knock

written by tony jerris & shannon k. dunn

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logline

when a recovering addict rents a cabin in the colorado mountains to begin painting again, she starts hearing an unexplained knock, only to discover it's a warning from the previous guest who never made it out alive.

the pitch

- one location a retro and very secluded mountain cabin
- small cast
- no major stunts, minimal f/x
- could be filmed in 10 days or less
- \$1-\$2M total budget possible depending on cast

synopsis

alyson was once an up-and-coming artist, but a dangerous mix of alcohol and prescription drugs spiraled her life out of control, leaving her battling mental health issues. now in her 40s and sober for several years, alyson retreats to a remote cabin in the colorado mountains, hoping to reconnect with herself and her passion for painting.

soon after settling in, alyson begins hearing strange, persistent knocking coming from the attic. when she investigates, she's startled by a raccoon, resulting in a fall that injures her elbow.

she calls the local handyman, john "gib" gibson, to help with a trap for the animal. grateful, alyson invites him to dinner, and although she explains her sobriety, gib brings wine, an ace bandage, and tylenol as a gesture of kindness.

however; the knocking continues, which grows louder and more insistent as alyson spends more time alone in the cabin. as the sounds escalate, so does her mental unraveling. she begins to experience hallucinations, nightmares, and an overwhelming compulsion to drink again.

when gib returns to check on the trap, he suspects alyson may be hungover. when she asks him if he enjoyed their dinner, he denies ever being there. alyson desperately searches for any evidence of the evening, only to find nothing.

as the knocks, strange visions, and ghostly apparitions intensify, alyson becomes increasingly paranoid. is she losing her mind again, or is gib gaslighting her? the chilling truth behind the knocking may be more than she ever expected.



character breakdown



alyson - think maggie gyllenhaal (pictured). she is a recovering addict who once was a successful artist. now sober, she rents a secluded cabin to start painting again.



john "gib" gibson - think john corbett (pictured). he is a handyman who helps alyson around the cabin. he may be honest or he may be gaslighting her.

day players/cameos

jessica - 28 the previous guest who never left (gabrielle walsh - pictured)



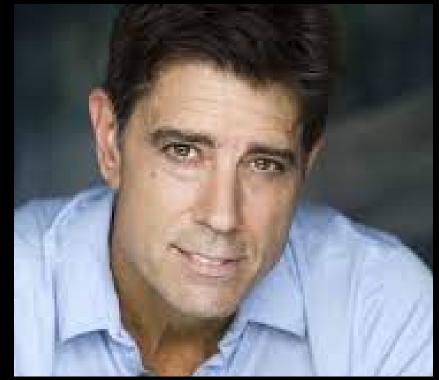
madison and mckenzie - 23ish (ava sambora and lana condor - pictured)





mother (voice only)
dan jameson 40+ handyman (day player)
old man wallace 60+ (background actor)

writer bios





tony and shannon are an award-winning writing team and have been successfully writing together for over 10 years. they were hired to write a thriller for a major cable network (nda) and currently have "christmas at the roanoke ranch" streaming in 2025, "saving sugarland" is in pre-production, and "can't fix crazy" a female-led action/thriller script in development with a major production company.

solely, tony was hired to adapt rhonda shear's book "up all night" into a feature film and series, which was a top 10 finalist in the emerging screenwriters contest, and shannon has won several awards for her short film "pasta" including the grand jury award for best story by the new york international film awards.

tony wrote a role for shannon to play paula, a snarky cashier in his comedy feature "yellow bird" which won best feature in the 2023 santa monica international film festival and best comedy in the los angeles international film festival. yellow bird streams on amazon prime, apple tv+ and is now available on dvd at walmart, amazon, barnes & noble and other retailers.

for more information and links to our imdb pages, please visit our websites below:

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