

## **INQUIRIES**

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### **BRENNAN MCGEE**

WRITER/DIRECTOR btmcgee@berkeley.edu (530) 575-5931

## **OVERVIEW**

### WEBSITE

www.wlhpshort.com

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@ wlhp\_short



imdb.com/title/tt23639472

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### **SPECS**

**GENRE** Dark Comedy

**DATE OF COMPLETION** August 20, 2023

ANTICIPATED RATING

**RUNTIME** 18 minutes

ASPECT RATIO 2:1

SHOOTING FORMAT Digital

AUDIO FORMAT Stereo

**FRAME RATE** 24 fps

**LANGUAGE** English

## LOGLINE

A self-loathing writer finds himself without his penis.

## **SYNOPSIS**

Wesley Loses His Penis is about a writer entrenched in selfhatred and beckoned by the siren's call, who is deprived of his penis by a supernatural ram. To regain it, he'll need to jump through a series of humiliations while facing the existentialism of what he will role-model to his soon-to-be son.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Wesley was born of my strife as a writer to finish a project for the life of me, I couldn't. The script went through a series of title changes: *Game Boy, House, Desk*, before arriving at *Wesley Loses His Penis*. I was living at home during the lockdown and my mental health was at an all time low.

Naturally I got further into spirituality and Eastern philosophy, and I kept coming across this idea of 'starting again.' It's the idea that any past unholy deeds you've committed don't need to define who you are as this version of yourself; it's why Christians confess, Buddists meditate, and writers drink.

Because I didn't have a burning desire to become an alcoholic, I developed a practice of self-forgiveness and as I did my mental health improved. The process was fairly all-consuming, and they say to write about what you know, so I wrote about this. Wesley's arc toward self-forgiveness mirrors mine, the small difference being his penis is taken away from him by a supernatural ram and (thankfully) that's never happened to me.

#### - BRENNAN MCGEE

Writer & Director, Wesley Loses His Penis



## THE TEAM



## WRITER & DIRECTOR BRENNAN MCGEE

BRENNAN McGEE is a Los-Angeles based writer-director tending toward the psychological. Brennan has a difficult time working on projects that are not deeply and difficultly human. His film APARTMENT 28, about an eccentric and self-repressed filmmaker, won "Best Director" and "Best Comedy" at the Grizzly Film Festival and was featured in the A+D Made at Berkeley Undergraduate Catalog. In 2020 he directed a PSA about teen mental health and in 2021 Brennan curated and directed the 2021 Paonia Film Festival.



DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
KENZEN TAKAHASHI

KENZEN TAKAHASHI is a cinematographer who shoots all over the country collaborating with a diverse roster of directors and production creatives who share his passion for innovative and effective storytelling. He cut his teeth as a grip on the Netflix production 13 REASONS WHY and has continued to hone the craft of shaping light and creating beautiful images. Most recently he has garnered a number of awards for a short film CABIN FOR TWO, and recent feature credits include HELLBENT ON BOOGIE directed by Vito Trupiano. He is also an official ambassador for Sony and a number of other educational cinematography platforms.

## THE TEAM



## PRODUCER SIERRA OLESON

SIERRA OLESON is an American film producer coming off producing CABIN FOR TWO, a short film which has garnered awards globally. Sierra has worked on numerous television shows such as 13 REASONS WHY and ALWAYS SUNNY IN PHILADELPHIA, gaining invaluable production experience while founding a production company DOOR30THREE. She is currently writing her debut short film in addition to producing WESLEY LOSES HIS PENIS.



PRODUCER
AVERY CHUNG-MELINO

AVERY CHUNG-MELINO is a digital marketer by day and is a producer and production designer by night. Her passion for visual and written storytelling led her to filmmaking, where her focus is on projects that explore themes of womanhood, identity, and cultural belonging. She was president of UC Berkeley's longest-running film club, GiANT Filmmakers, and is an alumna of the cinema fraternity Delta Kappa Alpha. Her most recent project, THE PHOENIX, where she was the Producer of Marketing, has been accepted at over 30 festivals and won thirteen awards.

## THE TEAM



CREATIVE PRODUCER
JONAH MOSHAMMER



CREATIVE PRODUCER
SUNCE FRANICEVIC



PRODUCTION DESIGNER
JOSE CAVAZOS



INTIMACY COORDINATOR
HAILEY MASHBURN



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAM HOILAND



SOUND DESIGNER DEVON LUI



SFX ARTIST
MACA ALBORNOZ



KEY GRIP
MARCUS CHAMPION



DOLLY GRIP EVAN DAVIES

## CAST & CHARACTERS



### **WESLEY**

#### Portrayed by Alex Herrald

(35) Our protagonist. Stuck in a loop of self-deprecation. He doesn't think much of himself but he's all he thinks about. He can't write. He can't stay loyal to his wife. He can't step up to be a father. He's living a self-fulfilling prophecy of selfbelittlement.



### **VALORIE**

#### Portrayed by Serra Naiman

(32) Wife to Wesley. Loyal. Recovering from childbirth, wrapped up in caring for her son. She's not sure how she ended up with such a spineless possum of a husband.



### BOY

#### Portrayed by William Hennefer

(13) Wesley's future son. Our moral compass, and a wake-up call for Wesley to confront his self-hatred in order to have the self-confidence to stand up and become a good father to his new-born.



## **MONICA**

#### Portrayed by Sophia Salesky

(27) Wesley's object of sexualization. She's a dime. She drinks green tea. She wears no make-up. She surely has a deep inner-personal life but we see none of it in this film.



### CAFE WORKER

#### Portrayed by Kot Takahashi

(31) He's been working at Rammy's since he was a teen: hoping for a managerial position someday but it's unlikely he'll get it.



### **RAMMY**

(4,279) Sadistic, seemingly just for sake of being sadistic. Rammy points at all that is wrong with Wesley. He's the internal scrutinous father: the externalization of Wesley's internal mockery.

## **CREDITS**

Director/Writer/Editor

Brennan McGee

**Producers** 

Sierra Oleson

Avery Chung-Melino

**Creative Producers** 

Jonah Moshammer

Sunce Franicevic

**Director of Photography** 

Kenzen Takahashi

1st AC

Alex Cameron

2nd AC

Alex Bierwagen

**Camera Utility** 

Sean Maydoney

**BTS Photographer** 

Dom Bowker

**1st Assistant Director** 

Sam Hoiland

**2nd Assistant Director** 

John Fields

**Script Supervisor** 

Robbie Racine

**Production Designer** 

Jose Cavazos

**SFX Artist & Art Director** 

Maca Albornoz

**Set Dressers** 

Devon Lui

Sean Maydoney

**Special Effects Supervisor** 

Angie Shell

**SFX Artists** 

Shane Thomas

**Xhuy Rios** 

**Sound Designer** 

Devon Lui

**Costume Designer** 

Briana Lisette

**Key Makeup Artist** 

**Emily Margaret** 

Gaffer

Nick Dias

**Key Grip** 

Marcus Champion

**Electrican** 

Spencer Lemmon

**Dolly Grip** 

**Evan Davies** 

**Best Boy Grip** 

Patrick Walsh

**Grips** 

Angelo Arcamo

Jon Sun

Alexander Scott

**Intimacy Coordinators** 

Hailey Mashburn

Jenna Larson

**Graphics Artist** 

Eli N'Kai

Colorist

Jensen Vinca

Composer

Wes Hughes

**VFX Artist** 

**Ariel Porta** 

**Executive Producer** 

John McGee

**Associate Producers** 

Lisa Badour

Michael McGee

PAs

Joel Sauter

**Emily Doe** 

**Gear Provided By** 

Mike Best

Jason Noel

**Brandon Smith** 

DTC Lighting & Grip

Steelhip Lighting & Grip

Ranahan Production Services

Bulldog Lighting & Grip

Chater Camera

**Special Thanks** 

Michelle McGee

Luci & Nancy Solyan

Rachel McMahon

Steve Sicotte

David & Sandy Hershberger

Steve Benoit & Larry Bushy

Sarah Steuer

Mira Koppel

Hailey Sanchez

Molly McGee

Joel Sauter

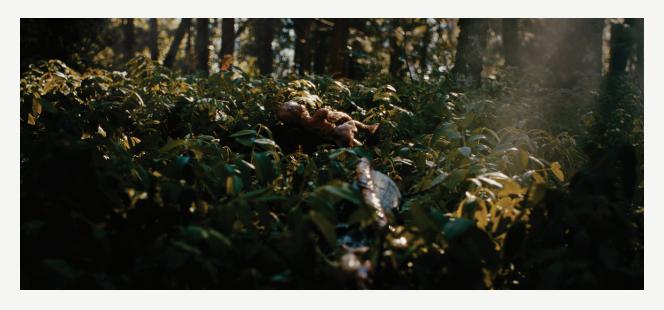
Jake Billingsley

















# WESLEY LOSES HIS PENIS

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