



RELATIONSHIP KILLERS

Dear Media friend,

We're thrilled to announce the World Premiere of **Noah A Waters III**'s short ***Relationship Killers*** at the Chinese Theatre in Hollywood on **February 26th at 9:30pm**.

We'd like to invite you to the screening and/or to review the film via link.

The director and lead actress/producer **Assia Lau'ren** are available for interviews.

Thank you for helping us spread out the word about this tense and enthralling short film.

Kindest Regards,

Kai @ ChicArt PR

PRIVATE LINK (FOR REVIEW PURPOSES ONLY): [\[Click Here\]](#)

Password: [Ask us the password and we will gladly send it to you].

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LGBTQ+ Neo-Noir Comedy "Relationship Killers" Brings Awareness To Mental

Health Issues Within The Dynamic Of Non-Hetero Normative Romance.

(Los Angeles, CA) - February 14, 2021. The Golden State Film Festival is hosting the World Premiere of ***Relationship Killers***, a tense and eccentric LGBTQ+ social short by up-and-coming Writer-Director, Stand Up Comedian, and Mental Illness Advocate **Noah A Waters III**, which stars **Assia Lau'ren** (actor-producer) and **Lexsy McKowen** (actor-Martial artist).

Relationship Killers exposes the complications of the struggle with romantic relationships and mental health in marriage. The 11-min black comedy takes a look at what happens when two deeply damaged newlyweds go to their first session of marriage counseling. The film intensifies tenfold when the therapy session gets extremely uncomfortable as the characters begin to divulge the last portions of their partly hidden dark souls to one another while trying to maintain a level of agape style love.

All married couples have secrets, but none like theirs.

TEASER TRAILER:

On Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/670573025>

On YouTube: <https://youtu.be/p9zvksINUSE>

On Instagram: [tinyurl.com/yrxzhepa](https://www.instagram.com/yrxzhepa)

SCREENING INFORMATION:

Feb. 26 @ 9:30pm

Golden State Film Festival

TCL Chinese Theatre

6925 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood, CA 90028

TICKETS: BLOCK N

In the presence of Noah A Waters III (Director, Writer & Producer), Assia Lau'ren (Actor & Producer), Carley Steichen (Director of Photography), E. Talley II (Actor), and Corena Gibson (Hair, Makeup, Wardrobe).

"In my work, I choose to use the phrase 'mental illness' instead of 'mental health' not because I want to increase the darkness around the subject matter but because I want to assist in erasing the stigma around mental disorders. I feel as though the phrase or term mental health is more of a light-hearted self-care term compared to mental illness which is what I consider my own personal struggle."
says director Noah A Waters III.

"As a storyteller, psychology is one of the most interesting parts of character development. In Relationship Killers, I was focused on my characters' cognitive dissonance and mental illness issues, rather than their singular identities and demographics. I wanted to explore what it's like when you have two protagonists who love each other with a love that's so severe and passionate that it's the only thing that is more severe than the mental illness issues going on inside of them." he adds.

Starring **Lexsy McKowen** (Bedegraine Blythe), **Assia Lau'ren** (Bravien Blythe), **Jerry G. Angelo** (Doctor Dee), **E. Talley II** (Too Tomlinson), **Janet Lopez** (Crying Woman), and **Kadrolsha Ona Carole** (Mrs. Dee), the film is written and directed by Noah A Waters III . Cinematography by **Carley Steichen**.

Edited by **Krystal Alexandria**. Music by **Adele Etheridge Woodson**. Color by **Jenny Montgomery** of Company 3.

For more information about Relationship Killers, please follow the links below:

Facebook: [@RelationshipKillersFilm](#)

Instagram: [@RelationshipKillersFilm](#)

Twitter: [@NoahAWatersIII](#) (Director)

Hashtag: **#RelationshipKillersFilm**

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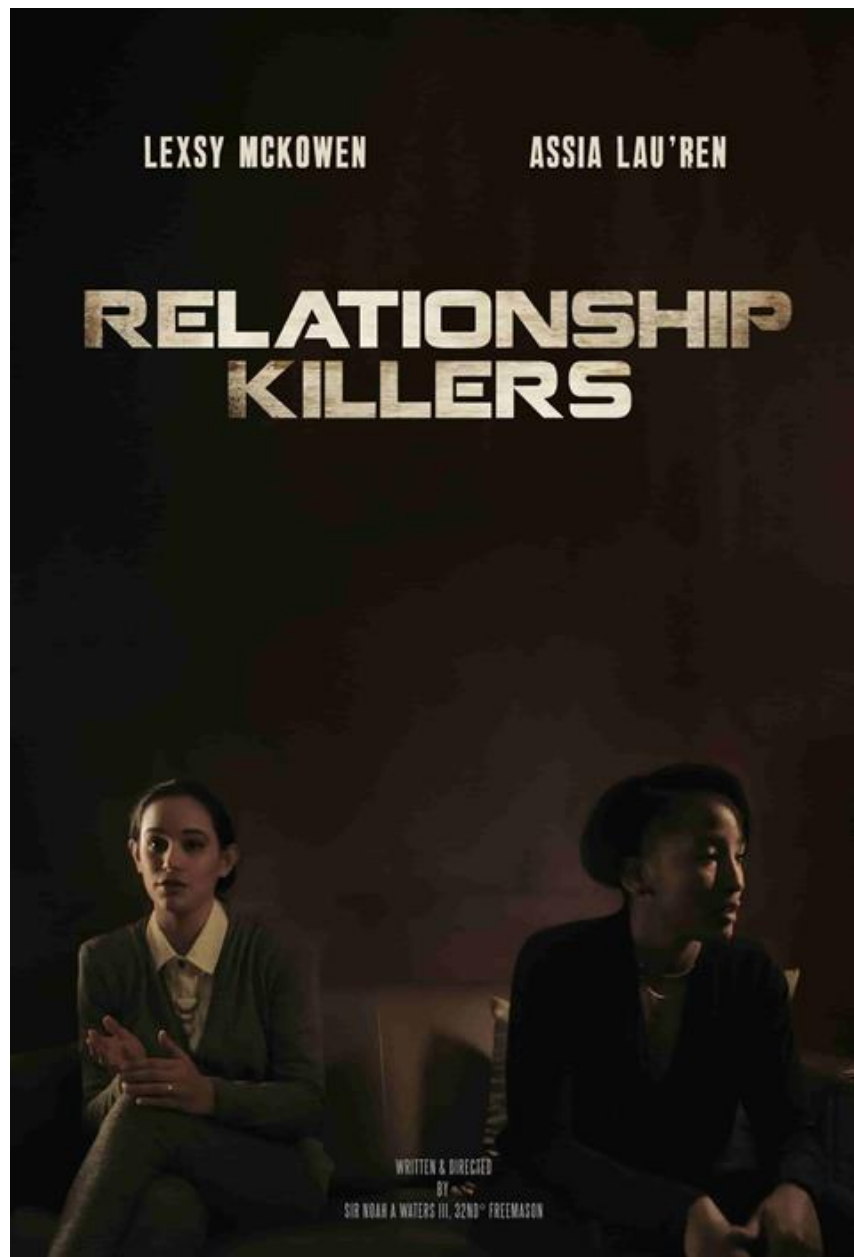
The creative team of Relationship Killers is presently available for interviews and appearances in person in Los Angeles or virtually via zoom, telephone and email.

Source: Flawless Arts

Direct press contact: Kai @ ChicArt PR
chicartPRusa@gmail.com

Cell.: +1-929-208-8061





Relationship Killers

Neo-Noir, 11:13

Directed by **Noah A Waters III**

Written by **Noah A Waters III**

LOG LINE:

All married couples have secrets... but not like theirs.

SYNOPSIS:

When a same-sex newlywed couple with a dark secret goes to their first session of couples counseling, they find that trying to keep their secret a secret is difficult, which puts the therapist's life in mortal danger.



Noah A Waters III, Director, Writer, Line Producer

Photos, courtesy of Flawless Arts.



[IMDb](#)

[Twitter](#)

THE CREATORS

Noah A Waters III

(Writer, Director, Line Producer)

Noah A Waters III is an award-winning filmmaker originally from North East Florida who can honestly say he has been all around the world. He served in the US ARMY as well as a mercenary for multiple different private military outfits. Noah is a thirty-second-degree Master Freemason, a knighted member of the Knights Templar, and a knighted member of both York and Scottish Rites. He is a member of Veterans in Media & Entertainment, the Hollywood American Legion, and Film Independent. Noah Studied Writing and Directing for screen and Stage in college. Besides stand-up, writing, and directing, Noah is a line producer and combat consultant for film and Television

as well as a Mental Illness Advocate and founder of #MIAMIA a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the mental illness disease in our world.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

Filmmakers are constantly making short films as a "PROOF OF CONCEPT" for a feature or tv show idea they have. For me "Relationship Killers" is more of a proof of character.

In our film, I introduce two characters that exist in a Multi-Metaverse called, "LETHAL LADIES" (more to come on that later). I wanted to introduce these two without having to explain "THE WORLD" or what the rules of "The Multi-MetaVerse" are. I wanted them grounded in allegorical backstory, and what better way to introduce them to the world IRL than by creating a little origin story of sorts that just barely dips our toes into the power behind these fierce, flawed, and formidable characters.

Also, Mental Health and Mental Illness work their way into most of my work, and for Relationship Killers, what's a better way to dive deep into the psyche of two guarded lovers than by making them share in their first session of marriage counseling?

All in all, I want you to forget everything above and enjoy our film. I say forget everything because, in the short, nothing is as it seems, apart from the one thing I don't want you to see, which is everything... to whom these lovely lethal ladies are.



Assia Lau'ren, Actor, Producer

Role: Braivien Blythe

Photo credit:

© Jamaal Murray

IMDb

Assia Lau'ren (Actor, Producer)

Role: Braivien Blythe

Assia Lau'ren is an actor and producer originally from Fredericksburg, Virginia. She graduated from Howard University and was immediately commissioned into the US Army. After 6 years of active duty service, she got out and moved to Los Angeles in February 2020 to start her acting career. Since then, she's acted in 2 short films, 1 feature, and 1 series pilot.

BTS of Relationship Killers.

Courtesy of Flawless Arts.



Q&A with Noah A Waters III

What inspires you as a filmmaker?

I'm a strong advocate of mental health as I have had my own share of challenges dealing with mental illness myself. One of the ways I have to cope with my condition is to be of service to up and coming storytellers. Anytime I can do for others what I wished someone did for me when I was getting started, it makes me feel even more excited about the future of cinema and the discovery of voices we haven't heard from yet. Cinema definitely is an outlet of empowerment for me.

Where did the idea of your film come from?

I have been working on a cinematic metaverse called LETHAL LADIES for quite some time. Our two leads in *Relationship Killers* are two characters that exist in that universe, and I was working on their backstory which resulted in this short origin tale for them. So, it is somewhat a proof of concept, but not a proof of what the concept could be, a proof of what the characters can be. This is me introducing them to the world to Bede and Bravien using my style of storytelling.

Why is telling this story so important to you, and why are you the best person to tell it?

My human experience has left me with an incredibly empathetic approach to working with social issues, mental illness advocacy, and darker more sensitive material. I'm a straight white male and we have seen a great deal of cinema explore that "struggle". Therefore, out of a desire to tell a more unique and intriguing fiction I wanted to set a lens in the truth of cognitive dissonance and sanity struggles from an organically more diverse and inclusive subset of our culture. All of this while maintaining narrative rooted in and driven by character. I care so much more about who someone is from within than what they appear to be from the outside, and I think that sets this truncated motion picture apart from others.

What was the most challenging or unusual part about making this film?

We lost a significant portion of the production budget funding, 100% of the camera package, and 3 of our craft services meals the week of production. So literally days prior to principal photography I had to do a mad scramble and call in almost every favor I had saved up over a career as a line producer to piece together a production. Mind you this was after a year of

Covid delays. But, because I am so extremely neurotic about prep we were able to get it in the can with only losing about 20% of my original vision and we all still had a good time making our film. Ask my cast and crew.

Tell us about your creative process? What is unique or unusual about it?

I approach the story from the character's perspective. In my own movies, my characters dictate the plot. I don't outline. I don't do beat sheets. I never know something that my characters do not. Because I find myself having the character's choices serve the plot and not the characters' motivations. For that reason, I disregard working with a "formula", or a "High-Concept" type of storytelling. Rather, I love leaving a character driven story engine its own organic mystery for myself, the characters, and most importantly... the audience.

Talk to us about the theme of your film and how you would like the audience to receive and/or interpret its message?

Just because someone or something is different from the status quo, it doesn't make them necessarily wrong. We all communicate in different ways. Some of us have incredibly specific love languages that we don't have the cognitive ability to consciously articulate yet expect for others to be able to recognize and properly navigate. This can often land you in a situation where we create problems within the relationship because it can be easier than dealing with our own issues, and some of the relationships as a whole can get better. Betty and Braven have a love for one another that is so strong they are able to tear down the narcissistic walls and kill their egos enabling themselves to work on themselves and cognitive-behavioral relationship theory and prosper.

Tell us about your cast. What is special about your actors and why did you cast them?

I'm immensely demanding of my actors however I make sure that we have an incredibly enjoyable time working together even if it's challenging at times. I give a fair share of homework assignments to my actors and invite them to have a primal reason behind every single acting choice that is heavily rooted in their characters' backstory. That way once we are on set, actors are confident in their choices. They make choices and it's my job to make sure those choices are justified in unison with my vision and the character's most honest desires.

Not every actor is ready to put in that level of work and commitment. I prep to the extreme and then prepare to adjust fire as we so often must in filmmaking all while leaving room for inspiration on set. Not only do I need the cast to have a familial level of trust in me on set, but I encourage them to keep the spirits high on set. I love filmmaking to the point of making lots of sacrifices, but it is ever so important to me that it would prevent anyone from remaining safe and sane, as well as constantly enjoying the experience regardless of the extreme situations that may arise. If you are going to be #1 or #2 on my call sheet I am going to expect that you nurture the standard for professionalism and politeness so as to inspire everyone else on set.

With Assia, I am always looking to partner and work with fellow Military veterans, and she submitted a self-tape that blew me away. Assia was the 129th submission that was sent to me. In the sides audition packet, the audition ended with a jump. Assia was one of the only actors who actually did the jump and her audition was out of this world. It was then I found out she was also a veteran, and the rest is rock and roll history.

Assia was incredibly inquisitive about the filmmaking process and wanted to explore producing with the intent of creating her own work and making her own opportunities which is a mission-minded mindset I am intimately familiar with. So she came on as a producer in post-production and has been instrumental in the success of Relationship Killers as well as my next few projects that we are now producing together, including "Wendi".

Noah, you have a long list of credits under your belt. Tell us about your transition into directing and how your career as a veteran/line producer affected your directing choices.

I've done every position on set. I got so good at line producing out of necessity because no one would do it for me and then others would ask me to do their productions. The problem is almost everyone knows me as either a comedian or a line producer and I want to be known as a Writer/Director who also line-produces and does stand-up.

I don't think line producing has affected my voice as a director, however it has helped me to learn how to execute my voice and how to get what I want from my cast and crew with the specificity of vision in a collaborative familial environment.

Apart from my purpose-driven life and memory collection

included pursuing Freemasonry which eventually led to multiple Knight Hoods including the Knights Templar, Scottish Rite, and York Rite. I also served in the US ARMY and as a Mercenary for multiple private outfits which gave me a combination of experience and select or unique ownership of clandestine allegory which really rounded out my memory pallet.

Relationship Killers

Lexsy McKowen (left) as Bedegraine Blythe

Assia Lau'ren (right) as Bravien Blythe

© Flawless Arts



Relationship Killers

Lexsy McKowen (left) as Bedegraine Blythe

Assia Lau'ren (middle) as Bravien Blythe

Jerry G. Angelo (right) as Doctor Dee

© Flawless Arts



Relationship Killers

Assia Lau'ren (left) as Bravien Blythe

Lexsy McKowen (middle) as Bedegraine Blythe

E. Talley II (right) as Too Tomlison

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