



A FILM BY ABDULLAH ALMATROOD

فيلم عبد الله المظروعي

الضحية
THE SACRIFICE

PRESS KIT



WWW.ALMATROOD.COM

PUBLICITY & DISTRIBUTION

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SPECIFICATIONS

COMPLETION DATE: September 2024

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: Saudi Arabia

SHOOTING FORMAT: Digital

FRAME RATE: 24FPS

FILM COLOR: Color

RUNNING TIME: 57 MIN — 61 MIN

GENRE: Horror/ Psychological Drama

LANGUAGE: Arabic

SUBTITLE: English

RATIO: 16:9

SOUND: Stereo and 5.1

logline

A Saudi psychological horror, *The Sacrifice* tells the story of four friends who enter an abandoned haunted house, devastated by a merciless blaze the previous year. Little do they know; they may never be able to leave.



الفكرة الرئيسية

حين يجد أربعة أصدقاء مضطربين أنفسهم محبوسين في منزل مسكون، و نتيجة للعب بلوح ويجا التي خرجت عن السيطرة، يحاولون الهرب ليس من المنزل ولكن من القوى المرعبة الكامنة بداخله.



SYNOPSIS

A Saudi psychological horror, *The Sacrifice* tells the story of four friends who enter an abandoned haunted house, devastated by a merciless blaze the previous year. Little do they know; they may never be able to leave.

Abdullah is one of the townsfolk who hears the unsettling news that a local ten-year-old girl has gone missing, casting an eerie shadow on the town. He finds himself drawn to the haunted house, once owned by his grandfather, curious as to what lies within. Some rumors surrounding the house have been proven, others not, casting an eerie shadow on the town. Whispers from the Eastern Province believe that Jinn haunt the house. Intrigued by the circulating tales, Abdullah concocts a daring plan for an unconventional birthday surprise for his best friend Mohamad.

SYNOPSIS

(CONTINUED)

After persuading Mohamad and his friend Nouf, as well as wife Yara, to enter the house, Abdullah embarks on a chilling journey. This begins with a seemingly innocent child-like game of Ouija that's quickly flipped on its head. What began as a thrill has now evolved into a nightmare that will test the fabric of their beings and relationships.

As a terrifying presence lurks in the shadows, each of them descends into their deepest fears, the intricacies of their personal lives, their beliefs, and perspectives. They learn that they are truly alone. Through hallucinations and even sacrifice, Abdullah, Yara, Nouf and Mohamad struggle to decipher between reality and the supernatural. Is the malevolence they face the work of a human, the invisible Jinn, or something within themselves? Whatever haunts the house, now haunts them...will it stop the friends from ever leaving?



الموجز

فيلم "الأضحية" هو فيلم رعب سعودي يروي قصة أربعة أصدقاء يدخلون منزلاً مسكوناً مهجوراً دمره حريق في العام السابق. لكنهم لم يعلموا أنهم قد لا يتمكنون من مغادرته يوماً.

يسمع أحد سكان البلدة، واسمه عبد الله، الأخبار المقلقة عن اختفاء فتاة محلية في سن العاشرة، ويلقي الخبر بظلال من الرعب على البلدة. ينجذب إلى المنزل المسكون، الذي كان يملكه جده ذات يوم، ويعتريه الفضول لاكتشاف ما بداخله. تم إثبات بعض الشائعات المتعلقة بالمنزل، وبعضها الآخر ظل بلا إثبات، وانتشر الخوف من المنزل على امتداد البلدة. برزت شائعات من المنطقة الشرقية تقول إن الجن يسكن المنزل. افترض عبد الله بالحكايات المتداولة فأتى بخطة جريئة لتقديم مفاجأة غير تقليدية لصديقه المقرب محمد بمناسبة عيد ميلاده.

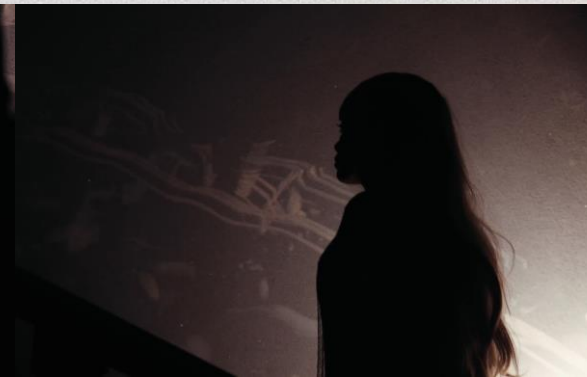
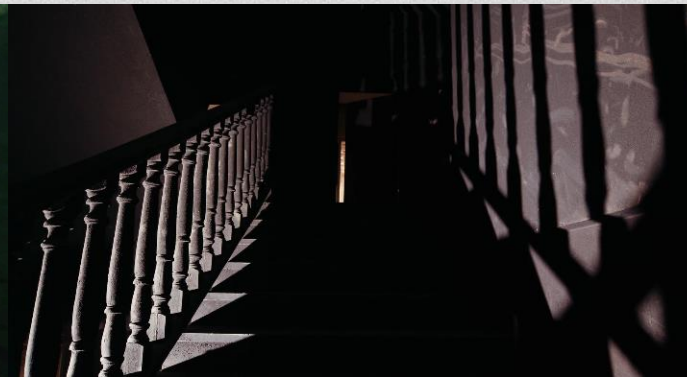
تمكن عبد الله من إقناع زوجته يارا ومحمد وصديقه نواف بدخول المنزل، وانطلقوا في رحلة مخيفة تقشعر لها الأبدان. تبدأ الرحلة بلعبة ويجا تبدو بريئة وطفولية لكنها سرعان ما تتقلب رأساً على عقب. وتطورت المغامرة التي بدأت بحماس إلى كابوس يضع نسيج كياناتهم وعلاقتهم تحت الاختبار.

بينما يتربص بهم الرعب في الظل، يجد كل منهم نفسه في مواجهة أعمق مخاوفه وعُقدته الشخصية ومعتقداته ووجهات نظره. ويدركون أنهم وحيدون حقاً. من خلال الهلوسات وحتى التضحيات، يكافح عبد الله ويارا ونواف ومحمد للتفريق بين الواقع والظواهر الخارقة للطبيعة. هل هذا الشر الذي يواجهونه من صنيع الإنسان، أم أنه من عمل الجن، أم أنه نتاج شيء ما داخل ذواتهم؟ كل ما يسكن المنزل، أصبح يسكن ذواتهم ويتربص بهم الآن... هل سيمنع ذلك الأصدقاء من المغادرة؟

VISUALS



Click [here](#) to view the trailer...





DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Abdullah Almatrood (born March 1986) is a Saudi filmmaker. Almatrood's passion for films started at a young age, as a kid he thought that all characters lives in different realms, especially Cartoon characters.

In 2011, he graduated from Pacific University with a BA in Film and Video production (USA). He wrote, produced, directed and acted in several short films, "*The Knight Hall*" is his first short film (2011). In 2013, *Stranger* (Short Film) was nominated for best editing in Saudi Film Festival. "*Lost Love*" screenplay was chosen for development at the Saudi Film Festival. In 2023, the screenplay was chosen for development workshop at Rawi Screenwriters Lab (Jordan). His screenplay *The Vortex* won third place in the unproduced screenplay category at the 2024 Saudi Film Festival

In 2024, he completed his first feature-length film, *The Sacrifice*. An independent psychological drama/horror film. *The Sacrifice* won Best Horror Film at the Indie House Film Festival and was recently a Semi-Finalist at the 2024 Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival.

He believes that cinema medium touch audience's souls and minds around the world. It teaches us about other cultures and languages that go beyond any art form.

IMDb [Click Here](#)

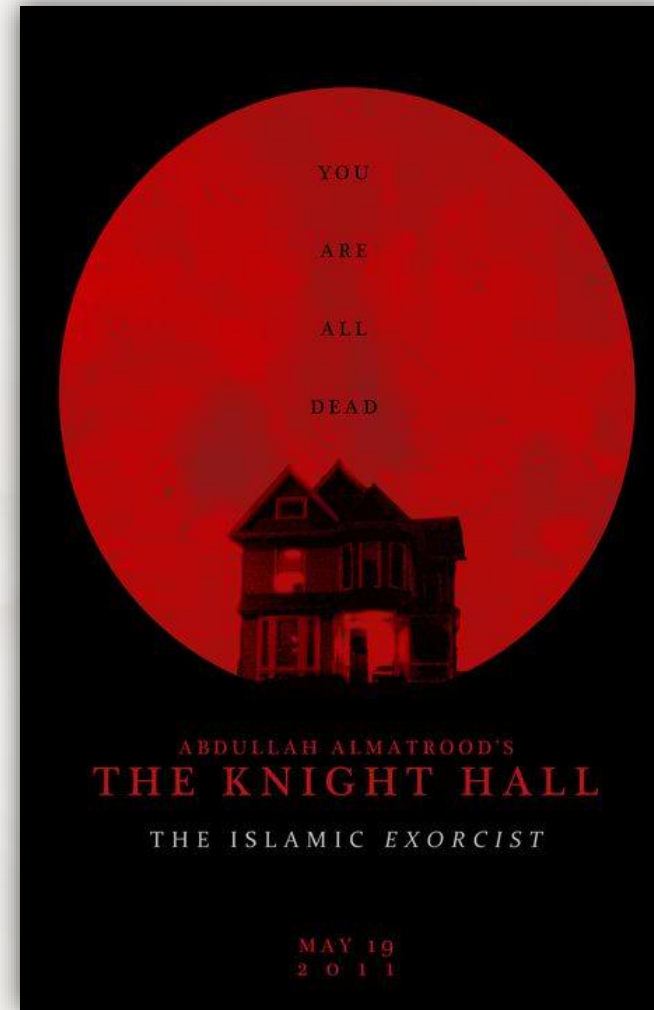
FILMOGRAPHY



THE KNIGHT HALL (2011)

(Narrative, 20MIN 03SEC), USA

Producer/ Director/ Editor/ Actor and Sound Design



STRANGER (2013)

(Narrative 13MIN 26SEC), KSA

Producer/ Director/Editor/ Actor and Sound Design

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

My roots are intertwined with the magnificence of my grandfather's house, where cousins, both male, and female, were my companions. Our shared journey often led us to the third floor a domain that beckoned with caution, a realm we dared not explore alone, for fear of encountering the mysterious or hearing the unfamiliar. In our youthful days, I cannot forget the cautious ascent to the upper floor and the swift descent at the slightest sound. One memory resurfaces a tale from my cousin. He spoke of distant melodies reverberating from a piano's keys, even in the absence of a seated musician.

One of the primary motivations driving me to create this film was my deep connection to my family and the stories we lived in my grandfather's house. This house held our stories, our laughter, and the strength of our bond as devoted grandchildren. When the fire occurred and the house was eventually demolished, its impact on all of us was profound. The film is a product of my imagination, addressing realistic situations that occupy my mind and thoughts about people's relationships, their concerns, choices, and the psychological shifts that can reshape their personal beliefs and perspectives on life, love, and close individuals.

Before the house was demolished, it endured two fires. Thus, before the demolition, I requested my family to grant me some time to film the movie. I penned the script, outlining the film's events and characters on a single page. Periodically, I would revisit the paper and rework it. I also sketched some storyboards (quite inadequately) for the opening and closing shots.





DIRECTOR STATEMENT (Continued)

The editing phase constituted one of the most pivotal stages, as if I was rewriting the film entirely, echoing the sentiment of Jean-Luc Godard: "For me, a movie is in two parts. Writing is less movie [.....] shooting is 50%, and editing is the other 50%. With mixing too."

Numerous films have influenced me, whether directly or indirectly, in the creation of this film. Films like "Suspiria" (1977) and "The Evil Dead" (1981).

The challenge was substantial for me, and I gleaned abundant insights from this experience, building upon my prior short films. Given that this was my first feature-length film, crafted with a personal and modest budget, made feasible through support from close friends and family, we managed to bring it to fruition.

The filmmaking journey has proved to be remarkably enriching for me. I hope that the international audience derives enjoyment from the film and accompanies the characters into a distinct world. Furthermore, I aspire for the film to journey to diverse countries across the globe, granting all viewers the opportunity to partake in its experience.

CAST AND CREW

CAST: Abdullah Almatrood, Komail Alali, Samar Al ajmi, Nada Al-Hajji and Maryam Saad

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER/PRODUCER: Abdullah Almatrood

PRODUCTION MANGER: Nabil Alhakeem

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: May Al Ghoti

DOPS: Hassan Alsaihati, Ahmad Albqshi & Hassan Al-Taroot

PRODUCTION DESIGNER: Eman E. ALMATROOD

COSTUME DESIGNER: Nihad Almatrood

EDITORS: Ali Almushaiqry & Ahmed Al jarodi

MUSIC: Mohammed Haddad & Mohamed Murbati

SOUND DESIGNERS: Tiago Cardoso and Dinis Henriques

MAKEUP: Fatima Al Mualem & Zahrah Alghuryafi

COLORIST: Chiara Coperchini

فيلم ر. عبد الله المطرود

الأضحية

الألعاب ليست للجميع

THE SACRIFICE

GAMES ARE NOT FOR EVERYONE

STARRING ABDULLAH ALMATROOD, KAMAL ALALI, SAMAR AL AJMI, NADA AL-HAJJI, MARYAM SAAD
PRODUCTION: EMAN E. ALMATROOD, COSTUME DESIGNER: NIHAD ALMATROOD, MUSIC: MOHAMMED HADDOO, MHAHMED MURBAT, CO-EDITOR: CHIARA COPPERCHINI
CINEMATOGRAPHERS: HASSAN AL SAHAB, AHMED AL SAIGHI, HASSAN AL TROOT, MAKEUP: FATIMA AL MUALEEM, TAHRAH AL GURYAF
EDITED: ALI AL MISHAQRY, AHMED AL JAROD, SOUND: TADCO CARDOSO, DINS-HENRIQUES, ASSISTANT: MAY AL GOTT, DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: NABIL ALHAKEM
PRODUCING MANAGER: NABIL ALHAKEM, PRODUCED, WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY: ABDULLAH ALMATROOD



فيلم ر. عبد الله المطرود

AN ABDULLAH ALMATROOD PICTURE

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ABULLAH ALMADHDI BROS