

**‘BIRDIE’**  
**SHORT FILM ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT**



**WRITTEN & DIRECTED & EDITED BY:**

ANDREW J. EDISON

**PRODUCED BY:**

DAVID M. NIGHT MAIRE

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY:**

GAY ABEL-BEY

**CINEMATOGRAPHY & VISUAL FX BY:**

SHARAD KANT PATEL

**STARRING:**

McLEAN PETERSON – Vicky  
JACKSON ANDERSON – Stanley

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## LOG LINE

A troubled teen takes the babysitter hostage after she uncovers his deadly plan.

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

Troubled teen Stanley rebukes babysitter Vicky's attempts to connect with him, until a slip of the finger ignites a torturous showdown that sees Vicky taken hostage after uncovering the adolescent's deadly plans.

## LONG SYNOPSIS

Hired to house-sit for a family friend, Vicky spends an evening with Stanley, a standoffish teenager she babysat years prior. The troubled adolescent rebukes her every attempt to reconnect with him, despite seemingly warming up to a shared memory of the passing of his childhood pet bird. Yet, a slip of the finger ignites a cat-and-mouse like showdown, thrusting each of them into an undesirably torturous confrontation that has them fend the other off for their respective survival.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Half a year prior to receiving recommendations for the role of Vicky, Andrew J. Edison attended the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and saw McLean Peterson on stage as Ivanka Trump in Rachel Dart's "Ivanka Play"!

"Birdie" is Andrew J. Edison's NYU: Tisch School of the Arts thesis short film.

Sharad Kant Patel was also the Cinematographer of Andrew J. Edison's feature film "Bindlestiffs" (2012), and collaborated with him as Writer, Producer, Editor, and Visual FX Artist on a number of his previous short films.

"Birdie" was shot in New Hyde Park village, North Hemsptead township, Nassau County, Long Island, New York, United States over the course of four days.

"Birdie" was filmed on an Arri Alexa Mini camera with a package of Lomo Anamorphic round front lenses and edited in Adobe Premiere.

The replica handguns and assault weapons were rented from The Specialists Ltd., the East Coast's largest theatrical weapons property house.

Amanda Brooke Lerner and Charlie Silver reunite as mother and son characters, having previously played similar roles on the web-series 'Grosse Misconduct' (2018) which David M. Night Maire was Assistant Director on!

"Birdie" is dedicated to Andrew J. Edison's cousin.

"Birdie" is available with English Close Captions, as well as French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish subtitles.

## TALENT BIOGRAPHIES

### **McLEAN PETERSON**

*as VICKY*

McLean is a New York based actor and singer. After training at the Atlantic Acting School and earning her BFA with honors from New York University, she landed the first national tour of Ivy & Bean The Musical and shot The First of our Friends to Get Married. Since then, she's been cast in just films and series as BBC's "The Chaperone" (2018) and Netflix's "Jessica Jones" (2019). She lives in Brooklyn with her iPhone.

Website: <http://www.mcleanpeterson.com/>

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6636017/>

### **JACKSON ANDERSON**

*as STANLEY*

Jackson is a charismatic young actor who became interested in acting after being asked to play "Young Tarzan" in a local theater production. He went on to perform in additional theater productions and in numerous short films, including Franky (2019), Lad (2018) and Tadpole (2018). He is currently continuing his actor training at Matt Newton Studios. He is also a skilled guitar player with 7 years of experience, as well as being founder and lead guitarist of the rock band 'Fast As Lightning' which he started as age 10. Jackson is a wiz at Photoshop, video games and is a fan of his hair.

Website: <https://www.jacksonanderson.actor/>

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm9209869/>

### **AMANDA BROOKE LERNER**

*as STANLEY'S MOM*

Amanda Brooke Lerner has starred in dozens of award-winning indie films and has played mom to both John D'Leo ("The Family", "The Wrestler") and 2019 Emmy Winner Julia Garner ("Ozark", "The Americans"). She recently co-starred on Starz's "Power" (2019) and Comedy Central's "Awkwafina Is Nora From Queens" (2020). She's had guest starring roles on shows for NAT GEO, A+E, and Lifetime, and is excited about her role as Mrs. Cattsowitts on Amazon's "Damage Control" (2019). Amanda won Best Actress for her performances in short films "The Cartographer" (2016) at The Long Island Int'l Film Festival Expo., for "Daffodil" (2018) at The Cutting Room Int'l Short Film Festival, and has been nominated for the award in "Kill AI" (2018), "The House On Cox Curve" (2014), and "Sasha" (2017). A proud member of SAG-AFTRA and AEA, you may recognize her as Olga in the wildly popular "Optimum: The Unmovers" spots opposite Leonard Ouzts.

Website: <https://www.amandabrookelerner.com/>

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4014426/>

## KEY CREW BIOGRAPHIES:

### **ANDREW J. EDISON** *WRITER & DIRECTOR & EDITOR*

Andrew Edison is a writer, actor, producer and editor, known for his breakout feature film “Bindlestiffs” (2012), which won the Audience Award at Slamdance, and was subsequently purchased and distributed by Kevin Smith. He is also known for his short films, including Tile M for Murder (2007) and My Darling Clementine (2008), and improvisational standup.

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm2845534/>

### **DAVID. M. NIGHT MAIRE** *PRODUCER*

Cosmopolitan in nature, David is an alumnus of NYU: Tisch School of the Arts, earning his B.A. in Film & T.V. with a focus on Directing, and Minors in Producing and Psychology. This native Alpine’s passion for directing led him to pursue a Masters in Live Action Short Form at SVA under famed music video and commercial director Bob Giraldi. He Co-Founded AireBedd, a banner under which he has garnered hundreds of laurels and awards for his short films and music videos, and produced content for Louis Vuitton Moet Hennessy, Red Bull and the Leslie-Lohman Museum amongst others.

Website: <https://www.airebedd.com/>  
IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4731396/>

### **GAY ABEL-BEY** *EXECUTIVE PRODUCER*

After receiving her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College, Gay Abel-Bey earned her M.F.A. in Film from UCLA. She was granted The Dorothy Arzner Award for high recognition of a dramatic piece by a woman for her thesis film, Fragrance (1991). As a graduate student, Abel-Bey taught courses in scriptwriting and production for the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television and produced a number of instructional videos. She became involved with the prestigious local film festival, Filmex, and also co-hosted a retrospective for the National Film School of London. In addition, Abel-Bey developed a community-based documentary workshop for at-risk youth in Los Angeles. Her work includes producing a number of independent projects, such as: “Father and Son,” which received a Sony Innovators Award, “When It’s Your Turn” for WPVI-TV, Philadelphia, and “Stone Cold Hustler,” which won a local Emmy in Washington, D.C. Abel-Bey began teaching at New York University in 1995, where she currently serves as an Academic Advisor for the Undergraduate Division of Film & Television and teaches courses in film production and scriptwriting.

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0008498/>

**SHARAD KANT PATEL**  
*CINEMATOGRAPHER & VISUAL FX*

Sharad is a filmmaker able to take a production from writing, through shooting & editing, to final sound mix & color correction on his own as a one-man production machine, but also works well in collaboration, in either a specific role, or managing a team. He considers freelance work of all types, specializing in stretching a low budget to reach aesthetic quality. His work has screened at SXSW and Raindance. He's produced music professionally, served as editor, cinematographer, VFX creator, and producer for other directors' feature and short films which have screened at Slamdance, AFI, Bend Film Festival, & Austin Film Festival. He's published a book of childhood comic art "An American East Indian in Alief" through Comic Art Teaching and Study Workshop at Rice University. He's taught film history and production at Eastern Michigan University & University of Houston, also taught screenwriting at Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. He received a BS in Advertising and in Radio/T.V./Film from the University of Texas at Austin.

Website: <https://www.krop.com/sharad/#/>

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1335267/>

**PENNY DE LOS SANTOS**  
*CREATIVE CONSULTANT & BTS PHOTOGRAPHER*

Penny De Los Santos began photographing as a way to understand her own diverse cultural background and identity. She has been fortunate enough to travel extensively throughout the US and to over 30 countries on assignment for various clients making these photographs. Penny is an award-winning internationally published photographer, a Senior Contributing photographer to Saveur Magazine and a regular contributing photographer for National Geographic Magazine. She has received numerous grants, fellowships, and awards for her photography including: The National Geographic Photography Grant, Recipient of the Prestigious World Press Joop Stewart Master class, College Photographer of the Year, Eastman Kodak Photography Grant, Canon USA Photography Grant, The Eddie Adams Photography Grant, California New Media Award, Ohio University School of Visual Communication Photography Grant and The Parson's School of Design Marty Fortier Fellowship. Her work has been featured in magazines including Martha Stewart Living, Bon Appetit, Time, News Week, Sports Illustrated, Mother Jones, Latina, Texas Monthly, Budget Travel, Caribbean Travel, U.S. News & World Report and Paris Match. She has been a contract photographer for numerous publishing companies and cookbooks. De Los Santos has a Master's degree from Ohio University's School of Visual Communication and an Undergraduate degree in Journalism from Texas A&M University. She lives in New York City with her dog Nigella and is represented by Judy Casey INC.

Website: <https://pennydelossantos.com/>



FRAME GRABS





## ACCOLADES

### **Official Selections**

1. Capri Hollywood International Film Festival 2021
2. Maverick Movie Awards 2022
3. Berlin Lift-Off Film Festival 2022
4. Big Muddy Film Festival 2022
5. NewFilmmakers NY 2022
6. NOOGA Underground Film Festival 2022
7. NewFilmmakers NY 2022
8. Harlem International Film Festival 2022
9. New York International Film Awards 2022
10. Big Apple Film Festival and Screenplay Competition 2022
11. Beverly Hills Film Festival 2022
12. Manhattan Film Festival 2022
13. Atlanta Underground Film Festival 2022
14. Catalina Film Festival 2022
15. Byron Bay Underground Film Festival 2022
16. Melbourne Underground Film Festival 2022
17. Nassau Film Festival 2023
18. Bloody Hats Film Festival 2023
19. Film Night On Fulton 2023
20. Kobani International Film Festival 2023
21. Portobello Film Festival 2023
22. Hell's Half Mile Film & Music Festival 2023
23. Sugar Loaf Film Festival 2023
24. Animal Film Fest 2023
25. lil spooky fest 2023
26. Highlands Horror Film Fest 2023
27. Aasha International Film Festival 2023
28. Beers & Fears 2023
29. David Film Festival 2023
30. Sacalacalaca, Interdimensional Horror & Sci-Fi Festival 2023
31. Edo State International Film Festival 2023
32. Blood Bash International Horror Film Festival and Convention 2024
33. Winter Film Awards International Film Festival 2024
34. Kalaburagi International Film Festival 2024
35. Allentown Film Festival 2024

## **Nominations**

1. Maverick Movie Awards 2022 – Best Short Film
2. Maverick Movie Awards 2022 – Best Genre Film: Short
3. Maverick Movie Awards 2022 – Best Director: Short
4. Maverick Movie Awards 2022 – Best Cinematography: Short
5. New York International Film Awards 2022 – Best Short Film Finalist
6. NOOGA Underground Film Festival 2022 – Best Editing
7. Big Apple Film Festival and Screenplay Competition 2022 – Honorable Mention
8. lil spooky fest 2023 – Semi-Finalist

## **Awards**

1. Maverick Movie Awards 2022 – Best Editing: Short
2. New York International Film Awards 2022 – Grand Jury Award: Best Short Film
3. Manhattan Film Festival 2022 – Best Short Psychological Thriller
4. Catalina Film Festival 2022 – Best Child Actor (Jackson Anderson) Award of Excellence
5. Melbourne Underground Film Festival 2022 – Best Short Film (Thriller Genre)
6. Nassau Film Festival 2023 – Princeton Tiger Audience Award: Horror
7. Animal Film Fest 2023 – Best Actor (Jackson Anderson as Stanley)
8. Aasha International Film Festival 2023 – Best Horror / Sci-Fi Short
9. David Film Festival 2023 – Best Horror/Thriller

## CONTACT INFO

### **SHORT FILM**

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### **PRODUCER**

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