

# AND THE WIND FALLS

AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE PRESENTS A WHITE RABBIT PRODUCTION 'AND THE WIND FALLS'  
LEANA CHAVEZ, GABRIELA FLORES DEE BALDUS AND JEANETTE O'CONNOR  
CASTING BY JENNIFER RICCHIAZZI, CSA. MUSIC BY SHAWN SUTTA. COSTUME DESIGNER ADAM ROBL. EDITOR SUNGHWAN MOON  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER W. HALEY HO. DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SEONGBIN BAEK  
PRODUCED BY HYERIM M. PARK. WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY SHUMING HE

AFI ARRI

andthewindfalls.com



# AND THE WIND FALLS

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## LOGLINE

After finding a large sum of money belonging to a guest found dead, a motel housekeeper's sense of dignity is put to the test, jeopardizing any chance she has of reuniting with her daughter.

## SYNOPSIS - short

29 year-old Millie is a young, single mother working a mundane job as a housekeeper in a small town motel.

Her day consists of making the beds of others and cleaning up mess they leave behind. Millie soon discovers an opportunity to fix her own life when she decides to claim a bag of money belonging to a guest found dead. What choice will she make when faced with the inevitable consequences of her actions?

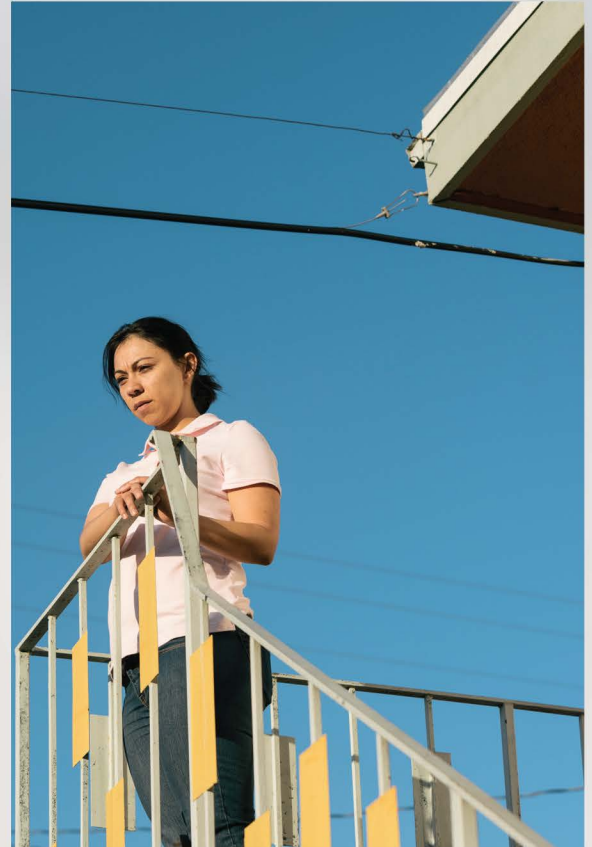
## SYNOPSIS - long

Millie is a young, single mother working as a housekeeper in a small town motel.

Her job consists of cleaning up the mess that others leave behind, invisible to the guests that come in and out of the motel. One day, she finds a bag containing a large sum of money belonging to a dead guest. Against her conscience, she takes the money and hides it in an unoccupied room.

This causes Millie to be late for a birthday lunch with her teenage daughter Jamie, leaving Alice, her estranged mother-in-law, unimpressed. When Millie's attempts to reconnect with Jamie doesn't work, she resorts to giving her daughter a handful of the stolen money as a mean to buy her affection, raising suspicions to her path of recovery.

Millie will have to decide the road she needs to take in order to have the life with her daughter back.



# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

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As a filmmaker, I find myself drawn towards the ideals of femininity, as well as the complexities of womanhood in my works. I owe my very being, of who I am today, to the family of women I grew up with.



My mother used to be a hairdresser; when she met my father, they got married and she became a stay-home housewife, taking care of three children. We were considered a lower middle class family, comfortable but learned to be careful with money, especially in a city that is obsessed with material progress. She would buy a lottery ticket every week – never huge bets – but when she wins a few hundred dollars, we would get to eat out at a restaurant. She was never on good terms with my father's mother who lived with us for a few years. They would get into loud quarrels and petty fights about everything. There were days when my mother would cry, as though it was all too much for her.

One night, after my mother dropped off the neighbor's kids, she took off.

No one was home except for me, my sisters and my grandmother. I was convinced she had decided to give up on us and very simply, chose to leave. I was angry, scared, and upset at her. Did we upset her? Was it grandma? Did she kill herself? How could she abandon us? I fell asleep on her bed, waiting for her to come home.

Going into this film, I wrote Millie based on a combination of people I've met, including my mother. Millie is a housekeeper whose job is to clean up rooms and the messes people leave behind, while at the same time she is doing plenty of housekeeping of her own. She has people she needs to answer to; the constant, tiring battles to show that she is a better mother and a better human being than she was before. But, ultimately, the most important person she needs to answer to, is herself.

When I woke up the next morning, my mother was laying next to me, getting ready for a new day. Maybe my mother was just taking a breather, but I never did find out where she went that night.

# LEANA CHAVEZ | Millie

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An Angeleno native, Leana is trained at the Gloria Gifford Conservatory for the Performing Arts.

She has since appeared in Oliver Stone's *Savages* and has guest starred on television series such as *The Mentalist* and *2 Broke Girls*.

Leana plays the titular role of Millie, a young single mother working as a motel housekeeper.

She desperately attempts to redeem herself in order to secure a future with her teenage daughter. When she finds a bag of money belonging to an unconscious guest that she presumed is dead, Millie makes the choice of stealing the money in hopes to impress the family she once had, but learns the only person she needs to answer to, is herself.



# SUPPORTING CAST

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## GABRIELA FLORES | Jamie

Originally from McAllen, Texas, Gabriela moved to Los Angeles with her mother to pursue her passion in acting. She has appeared in various local theater productions as well as television commercials.

Gabriela plays Millie's young teenage daughter, Jamie. Having just turned 14, Jamie is at an age where there are things more important than being with family. Having gone through a difficult childhood, she's much more mature than girls her own age. She remains wary and cynical of her mother's sobriety but longs to have the life she used to have, back.



## JEANETTE O'CONNOR | Alice



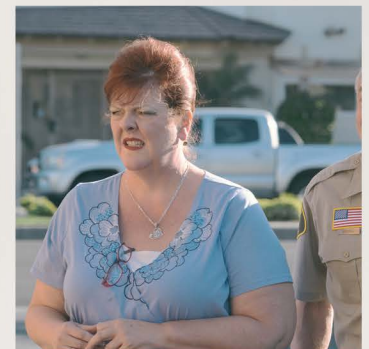
An accomplished television actress, Jeanette has appeared on a number of television series, such as *Criminal Minds*, *New Girl*, *Brothers & Sisters*, *CSI* and for films such as  *Elizabethtown* and *What I Did For Love*.

Jeanette plays Alice, Millie's estranged mother-in-law. She holds a grudge against Millie for having ruined her family and is the legal guardian of her granddaughter, Jamie whom she protects dearly. Alice doesn't believe that Millie is capable of motherhood, and is suspicious when she gifts Jamie a huge sum of money that would not have been possible with her job cleaning motel rooms.

## DEE BALDUS | Dorothy

Dee has guest starred in various popular television series such as *Parks and Recreation*, *Pretty Little Liars* and *Monks*. She has also appeared on local theater productions of *Oklahoma* and *Fiddler On The Roof*.

She plays Dorothy, the manager of a small town motel and a friend of Millie's. Dorothy appears to be a nosy character but provides the voice of reason to Millie; and possibly the only person in the film who trusts her enough to give her the responsibility she needs to move forward.



# PRINCIPAL TEAM

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## SHUMING HE | Screenwriter/Director



SHUMING HE has written and directed several short films that has traveled in the film festival circuit, as well as commissioned projects for television and new media through out Asia-Pacific. He graduated First Class with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honors) in Film from The Puttnam School of Film, LASALLE College of The Arts.

Originally from the tropical island city of Singapore, Shuming currently resides in Los Angeles, where he is a Directing Fellow at AFI Conservatory. He is a recipient of the Media Education Scheme (Film) Scholarship awarded by the Media Development Authority of Singapore. At the moment he is developing short and feature projects, commuting between California and Singapore.

## HYERIM M PARK | Producer



Born in Seoul, HYERIM M PARK immigrated with her family to San Francisco at a young age. She graduated from Dartmouth with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and a minor in Japanese Language.

Hyerim moved back to South Korea where she worked in content distribution for a telecommunication company before her love of cinema led her into the film industry, relocating to Los Angeles where she is a Producing Fellow at AFI Conservatory.

# PRINCIPAL TEAM

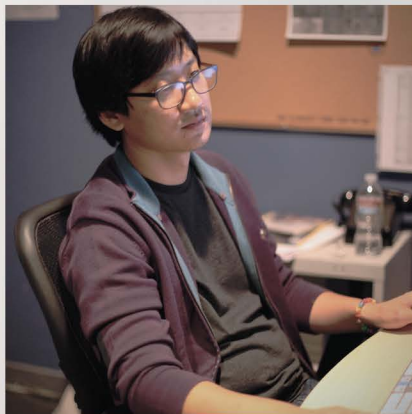
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## SEONGBIN BAEK | Cinematographer



Originally from South Korea, SEONGBIN BAEK studied cinematography at the Korean Academy of Film Art. Prior to AFI, he worked as a cinematographer and shot many award winning short films. He loves storytelling with a visual language for its power to excite the audience.

## SUNGHWAN MOON | Editor



After graduating from California College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film, SUNGHWAN MOON moved to South Korea where he worked as an editor for trailers, promos, and music videos.

He returned to Los Angeles to attend AFI Conservatory as an Editing Fellow. Editing to Sunghwan is about finding the pulse of the story and through that, he realizes that he understands the world a little better.

## HALEY HO | Production Designer



HALEY HO is a Production Designer working out of Los Angeles, California and New York, NY.

In 2012, Haley was nominated for a LA Stage Alliance Ovation Award for Scenic Design. Originally from Taipei, Taiwan, Haley has a MFA in Production Design from AFI Conservatory and a BFA in scenic design from Syracuse University.

# PHOTO STILLS

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Millie (Leana Chavez) is a 29 year-old single mother working a mundane job as a housekeeper in a small town motel.



# PHOTO STILLS

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Millie (Leana Chavez) soon discovers an opportunity to fix her own life when she decides to claim a bag of money belonging to a guest found dead.

# PHOTO STILLS

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Millie (Leana Chavez) runs late for a birthday lunch with her teenage daughter Jamie (Gabriela Flores), leaving Alice (Jeanette O'Connor), her estranged mother-in-law, unimpressed.



## PHOTO STILLS

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Millie (Leana Chavez) attempts to reconnect with her young teenage daughter, Jamie (Gabriela Flores), who had just turned 14 and is wary of her mother's sobriety.

## PHOTO STILLS

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Millie (Leana Chavez) resorts to giving her Jamie (Gabriela Flores) a handful of the stolen money as a means to buy her affection, raising suspicions to her path of recovery.

# PHOTO STILLS

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Millie (Leana Chavez) will have to decide the road she needs to take in order to have the life with her daughter back.

# BEHIND THE SCENES

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Principal photography took place May 5th - 13th 2014 in Pico Rivera and Vernon, Calif. Cloud Nine Motel, located in Pico Rivera became the motel that Millie works in. The gorgeous orange facade immediately took our attention during location scout.



# BEHIND THE SCENES

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The interiors of the motel were built by a dedicated team, led by our talented production designer Haley Ho, an AFI Conservatory alumnus.



# BEHIND THE SCENES

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We then proceed to shoot at Joe K's Diner in Vernon, Calif, for two days. This is the scene where Millie arrives late for her birthday lunch for Jamie.





# BEHIND THE SCENES

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Our second day at the diner proved to be an emotionally taxing scene for both the cast and crew as we moved out into the parking lot, filming a pivotal moment for the actors.



# BEHIND THE SCENES

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In all, we are thankful for our donors, the talented cast and crew, our vendors and advisors at AFI who helped make this film a reality!



# AND THE WIND FALLS

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LEANA CHAVEZ  
DEE BALDUS  
GABRIELA FLORES  
and JEANNETTE O'CONNOR

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Written & Directed By Shuming He  
Produced By Hyerim M Park  
Cinematography By Seongbin Baek  
Production Design By W. Haley Ho  
Edited By Sunghwan Moon

## CAST

MILLIE Leana Chavez  
MOTEL GUEST Lauryn Morse  
DOROTHY Dee Baldus  
ALICE Jeanette O'Connor  
JAMIE Gabriela Flores  
WAITRESS Brenda Weaver  
SHERIFF Hal Dion

## BACKGROUND CAST

GIRL IN CAR Maia Knibb  
DEAD MAN Craig C Chen  
RESTAURANT CUSTOMERS Carl Fritzsche  
Johnny Ochoa  
Maria Trujillo  
Melanie Mullen  
Daniel Halem  
Dontez R Sharpley  
Eva Flores  
WAITRESS #2 Rachel Langdon  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS Robert Denny  
Jackie Carter

Line Producer Koodae Kim  
Unit Production Manager Celina Hyojong Kim  
First Assistant Directors Lucille OuYang  
Yoonhee Ye  
Second Assistant Directors Erin Milani  
Samara Pals

Music by Shawn Sutta & Adam Robl

Casting by Jennifer Ricchiazzi, CSA

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Camera Operator	Seongbin Baek
First Assistant Cameras	Loie Russell-Templeton Kay Hung Jared Wennberg Kathryn Begle Ashton Oh
Second Assistant Cameras	Roland Lazarte Broderick Engelhard Jorge A. Gomez Jason Bernstein
Still Photographer	Alex Lombardi
Script Supervisors	Mark S. Thomas Lana Marks
Production Coordinators	Vicki Schairer Chloë Campello
Accountant	Marcos Davalos
Gaffer	Kee Kyung
Best Boy Electrics	Sarah E. Fox Rene Yescas Bora Kim
Key Grip	Stephen St.Peter
Best Boy Grip	Cory Warner
Swing	Charles Tae Stephen J Branagan Sashi Peterson Chad Mullenix Andrew Kahn
Location Manager	Valentina Clerici
Assistant Editors	John Carner Megan Chomskis
Trailer Editor	Stephanie Perez
Supervising Sound Editor	Ryan Wilson
Re-recording Mixer	Wade Chamberlain
Foley Artist/ADR Mixer	Mark McBryde
Production Sound Mixers	Fred Schultz, CAS Andy Rovins, CAS Brad Bryan
Boom Operators	Erin Paul Alex Steen Joanne Wu Richard Sasaki

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Colorist	Travis Flynn
DI Technologist	Mike Chiado
Color Assistant	John Tripp

Costume Designer	Saori Mitome
Costume Assistant	Tara Levinsky
Make-up	Emily Anderson
Hair Stylist	Ross Williams
Make-up Assistant	Brittany Dietrich

Art Director	Steven Keller
Set Decorator	Yong Ok Lee
Property Master	Aki Shibayama
Scenic Painters	Julie Zajac Kristin Showalter
Graphic Designer	Christina Haberkern
Lead Man	Brian Keepers
Art Assistants	Jonathan C Cornejo Yana Rusanova
Visual Effects	Tyler Tometich

Drivers	Michael Lutz Chris DiMarco Mike Hellerstein Walter Spohn Mario Di Pasquale Matthew Pelmeur
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Key PA	Nada Khoury
Production Assistants	Yoko Maegawa Jeannette Jimenez Josh Zurn Jared Breedlove Justin Hong Constance Abram Kevin Park Jackie DeLeon Hakyung Chung

Extras Casting	Vicki Schairer Jackson Badger
Craft/Catering	Impeccable Taste
Security	Reel Security

"Music Box"

Written by: Keith Johns

Performed by: Keith Johns

Courtesy of: Audiocastle

SPECIAL THANKS TO:  
Chevron HumanKind  
Singaporean Film Commission  
and

ARRI Inc	City of Vernon	Kino Flo Lighting Systems
Camadeus Film Technologies,	Clairmont Camera	Pet Line City Clinic
Castex Rentals	Cloud 9 Motel	Rivera Pharmacy (Pico Rivera)
Century 21 Allstars (Pico Riveria)	Company 3	Vernon Police Department
Chace Audio by Deluxe	Fashion HQ Los Angeles	Warner Bros. Property Department
Cinelease, Inc	Joe K's Deli	Western Costume Company
City of Pico Rivera		Wizard

THE FILMMAKERS WISH TO THANK:

**Executive Producers**

Carl Fritzsche	Roger Gan	Yan Wong
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**Associate Producers**

Jaemoon Baek	Soo Hoon Ho	Young B. Park
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**Patrons**

Panuksmi Hardjowirogo	Shu Fen Ho	John Hughes
Shujia He		Jackson Lim

**Supporters**

Ting Kuang Cheng	Matt Ho	Edward Lim
Janice Chua	Meng Chom Lam	Tirene Soh
Events Architects Pte. Ltd.	Alice Lim	Jeremy Tan

**Friends**

Junfeng Boo	Shi Ying Foo	Diana Lee	Sang Jun Park
Boon Chan	Betty Gan	David Lee	Yohan Peck
John Chang	Shuwei He	Diana Lee	Zheng Yang Poh
Anthony Chen	Thomas Hoe	Jason Leong	Alan Seah
Luke Chen	Cindy Huynh	Stanley Leong	Xuan Yu Seah
Yixian Chen	Amy Ji	Ash Lim	Phillip Sohn
Siew Fong Chian	Jiamei Lin	Bee Hoon Lim	Mark Usui
Ji Yeon Choe	Brian Joo	Stacey Maltin	Ming Wong
Lee Clarence	Joseph Kang	Thomas McCloskey	Samuel Woo
Marisa Colas	Willie Koh	Christopher Ng	Gary Yeo
Michael Collier	Josclynn Kua	Anh-Thu Nguyen	Wei-ning Yu
Sabrina Doyle	Sok Mun Lam	Genevieve Ong	Noemi Zeigler
Kalya Emter	David Lee	Kibum Park	Quan Zhou



Edited on Avid Symphony

HD equipment courtesy of Sony Corporation of America.

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Produced at the AFI Conservatory in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree or Certificate of Completion.

Seongbin Baek, AFI Cinematography Fellow  
Shuming He, AFI Directing Fellow  
Sunghwan Moon, AFI Editing Fellow  
Hyerim M Park, AFI Producing Fellow

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2014  
19:40  
Color  
5.1 Surround  
In English and Spanish  
With English Subtitles  
2:40:1 Aspect Ratio

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