

Blood Moon Over Bronzeville

A Feature Film by Scott Sawitz



Logline & Synopsis

Logline: *Facing a forced retirement after a bad shooting, a veteran homicide detective will use his remaining days on the police force to solve a cold case from a decade ago dubbed the “perfect murder.”*

Synopsis: Xavier Holiday is the definition of a policeman's policeman. Rigid, firm and dedicated to the job, the homicide detective has a strict code and almost always gets his man.

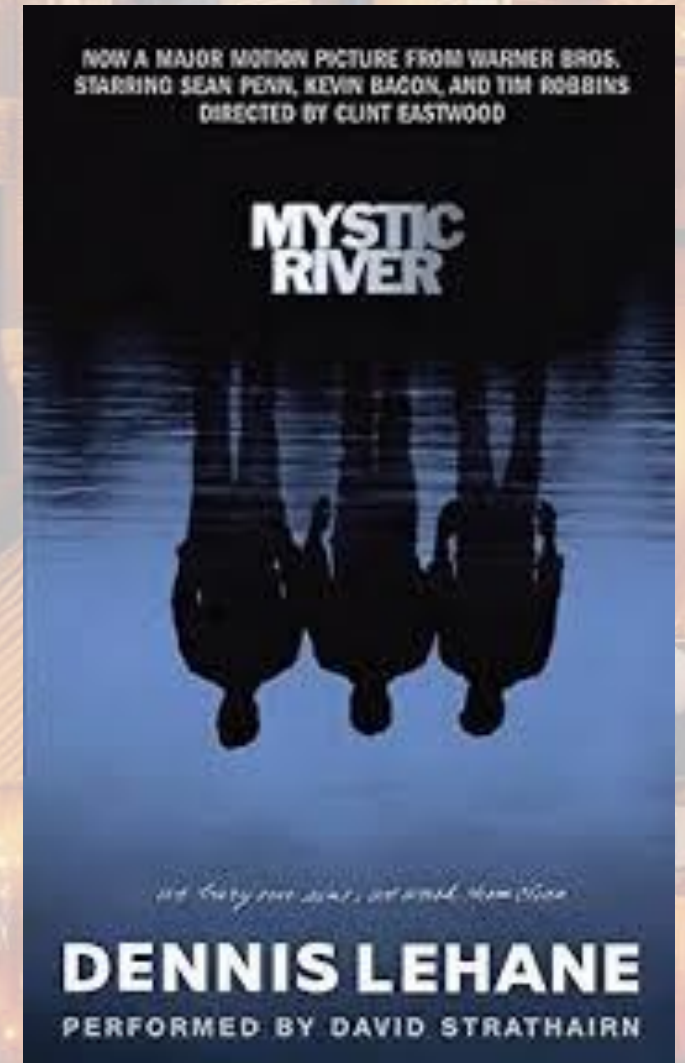
When a high-end call-girl winds up dead, and Xavier can't find a lead or something to connect a suspect to the case, she'll wind up as another cold case in a series of them.

A decade later a bad shooting will leave Xavier being forced into retirement. With 90 days left until he's forced to walk away, his Captain will hand him a pile of inactive cases so that he can keep busy until then.

With the woman's case file coming up first, Xavier will encounter the same dead ends he did before... until a lucky break opens the case. As the 90 days tick down, his one link to her death (a high-powered political fixer) winds up making the case much more dangerous than he ever would've anticipated..



Comparable Films



Purpose

Most crime thrillers focus on justice for those who are victimized now and for good reason; years after the fact, people and life have moved on. And as much as we'd like the police to solve every case in a reasonable amount of time... what happens to all those cases that don't?

And what happens to those left behind?

That's what this explores... what happens when a police officer has to go through a case he couldn't solve with the ticking time clock of his pending retirement looming over him.





Xavier Holiday

(Casting Idea: A Morris Chestnut type)

Xavier is the sort of police officer on his way out of the force; tough and full of fight, he's got no qualms letting bullets fly if the situations calls for it.

In an era where police officers are told more often to stand down no matter what, that makes him an oddity.

Tasked with cleaning up his ledger of cold cases before his retirement becomes official, his obsession will take him to places he never thought he'd go.



Harrison Rust

(Casting Idea: A Glen Powell type)

Being a young cop is difficult, especially when you're the son of a legend.

That's where Harrison, not Harry, finds himself.

Told by his father to become a homicide detective to get himself further up the chain, Harrison will discover that being a detective is much harder than he ever thought.



Greg Kennedy

(Casting Idea: A Jon Favreau type)

Counting the days until he can retire comfortably, Greg is a veteran homicide detective who just wants his problems not to begin with “Detective Holiday.”



John Smith

(Casting Idea: A Josh Duhamel type)

On paper he's got a vague title but in reality John Smith (real name unknown) is a cleanup man for a Senator with Presidential aspirations.

The real killer, he'll emerge once Xavier starts finding clues that can bring out the truth about Kandace's death.

Distribution & Budget

Blood Moon Over Bronzeville is a great movie for streaming services such as Hulu and Netflix where the film would be accessible to a range of audiences and take advantage of the long-tail and data-driven recommendations on the platforms.

The production would not like to rule out the possibilities of acquiring international pre-sales. There is potential for an action thriller to find an audience abroad or even in theaters.

Ideally the goal would be to emulate a film like Edward Burns' "Summer Days, Summer Nights," Isao Yukisada's "River's Edge" and Jason Reitman's "Thank you for Smoking" as a festival favorite that winds up being picked up a larger distributor.

Estimated budget between \$2,000,000 - \$5,000,000

About The Writer

Scott Sawitz

What began as a deep father/son conversation brought Scott from being a multi-time optioned screenwriter into daring to be one of the few who had embraced the grind of feature film-making as a writer/director with his 2023 film “Save State.”

A romantic comedy in the vein of “Groundhog Day,” “Save State” was inspired by the failings of his own long term romantic relationship and the sage words of his father. Confronted with a son who wanted to go back to the moment of his break up, and find a way to make it work, he asked two profound things that would inspire the film: “What would you have changed?” and “How would it be better?”

Film Threat praised Scott for his “stellar writing” on the film.

A 2001 Saint Norbert College graduate who spent nearly two decades as a freelance journalist (and just as many in the financial services field at all walks of the life insurance industry), Scott’s byline appeared all over the internet and covered a variety of topics, from mixed martial arts (where he covered the second UFC on Fox card live from Chicago’s United Center) to film and television criticism, Scott evolved into a filmmaker when he collaborated on the web series “Confessions of a Web Series” with his producing partner Mike Noyes.



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