



CRYPTIDS

Written
by
Joseph Murillo



LOGLINE

When a Cryptozoologist answers a call to help search for a friend who's gone missing in the Canadian wilderness, she finds herself fighting to protect more than the search team from an insatiable monster.

THE STORY

After his brother goes missing in the Canadian Rockies, Hector teams up with Kate, their childhood friends, and a filmmaker to find him. The group journeys onto the mountain, where Kate explains that her father, looking for Sasquatch, went missing ten years ago in the same woods the group is now searching. Peter, a ranger who warned Hector not to search for his brother Kyle, finds the group's vehicles and calls for backup to go find them. That night, Kate tells Kyle's favorite Cryptid story, the Windigo, a creature that carries an insatiable hunger and feasts on any creature it can get its hands on.

The next night, Peter, and another ranger (Albi) catch up with the group and demand they leave the mountain for their own safety. It's already be too late. The group is attacked by a Grizzly Bear, before it can hurt anyone, SOMETHING rips the bear in half! The group scatters in fear. Kate and the others fight for their lives against the very monsters they've spent their lives trying to prove existed as a snowstorm rips through the mountain forest.

THEME

When ambition, greed, and selfishness outweigh compassion, decency, and one's humanity, **Monsters are born.**

STYLE AND TONE

It's a fast-paced monster movie steeped in terror and suspense. Feelings of isolation and the fear of the unknown balance with myth and lore that brings the monsters to life. Exploring the competing goals and motivations of our characters heighten the tension and mistrust this survival movie brews within them. It comes to a head in a climax that pits humans and monsters not only against one another but each other as well.

LOCATION

Set in the Canadian Rockies. Cryptids will utilize a frozen, snow covered, coniferous forest as its central backdrop. Steep cliffs and dark caves will play integral parts in the story and how our characters survive the harsh elements.

BUDGET

TBD - Estimated Low to Mid-Range

THE CAST



A full-page background image of actress Naomi Scott. She is standing in a rocky, outdoor environment with sparse vegetation. She is wearing a dark, possibly black or dark blue, jacket over a maroon or dark red long-sleeved shirt. She has dark, wavy hair and is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The lighting is natural, suggesting daylight.

CAST

NAOMI SCOTT

KATE DILLARD: Headstrong, determined daughter of famous TV Cryptid hunter Max Dillard. Since her father's disappearance as a young teen, Kate has been obsessed with restoring her father's TV show and along with it his reputation. When she learns that her childhood friend, Kyle, has gone missing where her father vanished, nothing will stop her in joining the search team.



CASITV

DAVE FRANCO

Tristan: A hungry and ambitious producer's assistant that is determined to make a name and fortune for himself as a filmmaker. After landing himself as the gopher of the office due to his "get permission later" attitude, Tristan jumps at the opportunity to help Kate join Kyle's rescue team, and more importantly get it all on camera.



ALEX PETTYFER

Hector: Kyle's older brother and part-time Cryptid Hunter. He took a step back from hunting after an incident, involving Kate's reckless search for her father years earlier. Guilt, for not being with Kyle, drives Hector to lead his friends into the mountain forest amidst a raging snowstorm.



CAST

ZAHN McCLARNON

Peter: A descendant of a First Nation Tribe, Peter has watched over these forest for decades as a ranger. He is dedicated to his duty of protecting those that visit the forest. However, that dedication is dwarfed by his promise to protect what has called these mountains home for longer than anyone can remember.



CHINA ANNE McCLAIN

Meg: Strong-willed and meticulous in her pursuit to forge her own path as a “professional” Cryptid Hunter. Meg will do what she must to be taken seriously both by the scientific community and the entertainment industry. Penny, her long-time girlfriend, and hunting partner, helps ground her and remind her of how far they’ve come and appreciate what they’ve accomplished.



KIERNAN SHIPKA

Penny: A live-in-the moment personality who takes joy in doing what she loves (hunting Cryptids) with the person that she loves (Meg). Penny focuses more on the journey than a drive to achieve a goal. She cares deeply for Meg and her friends, putting their safety and well-being before any goal.



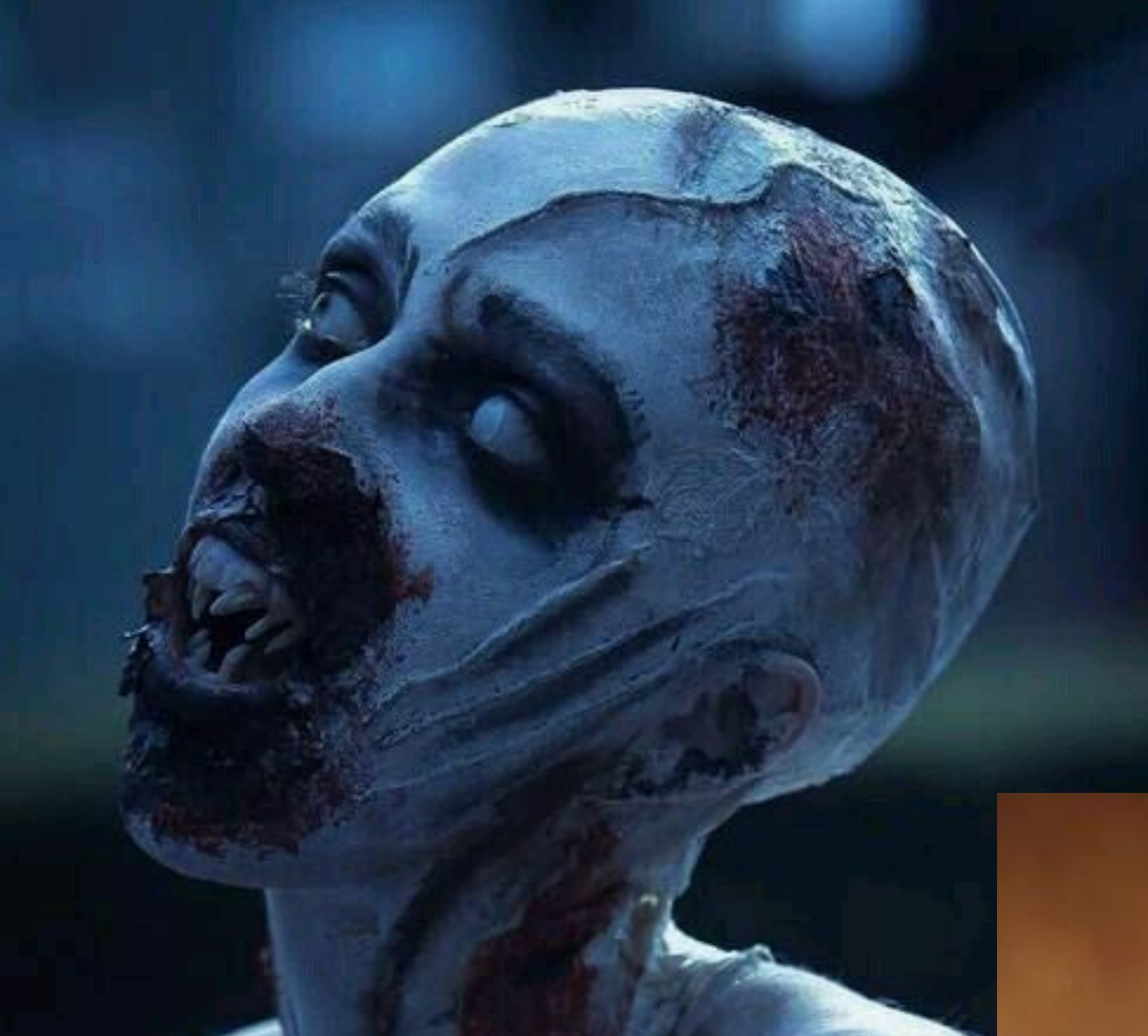
CRYPTIDS UNCOVERED



SASQUATCH

Also called Bigfoot, is a large, hairy, humanlike creature believed to exist in North America. Little is actually known about this Cryptid despite its supposed discovery in 1811. Hollywood has depicted it as anything from a rage-filled monster killing anyone it finds in its woods to an intelligent, caring creature that understands family and friendship. The truth, like in most things, is somewhere in the middle.





WINDIGO

A mythological creature or evil spirit originating from the folklore of Plains and Great Lakes Natives, and some First Nations. The Windigo is a malevolent spirit that possesses humans that have feelings of greed and selfishness. It manipulates these feelings into an insatiable hunger, leading to cannibalism. Once possessed, the human transforms into a grotesque monster resembling an emaciated, frost-bitten ghoul or at times a massive creature. This creature's insatiable hunger and constant feeding affects its appearance.







WRITER

Joseph Murillo (He/Him) is a Mexican American Screenwriter with a M.F.A. in Screenwriting from California State university, Northridge. His creature-feature focused screenplays have placed in several screenwriting competitions, most notably winning Best Sci-Fi Feature Screenplay at HorrOrigins 2022 Film Festival, and placing as a Finalist in the Screenwriters Network's 2022 Feature-Length Screenplay Competition.

Contact Information:

Email: Joseph.p.Murillo86@gmail.com

<https://writers.coverfly.com/profile/writer-JosephMurillo>