



TRUSTED FRIENDS



Fourth Wall Productions





Logline

Her first night on duty, a rookie cop is forced to kill a small-time thug to save the life of her training officer. Quickly she finds herself and her loved ones in the cross hairs of the thug's psycho lover.



Synopsis

WISTERIA SINCLAIR lives with her bedridden, alcoholic mother in a three-story building housing a costume rental shop on the third floor. Wisteria, who suffers from a form of a dissociative disorder, dons the costume, wig, and makeup of her favorite movie character, Norma Desmond from Sunset Boulevard, and tends her nagging mother. Often at night when Wisteria no longer can stand caring for the demanding old lady, she meets up with MAXIE MAYS, a washed-up wrestler turned thug. She is convinced Maxie is the one person on earth who loves her.

Across town, a rookie cop, ALARA TURNBULL, wife and mother of a six-year-old boy, TEDDY, and a woman struggling with alcohol addiction, meets her partner and training officer, ERNIE BASILIKO, to embark on her first night on duty. She became a cop because as a kid she was unsuccessful in saving her younger sister from a tragic death. To assuage her guilt, she's determined to prevent bad things from happening to others. Alara and Ernie roll on a small-time heist. Ernie is taken hostage and Alara is forced to shoot and kill the thief in order to save her partner. The press reports the incident.

Later that night in the costume shop, Wisteria sees a TV report that her Maxie Mays has been killed by a rookie cop. Her nasty mother makes light of the death and chides her daughter that nobody really loves her. A mixture of grief and anger causes Wisteria to unravel. Wisteria drowns her mother and launches a diabolical plan to punish Alara by killing everyone near and dear to her.

Wisteria becomes the enemy in plain sight. She attempts to insinuate herself into Alara's inner circle, but initially Alara refuses to allow Wisteria in. Even when Daly, Alara's best friend, is beaten to death, followed by the brutal murder of her training officer, Alara refuses Wisteria's overtures. It's not until Alara's husband, Jonathan, is murdered that her grief just about brings her to her knees, she lets down her guard, and turns to Wisteria for help.

Due to her emotional instability, Alara makes egregious mistakes and is suspended from the force for 30 days. During this time Wisteria wheedles even deeper into the lives of Alara and Teddy.

Alara concludes the deaths are connected. Disdainful of the police's handling of the case, she embarks on her own investigation. Wisteria even accompanies Alara to the police station to help examine evidence. Though Wisteria displays support and affection as Alara searches for the murderer, Wisteria continues her vengeful killing spree. Her next victim: Danny Sullivan, a cop, friend, and mentor of Alara. Alara sinks deeper into despair. In desperation Alara reaches out to Wisteria when Teddy is kidnapped. Wisteria entices Alara to come to the costume shop. Together they will find Teddy. But when Alara enters Wisteria's world, it is clear things are not what they seem. The truth is revealed. Alara must use all her physical, emotional, and psychic strength to save herself and her son from her trusted friend, the twisted Wisteria.

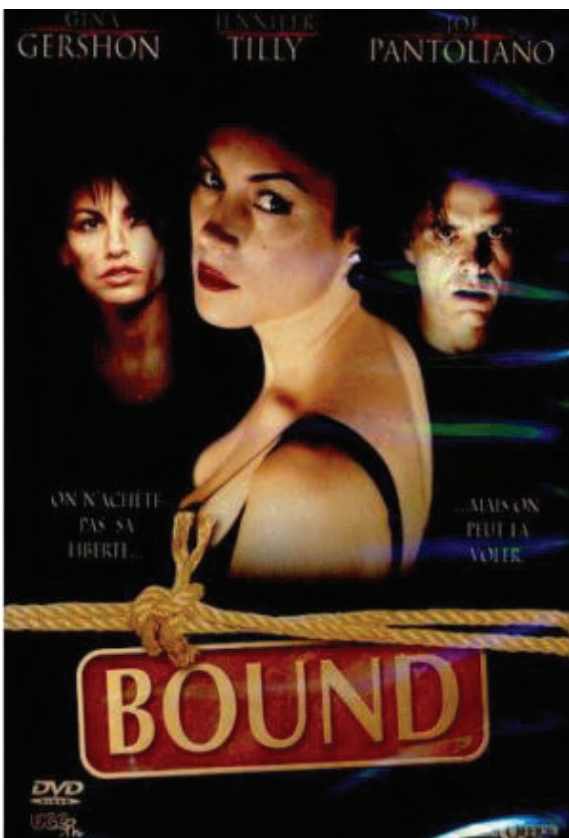


Sunset Blvd

Budget: \$1,752,000

Worldwide Box Office: \$5,000,000

The story, set in '50s Hollywood, focuses on Norma Desmond, a silent-screen goddess whose pathetic belief in her own indestructibility has turned her into a demented recluse. The crumbling Sunset Boulevard mansion where she lives with only her butler, Max who was once her director and husband has become her self-contained world. Norma dreams of a comeback to pictures and she begins a relationship with Joe Gillis, a small-time writer who becomes her lover, that will soon end with murder and total madness.



Bound

Budget: \$4,500,000

Worldwide Box Office: \$3,802,260

Corky, a tough female ex con and her lover Violet concoct a scheme to steal millions of stashed mob money and pin the blame on Violet's crooked boyfriend Caesar.

Comparative Analysis

TITLE	RELEASE DATE	BUDGET	DOMESTIC BOX OFFICE	INTERNATIONAL BOX OFFICE
Basic Instinct	3/20/92	\$49,000,000	\$117,727,224	\$235,200,000
Bound	10/4/96	\$4,500,000	\$3,802,260	N/A
The Call	3/15/13	\$13,000,000	\$51,872,378	N/A
Enough	5/24/02	\$38,000,000	\$40,007,742	\$11,793,445
Gone	2/24/12	N/A	\$11,682,205	\$6,417,984
High Tension	6/10/05	\$2,886,620	\$3,681,066	\$2,610,892
Lakeview Terrace	9/19/08	\$20,000,000	\$39,263,506	\$5,390,131
Obsessed	4/29/09	\$20,000,000	\$68,261,644	\$5,568,696
The Roommate	2/4/11	\$16,000,000	\$37,300,107	\$3,192,652
Silence of the Lambs	2/14/91	\$19,000,000	\$130,742,922	\$142,000,000
Single White Female	8/14/92	N/A	\$48,017,402	\$3,085,699
Sunset Blvd	8/4/50	\$1,752,000	\$5,000,000	N/A
Taking Lives	3/19/04	\$45,000,000	\$32,682,342	\$32,788,187
Twisted	2/27/04	\$50,000,000	\$25,198,598	\$15,756,005
Valentine	2/2/01	\$29,000,000	\$20,384,136	\$16,300,000
When a Stranger Calls	2/3/06	\$15,000,000	\$47,860,214	\$19,106,773

Elizabeth Appell

Writer / Producer / Co-Director

Elizabeth Appell is an award winning novelist, playwright, and screenwriter. Several of her screenplays have been optioned, and her play *Confessions of a Catholic Child* premiered in 2007 in Los Angeles. Her play *Moon Walkers* was showcased in Los Angeles with James Denton (*Desperate Housewives*) as the main character. In 2008 she was a semi-finalist in the Eugene O'Neill Playwright's Conference.

Several of her short stories have been published in literary journals (www.readelizabeth.com).

Her debut film *Easy Made Hard* (www.easymadehardthemovie.com) became an official selection at over a dozen film festivals, winning the Gold at Houston and was included in the Short Film Corner at Cannes.

Warnings from the Bathtub is her second short film officially selected by over ten festivals and won Gold at WorldFest. Presently she is working on her newest novel, *Elements of Betrayal*.

Mickey Freeman

Cinematographer

Mickey Freeman has been an award-winning director of photography for 25 years. His honors include the Academy Award nomination for the documentary *Goodnight Miss Ann*. He received an Emmy award for the public affairs promotion of the Oakland Gospel Choir for ABC, an Emmy for his visual portrayal of *The Return To Tule Lake* and most recently an Accolade Award of Excellence for the feature film, *Presque Isle*.

His work ranges from numerous Hollywood feature films including *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *Hurly Burly*, *True Crime*, *Basic Instinct* and many independent features, drama for television, and documentaries.

Mickey's passion for his work is never-ending and his interaction with people creates a rare and compassionate camaraderie as he establishes an immediate connection between the two. This rapport allows the subjects of his camera and his direction to be more of themselves.



Thank you for your interest.

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