressed desire
- Relationship between creator and creation
- How we view and judge the female form via the male gaze

CHARACTER PROFILES

MATTHEW BERG

Male, aged 38

A gifted and passionate photographer, Matthew is professional in his approach to his work and art. His fiancé Allison Sorel passing away recently has left him in a state of emotional numbness, in which he has devoted himself entirely to his work in an unconscious attempt to avoid confronting the desire he still harbours for her. When the social backlash rises and the Shadow's visitations increase, he begins to lose grasp of his sanity as the one thing that he has left to care about, his art, comes under attack and the means he has to earn a living from his photography is taken away from him.

THE SHADOW

Female, aged 35

Evoking the male gaze, the Shadow is the subject of Matthew's provocative photo, and the embodiment of his repressed desire. She initially takes a dangerously seductive, goading tone towards him, while questioning his ideals behind her creation, eventually becoming more sympathetic as Mathew begins to understand the nature of her visitations.

ALLISON SOREL

Female, aged 35

An adventurous soul, Allison was a successful model and actress before her untimely death. She was Matthew's fiancé and muse, who constantly pushed the boundaries of their creativity in photography to ever more experimental heights. Strong willed and impulsive, Allison constantly challenged Matthew on creative and intellectual topics, sometimes leading to a fiery clashing of beliefs that only strengthened their passion for one another. She can have a tendency to take things too far on occasion, such a fatal misjudgement leading to her death in an autoerotic asphyxiation accident.

AESTHETICS: The film will be presented in a 1.33:1 aspect ratio, reflecting the way Mathew views the world through his photography and confining him with his emotions. The cinematography will utilize extreme close ups of lips and mouth to create a sense of desire. Two shot medium and close ups of Matthew and the Shadow's interactions will create a sense of uncomfortable intimacy by visually linking the pair.

SOUND: The Shadows visitations will be accompanied by unsettling low end rumbles and sensual electronic drones to create a dark sense of hypnotic seduction. The score will resonate with intoxicating trip hop rhythms that will counteract the darkness of The Shadow's appearances with a woozy desire.