

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

PSYCHO
Baby

A Film by
Charlotte Kennett

LOGLINE:

When Andra, a diagnosed psychopath, receives a love letter from Sadie, an undiagnosed love addict, her natural state is shaken as she confronts the dull prospect of romance.

BREAKDOWN:

Genre: Dark Comedy

Sub Genres: LGBTQ, Rom-Com

Run-time: 23 minutes

SYNOPSIS

We meet Andra Klint laying in bed. She has rushing thoughts about her life and identity, all provoked by a single unexpected love letter she received earlier that day. We hear her thoughts over a montage of her daily life: about her psychopath diagnosis as a teen, about the stigma around the word and its meaning, about all of her experiences growing up with it. Andra tells us she's not the Dahmer type of psychopath, she's not an animal abuser or killer. She's non-violent, and for the most part, she's pretty average despite her inflated sense of self. Andra would argue that having blunted emotions is better than being a neurotypical, emotionally motivated person. It grants her unique control over most things in her life, and saves her from unnecessary suffering. That's precisely the problem with this love letter she received. Not only is Andra clueless about love, but she doesn't think she's capable of it. And the love letter isn't from just anybody... it's from her best—well, only—friend Sadie Smith.

Sadie is the manic pixie dream girl of everyone's dreams. Andra attempts to call Sadie and let her down gently over the phone, but somehow Sadie forces her way over to Andra's place. Andra then tries to shut down her romantic advances in person, warning her that she doesn't feel romantic desire in the same way and that Sadie will get hurt. But Sadie is not the kind of woman who takes no for an answer. She insists that she understands Andra, in fact she knew she was a psychopath all along – and that they'll make it work. Sadie is determined to make Andra feel. Sadie says all the right things making it so Andra can't help it. There's only one answer, and the answer is yes. A single kiss seals the deal, they're doing this.

In true U-Haul lesbian fashion, Sadie and Andra are in a full-blown relationship the next day. Andra guides us through their relationship with hilarious voiceover of all the things she doesn't understand about romance and dating. In the beginning, she has a hard time connecting with Sadie and being present when they're together. Andra begins to lie about little things and her emotions in order to keep in step with Sadie. When Sadie says "I love you," for the first time, Andra parrots it back to her because she can tell Sadie needs to hear it. Although Andra's experience of love feels more like loyalty and duty, she desperately wants to feel what Sadie's feeling. This insecurity translates into Andra presenting an in- authentic version of herself. A mask is created.

As time goes on in their relationship, Andra develops a deepening care for Sadie. She does her best to give Sadie what she wants in a partner, but decides she won't lie to Sadie anymore. She wants to take off this mask. When Sadie professes deep love again, Andra responds by expressing her feelings of affection more truly: "I enjoy the time we spend together." But when Sadie says she loves Andra a second time, with desperation in her voice, Andra doesn't return the sentiment. Sadie feels alone in the relationship. It seems that as Andra grows more secure, Sadie grows insecure.

Just when Andra thinks the relationship is headed toward success, Sadie ends things. Although Andra was initially overwhelmed by the idea of a romantic relationship, she's grown devoted to Sadie and doesn't want to let her go. They've built something real! She pleads with Sadie and questions her decision to leave. Sadie blames Andra for not "giving enough". Andra doesn't understand, they'd gone over this, Sadie knew Andra's love would look different. The questions fall on deaf ears: Sadie has gone cold. Once bursting at the seams with colorful emotions, Sadie is now a post-lobotomy gray. Sadie declares that it's over and that this has all been "too much".

Andra stands alone on the porch. The voiceover of Andra inner monologue pleads with herself, "I'm not going to cry, I'm not going to fucking cry." The screen cuts to black and the sound of Andra crying breaks through. As the credits roll, the sound of her sobbing continues. The audience is left to consider how Andra has evolved through this experience, if Sadie truly ever loved Andra for who she is, the definition of love itself, and who is the real psychopath here?

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Charlotte Kennett

This project has meant and continues to mean so much to me. Initially I wrote *Psycho Baby* as a way to process complex emotions after yet another failed queer relationship. But as I was writing the first draft, I realized I wasn't writing about my ex at all, but rather examining and excavating myself. I was able to explore my own queer identity, voice, mind, and past by putting pieces of myself into both Sadie and Andra. The pieces other people don't so easily accept.

Even though Andra has this blade-like awareness it doesn't save or protect her from a lover who lacks that same awareness. And even though Sadie has this manic-pixie "cup runneth over" energy that could make anyone smile, she also overpromises and lovebombs people to her own demise. I have been both Sadie and Andra in romantic dynamics. The love addict and the love avoidant. These two queer characters stand on opposite ends of the spectrum and their natural states are in constant opposition. Exploring the gap between these two characters was the most interesting and best thing I could do for myself.

This project allowed me to make peace with narratives I had been carrying around that weren't serving me anymore and I was able to explore greater themes of being neurodivergent, queer, and dating today.

Additionally, I felt a deep sense of obligation to create a film about a psychopath that wasn't a slasher and portrayed ASPD (anti-social personality disorder) individuals in an honest light. Almost every film or tv series about a "psychopath" that comes out of Hollywood supports this one-dimensional, violent character with ill-will toward other human beings trope. We've seen it time and time again, yet only 1% of diagnosed psychopaths are violent. I wanted to reclaim the "Psychopath" character in making *Psycho Baby*. This film is a love letter to anyone who feels they show up differently in romantic entanglements -- and for my friends (you know who you are).

Psycho Baby is my attempt to create representation in this small sliver of space for queer neuro-divergents and those within the ASPD community. I also wanted to examine the nuances of an imperfect romantic relationship, arguably a relationship that was always destined to fail. I felt really challenged writing Andra -- I wanted to make sure I did her justice and that she felt real, grounded, and could better represent this type of person.

I hope my film resonates with anyone who has ever struggled in romantic relationships or suffered from a broken heart. This film is for everyone. Thank you for allowing me the space to express myself.

POSTER



TRAILER

 YouTube
[https://www.youtube.com > watch](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtjC7ZWms9U) ⋮

Psycho Baby | Official Trailer - YouTube

 Written & Directed by Charlotte Kennett Starring Savannah Summers and Truman Flyer **Psycho Baby ... Psycho Baby | Official Trailer.** 927 views · ...



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtjC7ZWms9U>

REFERENCE CROSS



THE END OF THE F*CKING WORLD

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KILLING EVE



CAST



SAVANNAH SUMMERS

Andra Klint



TRUMAN FLYER

Sadie Smith

DEPARTMENT HEADS



CHARLOTTE KENNETT

Director, Writer, EP



BEN MESERVE

Cinematographer



TYRONE RODRIGUEZ

Colorist



NIKKI JAVADI

Script Supervisor



AVA NELSON

Production Designer



LOCATION SOUND

Katie Kirby



ALEX KENNEDY

Editor



CYONE FOREST

Costume Designer



AKHMET YELEUKENOV

Composer



SOUND DESIGNER

Marcus Omeish



HAIR & MAKEUP

Kate Bradley



VFX

Isa Ghaffari

PRODUCING TEAM



HADLEY HENDON

Producer



CHARLOTTE KENNETT

Executive Producer, Producer

BTS PHOTOS



FESTIVAL RUN



PROJECT GOALS

Our main goal hope is that *Psycho Baby* will have a great festival run and reach as many people and screens as possible. Ultimately the mission is to continue to create work that represents our community of LGBTQ+, women, and neurodivergent folks. Spreading love and awareness is the crux of this film.

A stretch dream would be to garner the interest of a production company or streaming service and then have *Psycho Baby* ordered as a limited series. We can dream, right??

PRESS & INQUIRIES

Production Company Email: motherfever@gmail.com

Filmmaker Direct Email: charlottekennett.work@gmail.com

More Information: www.charlottekennett.com/psychobaby