

A FILM BY JACOB ESTRADA

ELLIOT'S FIRST HALLOWEEN

"WHAT WILL ELLIOT DO?"



LOGLINE

As his hearing fades, nine-year-old Elliot drifts through Halloween in a crowded suburb, following the only voice that reaches him with clarity—a mysterious girl no one else seems to notice.



FILM SYNOPSIS



Elliot's First Halloween is a 10-minute psychological horror short about childhood isolation and a first encounter with morality and fear.

Forced to wear hearing aids, Elliot's world becomes fragmented—voices blur, sounds disappear, and meaning slips away. Caught between overwhelming noise and eerie silence, he is drawn to a mysterious girl who urges him to turn them off and choose peace.

Amidst it all, Elliot experiences fear alone for the first time—coming face to face with violence, death, and the cost of turning away from his own curiosity.



DIRECTOR'S VISION

"Set against the familiar backdrop of Halloween, the film transforms a traditionally playful environment into something distant, uncanny, and quietly threatening. It is a study of curiosity—especially the human obsession with what is 'wrong.'

There is something strange about Halloween. We celebrate what we fear, glorify the grotesque, and find ourselves drawn to it. It's fun—but it's not clear why. It's intriguing how Elliot is so curious about the very things that terrify him. Maybe it is a longing for understanding. But the psychology runs deeper. He feels sorrow while watching live poultry being slaughtered, while casually consuming a roasted chicken leg!

The film highlights that contradiction and poses two central questions: Is our curiosity a search for knowledge—an attempt at understanding—or is it something darker, a subconscious pull toward the more unsettling parts of human nature? And when being confronted with this, what does one do?"

- Jacob Estrada

FILM TONE

- Eerie
- Pastoral
- Melancholic
- Dreamlike
- Nostalgic
- Poignant
- Surreal



VISUAL STYLE

Inspired by 1960s–70s film stock and vintage suburban realist paintings, the film embraces an atmospheric, nostalgic tone—like a fading memory captured in the form of an oil painting.

Instead of presenting horror in darkness, the film explores dread in broad and exposed daylight. The ordinary sunlight itself becomes unsettling.

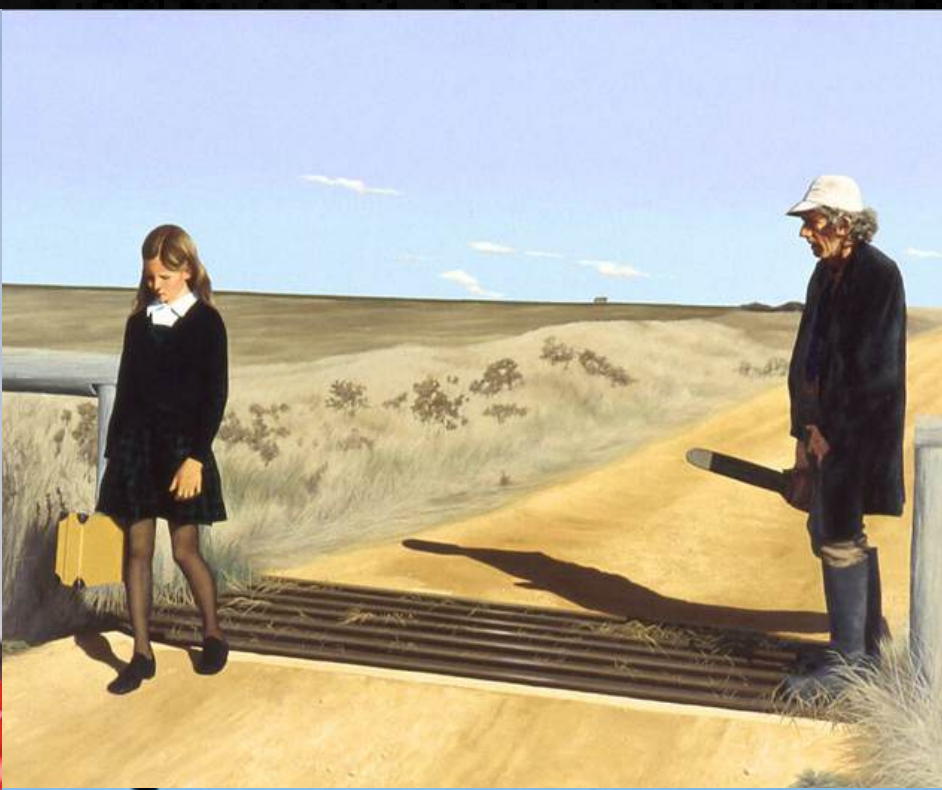
The primary inspiration for the film comes from the sentimental paintings of Bo Bartlett, especially his 2016 piece “Halloween”.

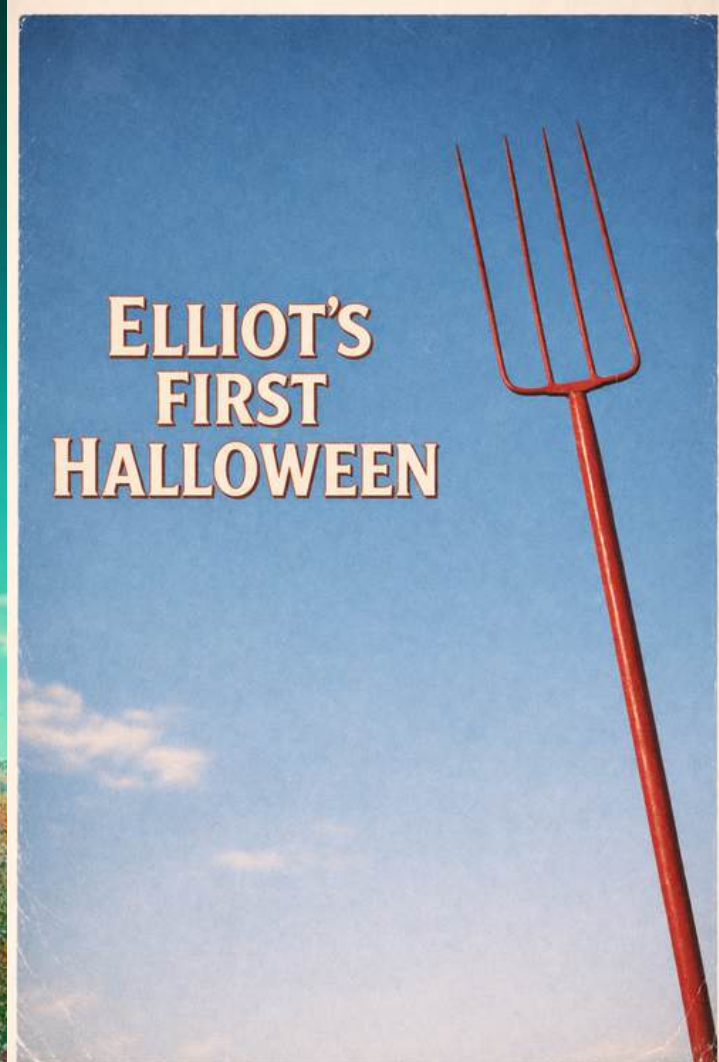


VISUAL REFERENCE

- PAPILLION(1973)
- THE HILLS HAVE EYES(1977)
- ENY'S MEN(2023)

- PARIS, TEXAS(1984)
- DREAMS(1990)





POSITIONING & MARKETING

ELEVATED HORROR IN FAMILIAR SPACES

Recent films such as *Midsommar* and *It Follows* have demonstrated a growing demand for horror where tension is built through quiet suspense and atmosphere, as opposed to traditional darkness. *Elliot's First Halloween* fits into this space by embracing literal quiet dread under the hot sun of it's isolated farm town sky.

STREAMING & FESTIVAL DISTRIBUTION

As demand grows for visually distinct, director-driven horror, *Elliot's First Halloween* is well positioned for both festival exhibition and digital distribution. Its restrained yet concise storytelling and strong visual aesthetic make it compatible with curated festivals of varying focuses, before transitioning into a streaming or digital release.

PRODUCTION SUMMARY

Script	10 Pages
Shoot Length	3 Days
Cast	Minimal
Locations	2

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Projected Budget Target	\$55,500
Production	\$43,000
Post-Production	\$5,000
Festivals	\$2,500
Promotion	\$5,000

GET INVOLVED

SEEKING PRODUCING PARTNERS, COLLABORATORS, AND FUNDING TO BRING THIS FILM TO LIFE

EMAIL

Jacobestrada2029@gmail.com

LUIS ESTRADA (PRODUCER)

[831] 840 - 3674

SOCIAL MEDIA

@jacobestrada2029





THANK YOU!