

MELANIE GRETCHEN    BRYAN HARLOW    RYAN WESEN

# THE BACK GARDEN



# **THE BACK GARDEN**

## **Overview**

The quiet seclusion of a private garden is slowly consumed by secrets, lies, and self-preservation.

## **Contact info**

Melanie Gretchen

Executive Producer, Writer, Assistant Director  
thebackgardenfilm@gmail.com, (646) 678-0681

## **Technical information**

Running time: 17:33

Exhibition format: .MP4

Aspect ratio: 17:9

Language: English

## **Short summary**

The quiet seclusion of a private garden is slowly consumed by secrets, lies, and self-preservation.

# Q&A

## Melanie Gretchen – Executive Producer, Writer, Assistant Director



### **What was your inspiration for the film?**

When my friend had offered her garden for the film, I thought about how differences may be small but grow and become more obvious over time.

For the most part, the characters, like the garden, look the same, but in their love triangle, the differences between their expectations and reality are magnified by the confines of the garden.

### **What were the major obstacles?**

The weather was a challenge. The garden was covered, and we shot in April 2023, but it was almost all outside, so 12 hours in cool weather felt cold, and spring showers disrupted the first day.

### **What was your favorite part of production?**

I loved developing the script with the director, Pat Bradley, and the principal actors, Bryan Harlow and Ryan Wesen.

The story had started as a romantic drama, then slowly settled into a psychological thriller, which shifted all the casting and acting choices - and we had three rehearsals before the two days for filming, so we had time to discuss the characters and explore their relationships.

# CREDITS

## CAST

Lorenz

Kendall

Jonathan

Melanie Gretchen

Bryan Harlow

Ryan Wesen

## CREW

Director/Cinematographer/Producer

Executive Producer/Writer/Assistant Director

Composer

Editor

Lead Hair & Makeup Artist

First Assistant Camera/Gaffer

Still Photographer, Production Assistant

Production Assistant

Casting Director

Casting

Casting

Casting

Covid-19 Compliance Officer

Rehearsal Consultant

Rehearsal Consultant

Rehearsal Consultant

Credits music

Music performer

Additional music

Pat Bradley

Melanie Gretchen

Steve Zink

Daniel Hodge

Brette Spiekerman

Christopher Possidel

TracyAnn Thomas

Kiasha Chetty

Louisa Jamgochian

Sam Knox

Harvey Shapiro

Janet Zihlmann

Melissa Morse

Bret Huntingdon

Aaron David Kapner

Jonathan Park

Melanie Gretchen

Colin Colford

Marishka Wierzbicki

# CAST AND CREW BIOS

## Pat Bradley - Director, Cinematographer, and Producer



Pat Bradley is a screenwriter/director and script consultant from Queens, New York, the linguistic diversity capital of the world. Unfortunately, he never took advantage of this, butchering every language possible.

After Pat spent two decades writing music and stories for others, he decided it was time to start producing his own work. In December of 2015, Patrick started a film production company, "Always Write Productions." It would produce its first short film "Addicts Abuse" in April of 2016 and its first feature film, "Into the Valli," shortly thereafter.

## Melanie Gretchen – Executive Producer, Writer, and Principal Actor



Melanie Gretchen, based in New York, is executive producer, writer, and principal actor of the award-winning office romance "Like a PowerPoint" and the psychological thriller "The Back Garden." Originally from the Bay Area, she grew up in the Philippines, Malta and Switzerland. In college, she studied journalism, theater and film at the University of Denver.

Since arriving in New York, Melanie has appeared with Lincoln Center in the world premiere of "the public domain" and in the coming-of-age feature film "Homebody" by Alex Alessi. In addition, she is a Founding Supporter of the Tennessee Williams Rectory Museum, located in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where Tennessee Williams grew up.

# CAST BIOS

## Bryan Harlow – Principal Actor



Bryan has been acting since he finished his second Army deployment to East Africa with a variety of indie shorts, plays, and TV spots since he received his master's degree in 2019.

He has written and produced his own projects, including veteran drama “The One They Wanted” and “Burning Virtue,” about pushing back against fanaticism. After acting in “WeCrashed” opposite Jared Leto, he will be appearing in Kathryn Bigelow’s upcoming thriller, “A House of Dynamite.”

## Ryan Wesen – Principal Actor



Ryan Wesen is a native of Arizona and a graduate of the University of Evansville, where he received his BFA. Since arriving in New York, where he is based, he has appeared in “Tommy” opposite Edie Falco.

Recent feature films include thriller “Remnants” on Apple TV, action/sci-fi “Axcellerator” starring “Blade Runner” star Sean Young, and the dark comedy “The Dirty Thirty.”