

TITLE: Metamorphosis
Language/subtitles: Cantonese/ English Sub
Director: Elaine Xia
Country: U.S.

Technical Info:

Color
Running Time: 15 min
Camera: Red Dragon
Aspect Ratio: 16:9
Negative Format: Digital
Printed Film Format: DCP

Film Synopsis: May Wong suffers in her life because of family violence: not only physical violence from her husband, Wing, but also from mental violence - because she knows that her husband has been cheating on her for a long while. She is resigned to thinking that her life will go on like this until she eventually dies a peaceful death.

However, the story starts to change when her husband dies in an accident involving their daughter. To protect her daughter, May decides to cover it up. What she chooses is making the dead body into dishes and serves them to her customers. No one realizes the meat is human. She convinces herself that her life will back to normal again, but Wing's pretty young lover, Phoebe, comes directly to her.

The first killing was an accident, but the second one isn't.

May doesn't hate her husband because she believes it was Phoebe who took her husband from her. May kills Phoebe and burns her place for revenge. Her personality changes when she leaves her daughter alone with the dead body in the fridge and goes to kill Phoebe alone because when she cut her husband into pieces is for protecting her daughter, but the second time is only for revenge. May ultimately turns evil because she is no longer protecting her or her daughter's life.

By the last scene, May pretends nothing happened and cooks for her daughter. She thinks she has changed her life and she is going to become another person, but in the end she is still lying to herself and her daughter that everything is going to be better.

Director Statement: I want to tell a story about karma. The main character, May Wong is a woman who does not know how to deal with her current life. Facing all the stress and the naked evidence of her husband's cheating, she makes her first decision, suicide. However, everything changes when her daughter accidentally kills her husband. In her world, she has nothing but her daughter so she decides to cover her daughter up.

She chooses a unique but cruel way to dispense of the evidence. This is not only for covering her daughter up, but also release the stress from her life. This is the second decision she makes. Comparing with the first one, the second one shows that May is changing from a weak one into a powerful and strong one.

The third decision she makes is to leave her daughter at home and kills the lover, Phoebe. If we see the second decision as something she does for her daughter, the third one is the one that she does only for herself. She dresses herself in Phoebe's dress and thinks that she is going to be someone better.

However, at the end of the story, she is doing the same thing in the beginning but her entire look has already changed. And we can tell, the situation of her family is even worse because she also lost her daughter. Her daughter goes dementia after staying home alone. We can see this as the retribution for May Wong. Comparing with death, May's retribution is absolutely worse.

Filmmaker Bio:

Elaine Xia (Director)

Award winning director, Elaine Xia, was born in Hong Kong but raised in Mainland China. She is influenced by the two vastly different cultures and has always dreamed of traveling in time back to the 90's Hong Kong. With a big success in United States from her first independent short, Metamorphosis, She has achieved that dream.

After graduating from high school, Elaine entered New York Film Academy in Los Angeles in 2010 to study filmmaking. After graduation, she started working as an independent editor. Ending up working as an editor for several years, she decided to combine her interests in a new way. Inspired by the rethink of human foibles, Elaine has dedicated herself to creating horror and dramatic movies that showcase the darker side of humanity, finding the beauty within the process.

Brendan Davis (Co- Producer)

Brendan Davis was born in Georgia and has lived the last thirteen years in Los Angeles, California. Work and other travels have taken him through a majority of the United States as well as Canada, Western and Southern Europe, North Africa, China, and New Zealand.

Since 1992 Davis has earned technical or creative credits on 50+ movies and TV series. In 2013, Davis co-founded Kilin International, a production company and consultancy focused on developing co- productions in the U.S., China, and New Zealand. Davis is also a partner in Spooky Tree Pictures, Ltd. based in Auckland, New Zealand. He was previously COO of digital marketing firm Luthier Society, Inc. and founder of production company Tangible Entertainment. Davis has a BA in Film from Georgia State University.

In July 2013, Davis and Kilin were hired to produce 13 Los Angeles-based episodes of popular Chinese celebrity interview show “The Best” for CCTV-6 in Beijing. The episodes were completed in November 2013 and aired in China during the 2014 Chinese New Year, featuring comic-book legend Stan Lee, directors Justin Lin and M. Night Shyamalan, and actor Sean Astin. Davis produced the project and served as executive producer for Kilin.

Film (HD) Download Link

<https://vimeo.com/136601605>

Film Clip

<https://vimeo.com/155209819>

<https://vimeo.com/155209843>

password for all: 8186798715

Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/136906640>

Award and Festivals:

- 39th Asian American International Film Festival (Jul 2016) New York City, U S A
- Asian Film Festival of Dallas (Jul 2016) Dallas, U S A
- First International Film Festival Xining (Jul 2016) Xining, China
- Crypticon Film Festival (May 2016) Seattle, U S A
- Sacramento Asian Pacific Film Festival (May 2016) Sacramento, U S A
- 32th The Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival (Apr 2016) Los Angeles, U S A
- Asians on Film Festival (Mar 2016) Los Angeles, U S A
Best Actress
- International Filmmakers Festival of World Cinema London (Feb 2016) London, United Kingdom
Best Director in a Foreign Language Short Film
- Housecore Horror Film Festival (Nov 2015) San Antonio, U S A

- Studio City International Film Festival (Nov 2015) Studio City, U S A
Best Horror Short
- Minneapolis Underground Film Festival (Oct 2015) Minneapolis, U S A
- Orlando Film Festival (Oct 2015) Orlando, U S A
- Asians on Film Festival Spring Quarter (Sep 2015) Los Angeles, U S A
Best Actress
- Hot Springs International Horror Film Festival (Sep 2015) Hot Springs National
Park, U S A
- Little Rock Picture Show (Sep 2015) Little Rock, U S A