

PBlanco Films
UCA Film



PRESENT
GREED

11 Minutes 39 Seconds | Conway, AR, USA | 2023 | English | 1.85:1 | Color

CONTACT:

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LOGLINE

Alice must decide what to do when she encounters an unknown woman in her backyard.

This short film is part of the Feature Length Anthology Film “Damnation”, based on the Nine Circles of Hell in Dante’s Inferno.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Greed is a drama about Alice, who encounters an unknown woman in her backyard when she was locking the back door before heading to a meeting. When she sees the woman laying against her back door, she freaks out and eventually goes outside to kick the woman out. Even if the woman seems to need help, Alice can only think about her meeting and, after kicking her out, she starts driving to her meeting. While driving, she has a moment of self reflection and eventually comes back home to find the woman and help her. However, when she gets back

home, the woman is not there anymore and she finds her phone on the ground. Alice breaks down thinking of her selfishness and feeling guilt.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Alice, a woman with OCD, is getting ready to leave her house. She locks all the windows in her office room and cleans the dining room table. When she approaches the backdoor to lock it, she sees an unknown woman sitting in the backyard with her back against the glass door. She freaks out and runs to her office room, where she calls her husband while spying on the woman through the window, who gets up and starts walking towards the center of the backyard. She tells her husband what is happening, and when he tells her to just lock the door and leave, she refuses to leave the woman in her property and hangs up the phone.

Alice grabs a knife from the kitchen counter and hides it up in her jacket's sleeve. She heads to the back door and sees the woman standing in the middle of the backyard looking at the trees. She sees the woman's damaged phone on the doormat right in front of the door. Alice opens the door and walks outside, closing the door behind her. She grabs the phone with two fingers and approaches the woman telling her that she needs to leave because this is her private property. The woman turns around confused and looks at her, she asks where she is and apologizes. Alice gets closer to her and gives her the phone, and then she walks her to the backyard gate.

The woman tries to ask for a ride but Alice tells her she doesn't have time and kicks her out.

Alice leaves the house and starts driving, leaving the woman walking alone in the street. During the drive, Alice has a vision of the woman, seeing her sad eyes, her dirty clothes and her broken nail. She becomes invaded by guilt and worry, and when she gets out of her trance, she starts driving back to her house. She parks in front of her front door and rushes outside looking for the woman. When she can't see her anywhere in the street, she finds her phone on the sidewalk. She walks to pick it up and sees a lot of missed calls from the woman's mom. Alice gets filled with worry and regret as she looks around the sidewalk in shock with watery eyes.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Making films and telling stories is therapeutic for me. It is how I get to explore who I am and my opinion about the society and world we live in. I like to tell stories that explore human behaviors and introspection in order to make the audience think and start a conversation about morals and perspectives. In this film, I want to explore the territorial greed and selfishness that humans naturally experience, putting our own goals and interests before others. I believe this blinds us from seeing the good we can do to others, eventually leading us to feel guilt.

Alice represents the average middle class citizen who is too worried about what is going on in her life to pay attention to what is happening to others. The way she considers the unknown woman in her backyard dangerous, when this woman seems vulnerable and lost, is something that represents a bigger issue, that of judging people due to their looks or circumstances. I wanted to explore this issue as I believe it is something that almost all of us can relate to because

we are all too focused on our own lives and, sometimes, we forget to offer help to those who need it. I do not think that this makes us bad people as long as we reflect on it and try to change the way we react in certain situations, just like Alice decided to come back to try to help the woman once she was able to self reflect on the way she refused to offer help to someone that needed it.

CONNECTION TO STORY

This short film is based on something that happened to me, as most of the films that I make. I once encountered an unknown woman in my backyard when I was rushing to leave the house and go to work. I did not know what to do and I was scared of the woman because of the situation, so I hid a knife up in my sleeve just in case and I went outside to kick her out. She was confused and did not know where she was, but I was focused on getting her out so I could go to work. I was scared and shocked by the situation, but a few months later, when writing a script about it, I started thinking about how the woman looked like she was drugged or in a weird mental state, and that maybe she was in danger or needed help.

The feelings I had when I thought about the possibility of denying help to someone in need made me think about the complexity of the situation and the natural human response I had, that of putting my own needs first. This experience has taught me a lot about myself and it has made me reflect on the way I judge people. I believe that sharing my experience through this film might start a conversation about territorial and property greed, and how that can have negative effects in society and keep us from helping those in need. If we do not act when we have the possibility, sometimes it might be too late.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

PAULA BLANCO PÉREZ - Director / Writer / Editor

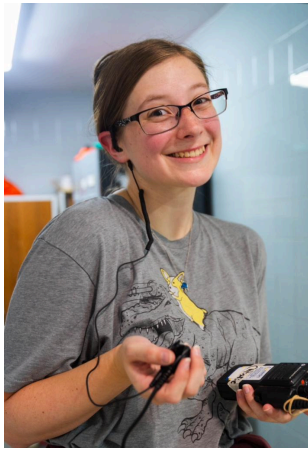


Paula Blanco Pérez is an award winning filmmaker from Madrid, Spain, who has been making movies in Arkansas for 7 years. She has a degree in digital filmmaking from the University of Central Arkansas, where she is now working towards getting her master's in film production. She worked as the Director of Education at Fayetteville Public TV and won a Telly Award for the “Cinematic Rig FPTV Promo” she directed. She has also directed and produced several short films like “Dust”, “Mirona”, and “Dandelion”, which won Best Student Film at Freedom Festival International 2022, and Best International Film at The Continental Film Festival-Tokyo Edition 2022. She has also directed music videos, like "Mistakes & Dear Shadow" which was nominated for Best Student Film at the California

Music Video and Film Awards 2023, commercials, and much more! She is ambitious and motivated to continue making films that combine her Spanish and American culture!

PRODUCER'S BIO

CHRISTINA WATERMAN - Producer



Christina Waterman is a filmmaker from Central Arkansas. As someone who struggles to navigate this fast-paced world, she focuses on making films and writing scripts about mental health issues and the personification of abstract ideas. She enjoys helping others execute their visions as a production designer, and has roughly three years of experience doing so, like for example in Paula's films "Mirona" and "Canchas". She is currently getting an MFA in Film Production at the University of Central Arkansas.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY BIO

CASEY FLOYD - Director of Photography/Colorist



Casey Floyd is a filmmaker from Galveston, Texas. A former news journalist, corporate video producer, and high school teacher. He now spends his time paying way too much attention to light bulbs and trying desperately to make good stories look pretty. He is working towards his graduate degree at the University of Central Arkansas, and he has worked with Paula in her short films "Dandelion" and "Mirona", as well as in his own films "Kind Eyes" and "World's Lamest Teacher".

LEAD ACTRESS BIO

RHONDA GULLIVER - Lead Actress



Rhonda Gulliver is an actress and filmmaker based in Northwest Arkansas. She is currently majoring in Communications at the University of Arkansas. She is an Air Force Veteran pursuing her dreams in the entertainment industry. She has done various short sketches and a few short films to date, including the Little Rock 48 Film Project. She has also recently directed and acted in her short film "Back by Monday". She has acted in many short films around Arkansas, such as "The Forest Through the Trees", "Take It Slow", "Screamer", and the upcoming film "Untitled".

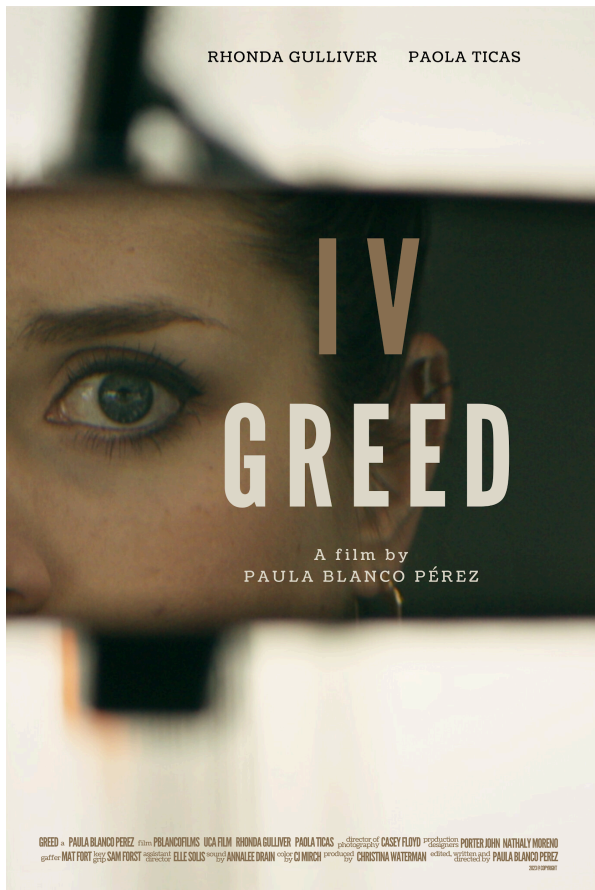
SUPPORTING ACTRESS BIO

PAOLA TICAS - Supporting Actress

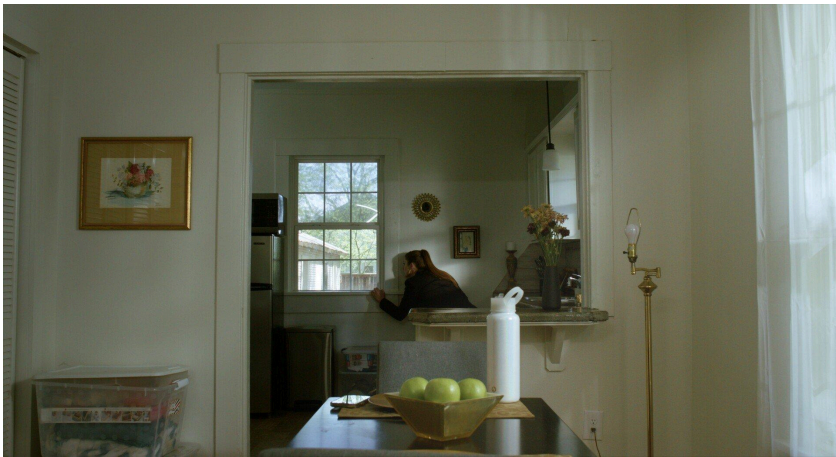


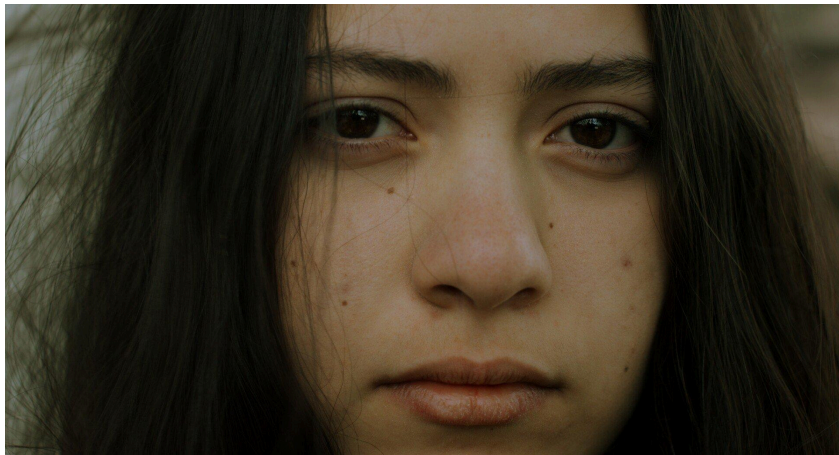
Paola Ticas is a Honduran actress and singer studying at the University of Central Arkansas. Her film debut was in the Hispanic short film “Strawberry”, which was filmed in the Fall of 2022. Since then, she has ventured into more short film roles in student films, and she is excited to continue expanding her career.

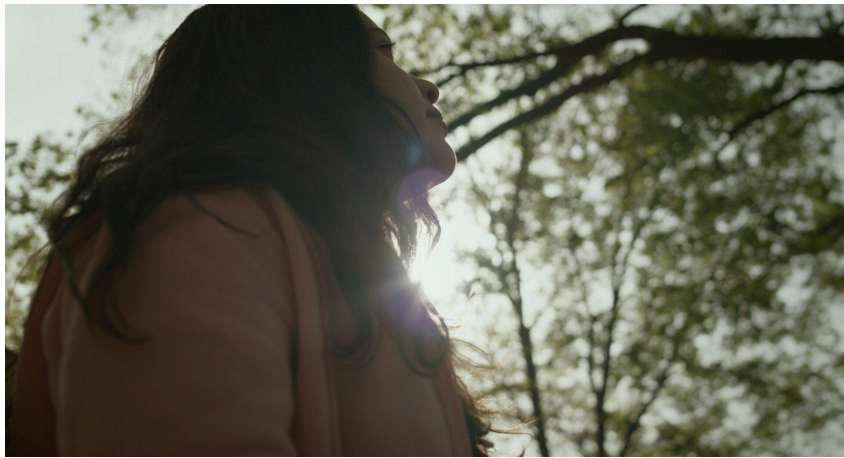
MOVIE POSTER



STILLS







CREDITS

GREED

Written and Directed by
PAULA BLANCO PÉREZ

Produced by
CHRISTIE WATERMAN

Director of Photography
CASEY FLOYD

Production Designers
PORTER JOHN
NATHALY MORENO

Edited by
PAULA BLANCO PÉREZ

CAST

Alice Woman James Voice	RHONDA GULLIVER PAOLA TICAS GRANT PEARSON
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CREW

Director/Writer Producer First Assistant Director	PAULA BLANCO PÉREZ CHRISTIE WATERMAN ELLE SOLIS
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Production Assistants	BRENDAN BURKE JOEY POWELL
Production Designers	PORTER JOHN NATHALY MORENO
Set Decorator	SKYLAR REED
Director of Photography	CASEY FLOYD
1st Assistant Camera	CHRISTOPHER MILLHAM
2nd Assistant Camera	LEXIE MOSBY
DIT	CJ MIRCH
Gaffer	MAT FORT
Key Grip	SAMUEL FORST
Grip	GAVIN SMOKE
Sound Mixer	ANNALEE DRAIN
Boom Operator	EMMA BARRETT
Script Supervisor	SKYLAR REED
BTS Photographer	GAVIN SMOKE
Editor	PAULA BLANCO PÉREZ
Colorist	CJ MIRCH
Caterer	PAULINE ANGELINA
Music Provided by	EPIDEMIC SOUND

SPECIAL THANKS

Mark Thiedeman
 Donna Blanco
 Lance and his Airbnb

PBLANCOFILMS LOGO

UCA LOGO

Conway, AR, USA

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