

Sketchy Characters

A Dark Comedy Feature Film
Written/Directed by Jacob French

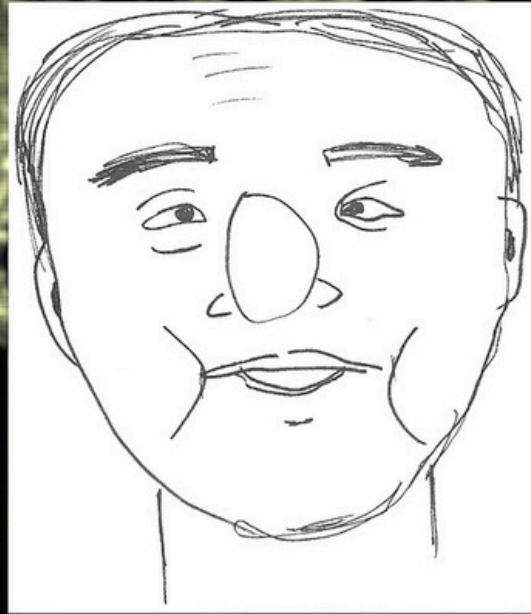
Pitch Deck



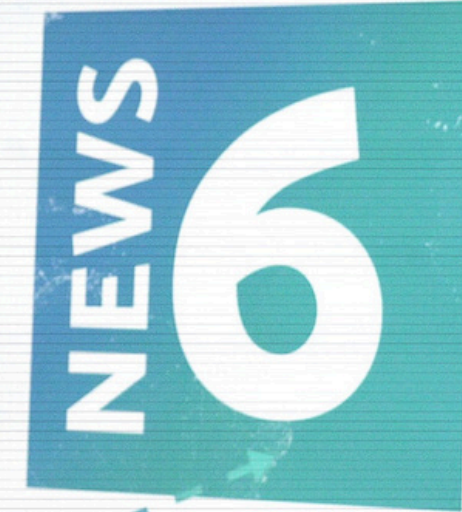
Adapted from the Award-Winning Short Film

Vicki is a sketch artist who just wants her art to be taken seriously; Dennis is a murderer who just wants to be feared. When a fateful encounter thrusts them both into the limelight, a deadly game of cat and mouse begins.





Courtesy of Vicki Daniel



BAD DRAWING SPARKS MURDER?

LIVE

8:32 49°

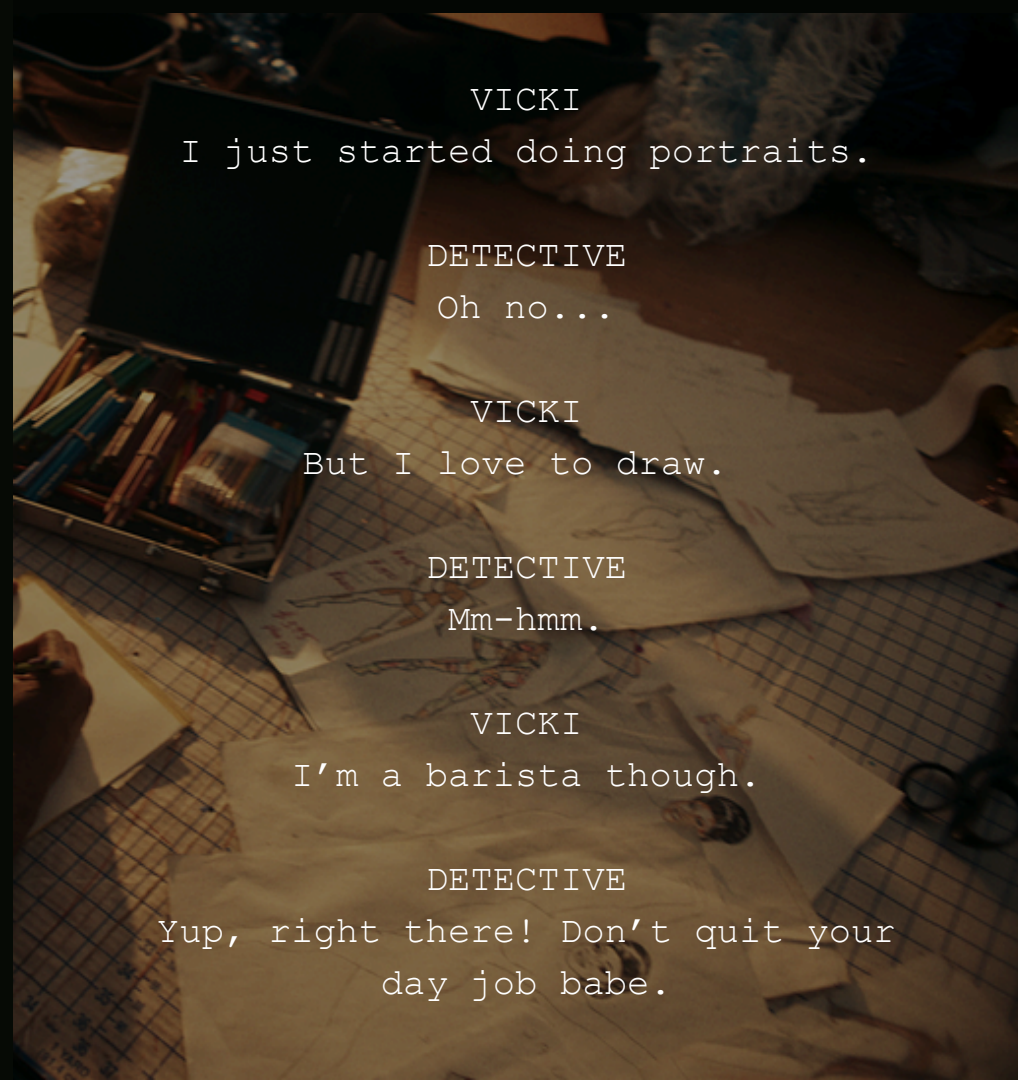
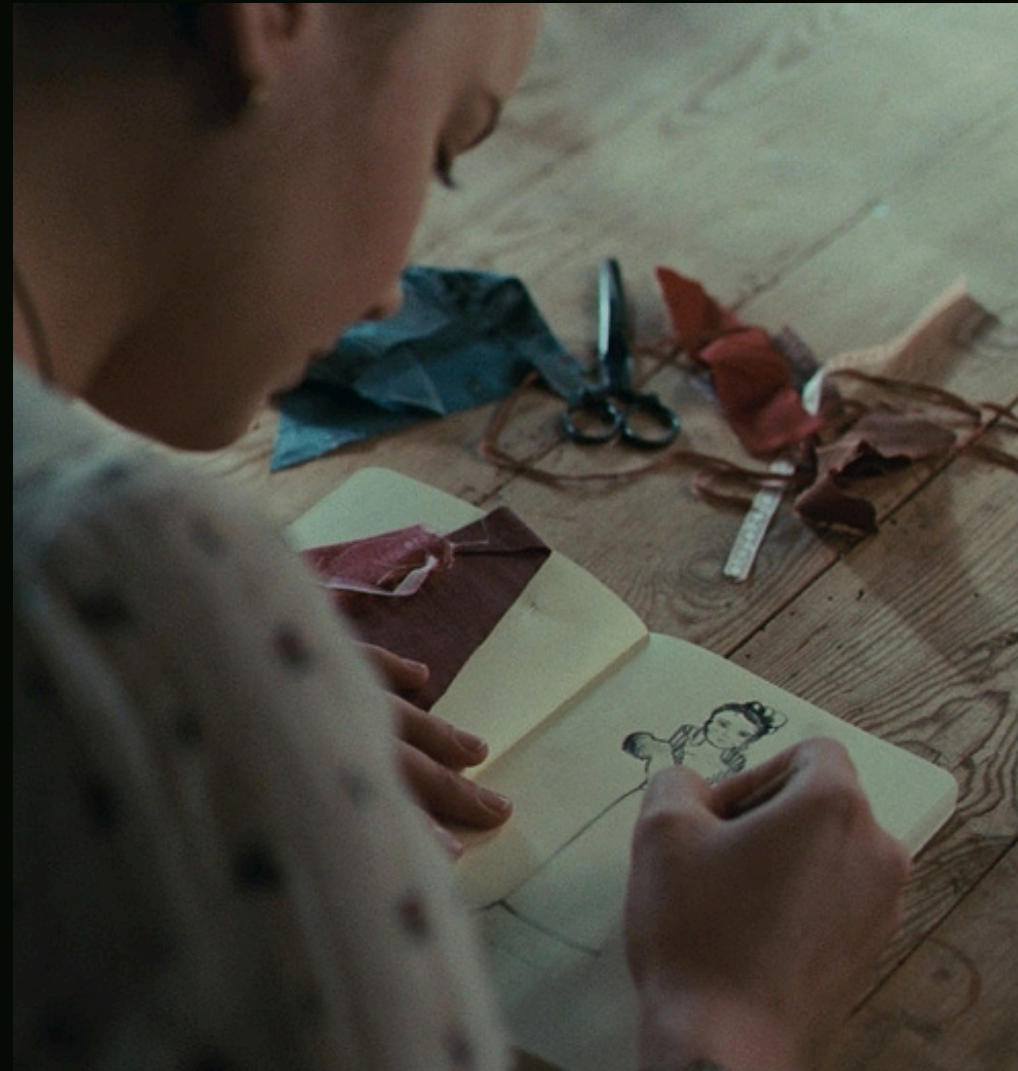
ANCHOR

The drawing does not successfully capture the likeness of a human being, and the composition has only increased confusion in this department. We have also not ruled out the possibility that the drawing may be a factor in the perpetrator's decision to commit murder.

Characters

Vicki

Shy, quiet, unassuming, but with a deep passion for art. She's stuck working as a barista, and struggles to stand up for herself against her coworkers. Throughout the film she grapples with her own self-worth and what it means to be an artist



VICKI
I just started doing portraits.

DETECTIVE
Oh no...

VICKI
But I love to draw.

DETECTIVE
Mm-hmm.

VICKI
I'm a barista though.

DETECTIVE
Yup, right there! Don't quit your day job babe.

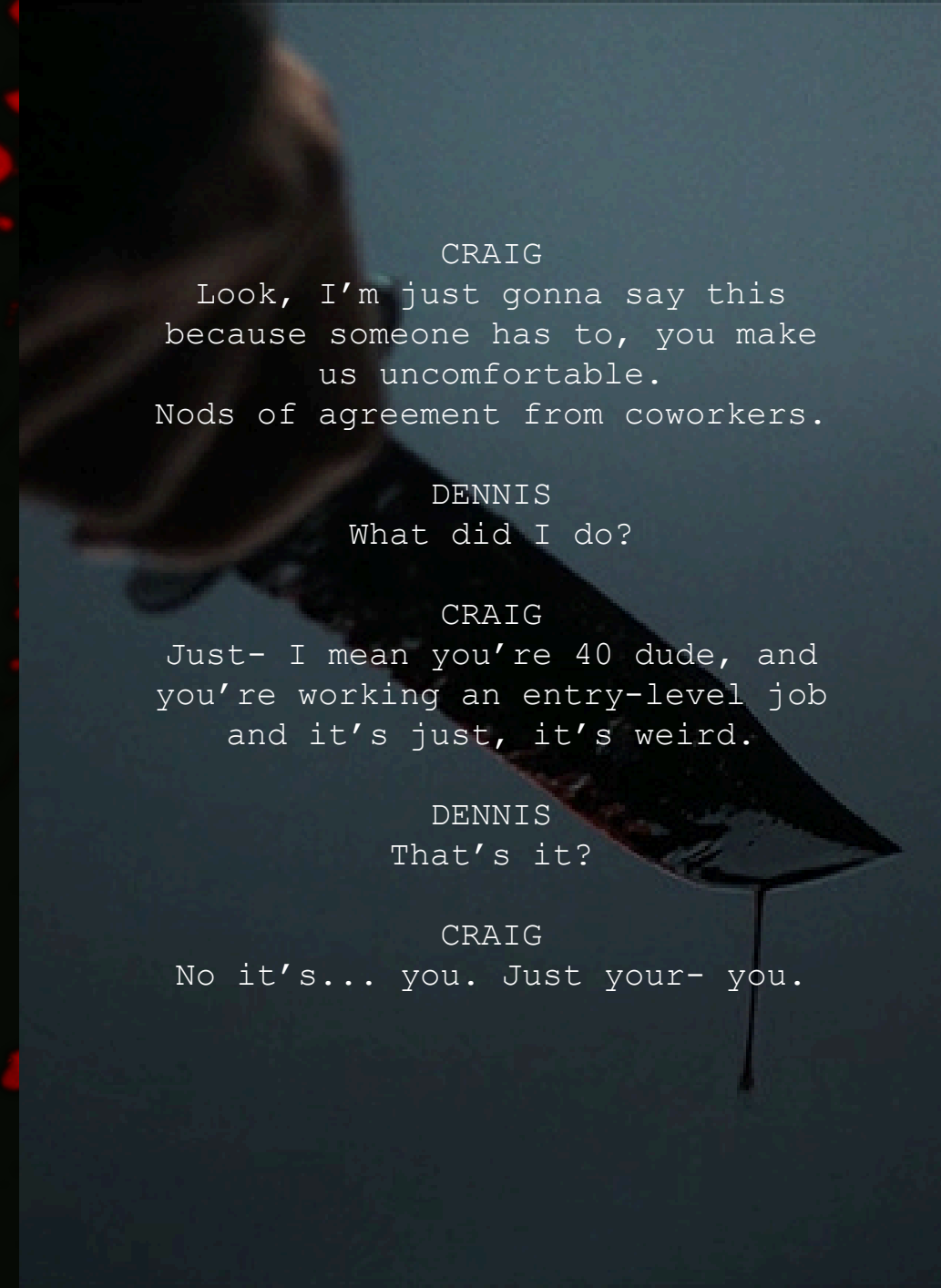


Characters

Dennis

Dennis wants to be Patrick Bateman.
He is not.

A wannabe writer turned serial killer,
Dennis wants to be feared and
respected, but is sloppy and
careless. However, his fury-driven
stubbornness and sheer luck make
him a dangerous foe.



CRAIG
Look, I'm just gonna say this
because someone has to, you make
us uncomfortable.
Nods of agreement from coworkers.

DENNIS
What did I do?

CRAIG
Just- I mean you're 40 dude, and
you're working an entry-level job
and it's just, it's weird.

DENNIS
That's it?

CRAIG
No it's... you. Just your- you.



Characters

Vicki's Mom

Vicki's Mom is a famous painter, who is incredibly embarrassed by Vicki's attempted art career. While on the run from Dennis, Vicki hides out at her mom's country cottage and the two fight over Vicki's life choices.



Visual Style



Dark neo-noir cinematography leaning into a stylized crime film aesthetic, subverting expectations for a comedy

Themes and Vision

Sketchy Characters is an exploration of the value of art making, and dives into themes of wanting to be seen and loved for who you are. These messages are especially timely right now with the rise of Generative AI, and "art" that foregoes process in favor of a more polished result that's devoid of humanity.



It takes place in a heightened world of crime and danger, where everyone kinda sucks at what they do. The film is hilarious, thought provoking, gory and violent, and genuinely scary.





General Info:

Anticipated Rating: R

Approximate Budget: \$50k

Target Audience: Young adults, fans of dark horror comedy and genre films

Contact jacob@shoestringfilms.net for more information!

STUART
Lots of unhappy customers today, Vicki.
Lots of angry folks. What's going on out
there?

VICKI
I'm sorry.

STUART
You better step it up tomorrow, OK? Back
to bad art.

VICKI
Ok.

STUART
Don't get experimental on me. Bitch.



The background of the image is a solid black color, overlaid with a pattern of red splatters and streaks. These splatters are scattered across the frame, with a higher concentration on the left side, creating a dynamic and textured effect.

Thank You