



SHADOWS

CHICAGO'S UNDERWORLD

When fire fails to kill her, prophecy finishes the job.

TV SERIES PITCH DECK

THE SERIES

*In a city ruled by shadows,
one woman's resurrection awakens a prophecy,
and a war that refuses to stay buried.*

A supernatural drama about bloodlines, betrayal, and what it costs to rise from the ashes.

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THE UNDERWORLD

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Shadows: Chicago's Underworld is a supernatural drama set in present-day Chicago, where rival vampire clans have survived under a fragile, centuries-old treaty.

They rule from the shadows—hidden in plain sight. Until one violent act shatters the balance.

Zaria Waya, a bold vampire with a mysterious bloodline, is nearly destroyed in a public attack. Her survival awakens an ancient prophecy—and reignites tensions between her brother **Kofi**, their creator **Aaron**, and the corrupt forces watching them all.

As alliances fracture and something older stirs beneath the city, survival won't be enough.

It will demand **war!**

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STONE & STYLYE

Dark. Seductive. Dangerous.

A fast-paced fusion of **urban noir**, **supernatural horror**, and **modern myth**—rooted in the blood-soaked underworld of Chicago.

Think:

The blood politics of ***True Blood***,

the grit of ***Power***,

and the intensity of ***Underworld***—

all pulsing through a city that never sleeps... but always feeds.

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VISUAL DNA

Where politics, prophecy, and predators collide.

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MOOD. MYTHOS. MAYHEM.

PILOT

Episode – “Wrong Night”

Zaria breaks vampire law to save a stranger—but her recklessness reignites deep tensions with her twin brother, Kofi. Later that night, she’s attacked and set on fire, awakening a transformation that stirs something ancient and powerful within her.

Aaron, a vampire elder and former ally, saves her—but when his jacket is found at the scene, he becomes the prime suspect.

As Kofi swears revenge, the supernatural treaty collapses—and Zaria vanishes, burned, reborn, and more dangerous than ever.

Meanwhile, Detective Shaw manipulates Kofi while hunting for answers about a string of missing persons—and a chance to avenge his old partner.

And Mayor Vance, who’s profiting from public fear, doesn’t realize the match he lit may burn his entire empire down to the ground.

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SERIES SNAPSHOT

Title	Shadows: Chicago's Underworld
Format	8 Episodes 30 Minutes
Genre	Supernatural Crime Thriller
Setting	Present-day Chicago, with historical flashbacks (1871 and beyond)
Style	Dark, cinematic, and soulful—with a gritty, neo-noir edge.
Pilot Status	Proof of Concept filmed (2025) - Post-production in progress
Pilot Budget	\$1,500 (Self-funded POC demonstrating tone & world-building)
Projected Pilot Budget	\$150K-\$250K (Independent / Network Co-Production Scale)
Series Budget Range	\$1.2M-\$2M per episode (Comparable to Starz / AMC dramas)
Filming Location	Chicago, Illinois

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KEY PLAYER 1 OF 6

ZARIA WAYA

Appears late 20s | Over 100 years old | Twin of Kofi

Zaria Waya is bold, defiant, and dangerously unpredictable. Turned during the Great Chicago Fire alongside her twin brother Kofi, she's spent centuries resisting the role of anyone's legacy or weapon.

After a brutal attack leaves her presumed dead, Zaria returns... changed.

Her powers are unstable. Her hunger is different. And neither Kofi nor Aaron can control what she's becoming.

Now caught between the two most powerful vampires in Chicago, both claiming to protect her, Zaria has no intention of being anyone's pawn.

She's not here to play by old rules.
She's here to break them.

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KEY PLAYER 2 OF 6

KOFI WAYA

Appears late 20s | Over 100 years old | Twin of Zaria

Kofi Waya is ruthless, loyal, and built for war. Turned alongside his sister during the Great Chicago Fire, he's been their protector and strategist ever since.

He leads his faction with a hard code: protect the bloodline, never show weakness, control everything, including Zaria. But her transformation shakes him. Their bond is breaking, and the sister he knew is becoming something else.

Now, as old enemies return and war looms, Kofi must choose:
Protect her—or stop her.

He's not used to losing.
But this time, he might lose everything.

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KEY PLAYER 3 OF 6

AARON NIKAN

Appears late 40s-50s | Over 200 years old | Vampire Elder

Once a prominent hotelier in 1800s Chicago, **Aaron Nikan** lost his family in a suspicious fire in 1857. Grief-stricken and hunted, he accepted immortality from a vampire guest, not to live forever, but to escape pain.

He had a witch seal him in a tomb beside his loved ones. Eternal sleep. No hunger. No war.

Until 1871, when **Zaria's blood awakened him** during the Great Chicago Fire.

Now, Aaron is the quiet force behind a centuries-old vampire treaty.

But Zaria's awakening—and the fire she carries—may force him to break the very laws that keep their world from burning.



KEY PLAYERS

Supporting Cast

🔥 **MALIK** – Aaron’s trusted right hand. A streetwise fixer who moves through the shadows with secrets as his weapon. He plays every side but only trusts himself.

🔥 **DETECTIVE SHAW** – A corrupt cop straddling the line between law and underworld. He’s got a vendetta and a ticking clock.

🔥 **MAYOR VANCE** – The face of the city. Clean suit, dirty agenda. He profits off fear and plans to keep it that way.

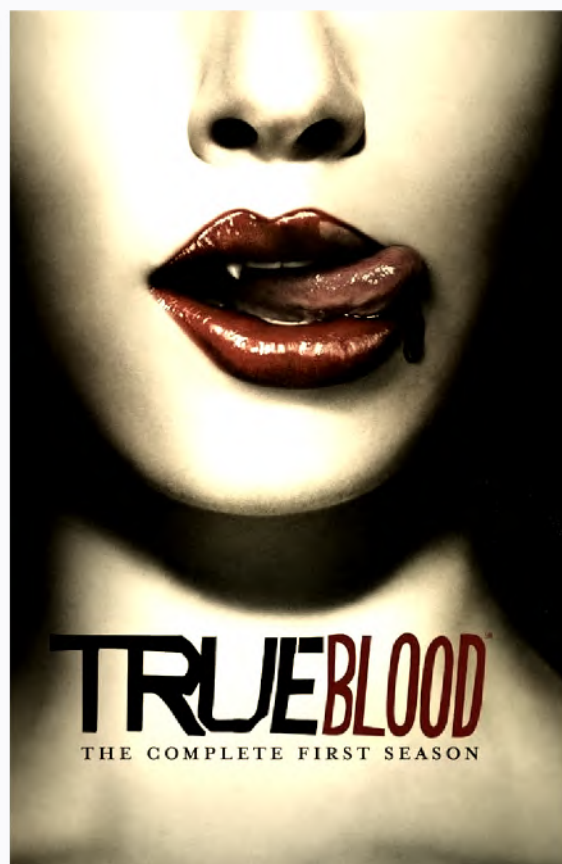
🔥 **THE FIRESTARTER** – A myth reborn. His flame doesn’t just start wars; it awakens ancient bloodlines and forgotten prophecy.



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IF YOU LIKED...



True Blood 2008 -14

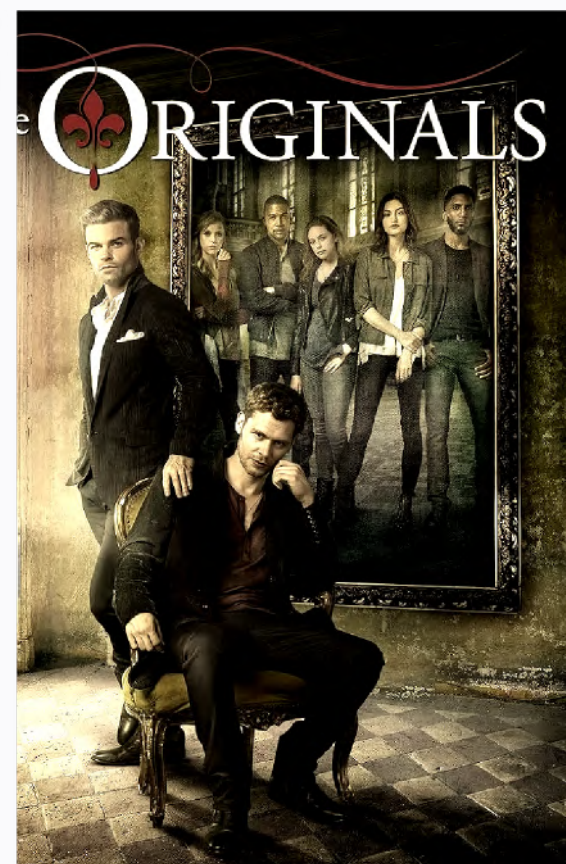
Southern Gothic vampire drama with political undertones and brutal supernatural conflict.

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Power 2014 -20

A gritty, urban tale of loyalty, crime, and power struggles, set in a modern underworld.



The Originals 2013 -18

Family, bloodlines, and ancient vampire politics collide in a tense supernatural hierarchy.



Lovecraft County 2020

Social commentary meets horror through magic, monsters, and systemic power plays.



Interview with the Vampire 2022 -

A dark, emotional reinvention of the vampire mythos exploring identity, love, and power.

FROM THE CREATOR

Margaret Mojica

I grew up loving vampire stories and the things that go bump in the night—but I wanted to see tales like that told through our lens, set in a city like mine. *Shadows: Chicago's Underworld* blends urban grit with ancient myth, rooted in the power and mystery of Chicago.

As a native, writer, and director with films on Tubi and Amazon Prime, I created this for fans of urban drama and Black horror looking for something unique. My filmmaking centers on emotionally grounded characters inside genre worlds that challenge what we think we know.

Visually, this series is dark, stylish, and charged with tension. I want viewers to walk away questioning what real power looks like—and how monsters hide in plain sight.

I'm currently seeking collaborators and production partners to move **this project into pre-production.**

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For inquiries, collaborations, or partnership opportunities, reach out.

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