

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DONALD NAM EDITED BY VAHAN BEDELIAN SOUND DESIGNER JOHN KELLEY  
COMPOSED BY JEFFERY ALAN JONES PRODUCTION DESIGNER XIYU LIN  
PRODUCED BY PO WEI SU & THOMAS SHIN  
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY VAHAN BEDELIAN & HEALIN KWON

# THE K-TOWN KILLER

a film by VAHAN BEDELIAN



JOY SUNG KIM

KAHYUN KIM

TONY NEVADA



## *LOGLINE*

A professional fighter hiding her career defends her Mom from an abusive landlord.

## *SYNOPSIS*

Grace "The K-Town Killer" Cho is a professional kickboxer who fights in stadiums before sold-out crowds, but her mother, Sally, doesn't even know she trains martial arts.

When Grace discovers that Sally's landlord, Fred, has been stealing her parking spot and bullying her, she gets into a heated argument with him. Fred threatens to evict Sally, and Grace uses her Jeep to tow Fred's car out of the spot. Fred runs down and drags her out of her car, and Grace fights back. It's an ugly fight; Grace is handicapped by an injured knee, but she wears him down and reveals to her mom who she is by winning the fight.

## *FILM INFORMATION*

Original/English Title : The K-Town Killer

Country of Production : United States

Duration : 13 mins 32 secs

## *TECHNICAL DETAILS*

Screening Material : DCP

Sound : 5.1 surround

Screen Ratio : 2.39:1

Frame Rate : 23.98fps

Color

Language: English & Korean (with English subtitles)

## *ONLINE TRAILER LINK*

<https://vimeo.com/712182331>

## *WEBSITE / SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS*

<https://www.bedelian.com/work/the-ktown-killer>

<https://www.instagram.com/thektownkiller/>

## *MARKETING CONTACT*

Vahan Bedelian / vahanbedelian@gmail.com / +1 949-231-7580



*KAHYUN KIM as GRACE*

from STARZ TV Series

**AMERICAN  
GODS**

**COCAINE  
BEAR**





*JOY SUNG KIM as SALLY*



A photograph of actor Tony Nevada as the character Fred. He is wearing a bright blue button-down shirt and has a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression of shock or fear. His right hand is raised, with fingers slightly curled. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting and a window with dark panes.

*TONY NEVADA as FRED*



### **KAHYUN KIM | GRACE**

Born and raised in South Korea, Kahyun moved to the United States and was immediately accepted into Juilliard's Drama School. She is most known for playing New Media on the hit STARZ series, American Gods. She can also be seen in TV shows like Mr. Mayor (NBC), 9-1-1 (Fox), Tommy(CBS), Shameless (Showtime), Timeless (NBC), Adam Ruins Everything (TruTV), The Mysteries of Laura (NBC), Austin & Ally (Disney) and Cassandra French (Fullscreen); Films like Bad Match (Netflix), Spa Night (Sundance Premiere) and the Disney reboot of Freaky Friday. Theatre credits include A. R. Gurney's Love And Money (Signature), starring role in Tracy Letts' Linda Vista (Steppenwolf) and Jeremy O. harris' Daddy (co-produced by Vineyard and New Group Theatre).



### **JOY SUNG KIM | SALLY**

Born in Seoul, Korea, Joy is an actress based in Chicago and Milwaukee. She began her acting career in 2018, in which she draws inspiration from her countless life experiences including her immigration to America and her raising of three children. Finally pursuing her life-long dream of telling stories on the screen, she has let nothing stop her from already becoming prolific, with credits in 11 films including two features, and many more on the way. She received two best supporting actress awards for her third short, "Mother" in 2021.



### **TONY NEVADA | FRED**

Tony Nevada is an American television and film actor. He began his career after serving honorably in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Nevada was accepted as a Lifetime Member of the Actors Studio by Academy Award-winning actor Martin Landau. He went on to work with Clint Eastwood in Warner Bro's Best Picture nominated American Sniper opposite Bradley Cooper. His next studio film was opposite Miles Teller in Universal and Dreamworks Thank You For Your Service. He then gave a chilling performance In Janicza Bravo's groundbreaking film Hard World for Small Things with LaKeith Stanfield and Jodie Turner-Smith. Tony played the husband of Jerrika Hinton (ABC's Grey Anatomy) in Rob Greenlea's film Just Another Dance With My Father. Television credits include playing Gene Scarborough on the top-rated sudser Young and the Restless and as Riggs opposite Katherine Heigl in State of Affairs. Tony Nevada is attached to several upcoming films including a remake of the blockbuster cult classic Billy Jack.



## DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

When I was a kid training kickboxing, I would lie to my mom. She'd ask, "You're not really getting hit at the gym, are you?" I'd tell her I was only taking the cardio classes. Meanwhile, I was very much getting hit, quite hard, and quite often. I confessed this to one of my coaches, and he responded that at one point in his life, he was fighting in stadiums without his mom even knowing that he was training. And then he said something that would become the genesis of this story: no mother wants to see their child get hit in the head.

This film is inspired by the lives of different martial artists I have known throughout my career: people like Marie "The Angry Korean" Choi, a former teammate of mine, and a professional Muay Thai fighter who lives up to her nickname. After receiving her blessing, I wrote the first draft of a script about a Korean American fighter nicknamed "The K-Town Killer" who is hiding her career from her mother. At the time, I was living in the same apartment unit in which we would eventually shoot the film six years later.

Before that time, however, the COVID-19 pandemic hit, and with it came an increase in hate crimes against Asians. The videos of random attacks, particularly those against the elderly, upset me more than anything else I've seen. I grew up around a large Asian American population. Many of the people who have meant the most to me in my life have been Asian, including members of the cast and crew of the K-Town Killer. I saw my friends' parents in those videos: people who invited me into their homes and fed me as a kid.

So, I wanted "The K-Town Killer" to be about more than a fighter hiding her career. I wanted it to be about an Asian American person defending their parent and doing it in a way that is volatile and disruptive of stereotypes, particularly of Asian American women.

*Vahan Bedelian*







## DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

Part of growing up is realizing that it is easier to teach a 5-year-old why 1+1 equals 2 than to change your 50-year-old parent's mind. The difficulty of understanding each other is even greater when it comes to a Korean mother and daughter, especially in this uneven world rapidly parting ways from traditional thinking.

I should say it has been quite confusing when it comes to my mom's intentions. "Look how fat you are." My mom's favorite phrase about my body shape as she wakes up every morning to make me something to eat so I don't go to school with an empty stomach. "That's not for girls, you shouldn't do that." Another one of my mom's favorite phrases as she wishes the world for me and prays for me to have a better life than her.

I think my deepest insecurities were created by my mom. At the same time, she's my biggest supporter. I have no doubt that without her, I wouldn't have survived this long. But I would feel better about myself and be more confident about what I want to do without some of her remarks. The comments about my body and personality, sometimes hurtful and lingering, came from my mother in the name of love and hope that I wouldn't be rejected by the patriarchal ideals dominating our society.

So, we fought. We fought a lot, developing this interesting love-hate relationship. You fight with your parents until you start to notice them getting smaller, their wrinkles getting deeper, and their hair getting whiter. So, you decide to stop fighting; you find understanding and compromise through lies. What might not notice is that they are lying as well. However, there comes a moment when you can no longer lie and hide the identity of the woman you have become: the moment when you see your parent being disrespected and needing protection.

The first year I moved back to the United States it was just me and my mom living in Koreatown. One night I got into a verbal fight with our landlord when he risked my mother's safety to save money. All my life I was taught not to talk back to my elders, especially men. But I screamed at him for so long and so loud that all the neighbors came down to check their mailboxes at the same time.

I will never forget what my mother said after I stood up to that man and defended her "Please don't do that outside, especially in front of men. It looks bad for a woman to shout loud." I could not relate more to Grace and Sally, the mother and daughter in "The K-Town Killer". It is a story that focuses on the two women who are the closest but at the same time farthest away, who care about each other, but also hurt each other. I hope this bittersweet story touches many Graces who are seeking their mother's approval and many Sallys who have devoted their lives to bringing up their daughter in this unfair world.

*Healin Kweon*



## **VAHAN BEDELIAN - Writer | Director | Editor**

Vahan Bedelian began his career making documentaries on martial artists and has created commercial content for clients such as the UFC and Top Rank Boxing. His career eventually led him to attend graduate film school at Loyola Marymount University, from which he graduated in May of 2022. "The K-Town Killer" is his ninth narrative short film. Much of his work grapples with how violence is portrayed on screen, rejecting its use as spectacle in favor of a more realistic tone. He seeks to bring his years of experience documenting the lives of martial artists to narrative films that portray a more nuanced and vulnerable side of fighters, like "The K-Town Killer".





## HEALIN KWEON - Co Writer | Co Director


Healin Kweon is a producer and director born in Los Angeles and raised in Seoul, South Korea. She returned to LA to pursue her MFA in film production at Loyola Marymount University. Healin's work is rooted in telling human stories in fantastic and imaginative settings that incorporate future technologies and connections to the spirit world. Coming from a background in communication and human computer interaction studies, she is passionate about speculative technology and how it will change human interaction. Her recent directorial work "No.1", a science fiction film about a deficient time travel technology, has been screened in numerous cities and continues to make the festival rounds including the DeadCenter Film Festival. She has another film hitting the festival circuit alongside "The K-Town Killer" called "Memories in the Air", a science fiction family drama that imagines a world with memory re-visualizing technology.

On the K-Town Killer, she worked with actors Kahyun Kim and Joy Sung Kim alongside Director Vahan Bedelian. On top of editorial work on the Korean dialogue, Healin brought a level of authenticity to the relationship between Korean mother and daughter through her direction that only a Korean woman could find. Much of the relationship between mother and daughter in The K-Town Killer was brought out through her.



## PO WEI SU - Producer | BTS Photographer

Po Wei Su is a Taiwanese filmmaker specializing in directing, producing and photography. He graduated with a MFA in Film Production from Loyola Marymount University and is currently freelancing as a director and producer in Los Angeles. His works include commercials, music videos, and short films, which mostly explores relationship and identity. Most of the characters in his film are versions of his former selves. He enjoys collecting stories from place to place, but put them in the environment where he currently based.



## DONALD NAM - Director of Photography

Donald Nam is a Korean American Cinematographer. He grew up in Southern California and moved to Seoul, Korea at the age of 19, where he lived for 9 years. In 2018, he moved back to the United States to study film and enrolled at the Loyola Marymount University Graduate School of Film and Television. There he honed his craft as a director of photography and gaffer.



SELECTED STILLS





**BEHIND THE SCENE  
PHOTOGRAPHY**





# FILM CREDITS

Director/Writer **Vahan Bedelian**  
Co-Director/Co-Writer **Healin Kweon**  
Producer **Po Wei Su**  
**Thomas Shin**  
Director of Photography **Donald Nam**  
Production Designer **Xiyu Lin**  
Editor **Vahan Bedelian**  
Composer **Jeffery Alan Jones**

Starring **Starring**  
Grace **Kahyun Kim**  
Sally **Joy Sung Kim**  
Fred **Tony Nevada**

Assistant Director **Tracy (Yingzhuo) Yan**  
**Melody Li**

Cast  
Sarah **Carolina Ore**  
Vinh **Jason Radovan**  
Mario **William Guirola**  
Referee **Bob Mills**  
Grace Stunt Double **Julia Ho (Zeda Zhang)**  
Boxing Ring Videographer **Mitchell Davis**  
**Joey Krebs**

Audience Member **Healin Kweon Po Wei Su John Mac Menamie Tommy Zhao Jiyan Erincik**  
**Christian Lopez Luis Vera Melody Li Dean Symonds**

Darrell **Dwayne Tarver**  
Fred's Friend **McCristol Harris Vinicius M S Cosac**  
Tenant **Vincent Ji Jack Huang Samas Wu Sung Sim Albert Wu**  
**Ellie Chang**

Stunt Coordinator **Jack Huang**  
Stunts **Carolina Ore Vinicius M S Cosac**  
Wince Operator **Kevin Williamson**



# FILM CREDITS

1st Assistant Camera Zachary Wu Ricky Jhou  
2nd Assistant Camera Leika Wong Dean Symonds Amelia Asilis  
Swing 2nd AC / Grip Mitchell Davis  
Steady Cam Op Boyu Chen  
DIT Luis Vera Alex Kopnick  
Gaffer Tommy Zhao Yiye Jay Zhao  
Gaffer / Key Grip Koutn James  
Key Grip Sebastian Lam Kuan Cao  
Grip Tomaz Favrin Sean Magner Riley Burt Jiyan Erincik Christian Lopez

Art Director Anna Lei  
Production Designer Assistant Alex Kopnick  
Script Supervisor Aneka Meyersberg  
Sound Mixer Andrew Baik Jon Chen Jackson Spilsbury Annie Villalobos Brendan Friesen  
Boom Op McCristol Harris Brandon Dananay  
MUA Dong Yoon Kang Ahram Lee  
Wardrobe Melody Li

Health Safety Supervisor Po Wei Su  
Behind The Scene Photographer Po Wei Su  
Production Assistant John Mac Menamie  
Casting Director Thomas Shin  
Casting Assistant Emily Chau

Sound Designer / Mixer AnDy Wu  
Sound FX Editor John Kelley  
ADR Recordist Harry Chen  
Group ADR Charlene Marrié Harry Chen Billy Su

Colorist Jensen Vinca

Special Thanks Su Cho Ji Soo Park Trapper Phillips Po Han Su Wendy Xu  
Yunyi Zhu William Bae Rhea Alsharabaty Tommy O'Haver Mischa Livingstone  
Lorna Bedelian Haroutune Bedelian Mary Kuryla Blake Troop Emily Chau

Camera & Lenses Provided by Lenswork Rentals



## **PRODUCTION CONTACT**

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