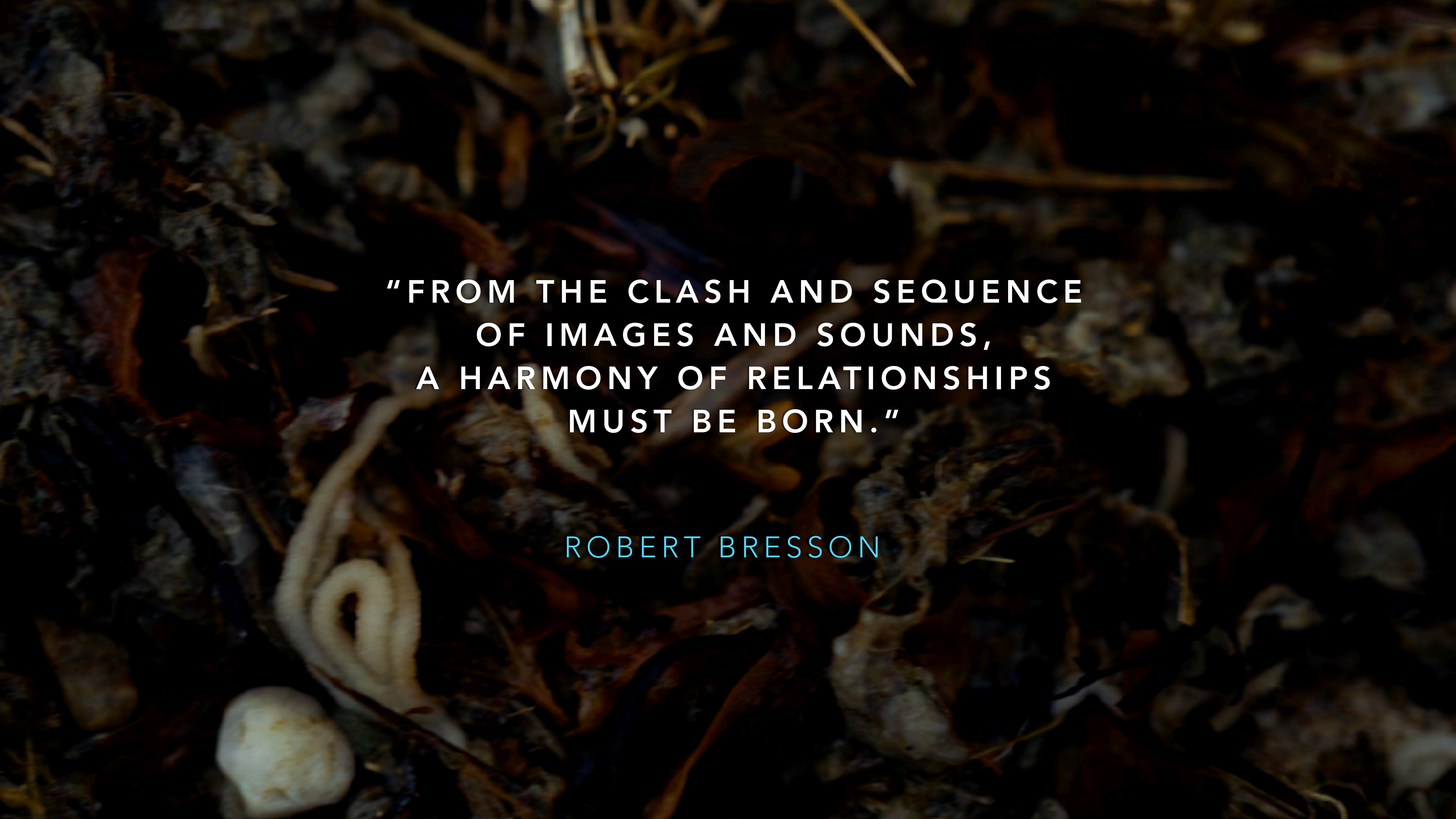




FEATURE FILM

# BEACH TOWN MAIDENS

SOME DON'T DROWN, THEY RETURN

A dark, textured background of dried leaves and twigs, with a quote in white text.

"FROM THE CLASH AND SEQUENCE  
OF IMAGES AND SOUNDS,  
A HARMONY OF RELATIONSHIPS  
MUST BE BORN."

ROBERT BRESSON

An Estonian student on a summer Work and Travel program in the Hamptons falls into a fragile romance with a troubled local heir just as young women begin disappearing in rip currents — drawing her toward what's hiding beneath the waves.



## Background

Every year, students from around the world come to the U.S. on a short-term work-travel program called a J-1 visa. While intended to promote cultural goodwill, the program brings together people from entirely different worlds, sometimes from diametrically opposed social classes. The filmmakers themselves have direct experience with the J-1 program.

In *Beach Town Maidens*, this mixing of cultures and social classes results in a toxic brew where jealousies and questionable allegiances expose inherent vices. For main character Adele, a “J-1er” from Estonia, the consequences are dire: her seemingly innocent seasonal flirtation grows into a lethal confrontation, and an unsettled, tragic finale.

The film is also a twist on a familiar tale: It is an immigrant story told non-conventionally set against a seemingly idyllic summer romance in the Hamptons. The main character undergoes a transformative journey, defying her own expectations and surpassing personal boundaries to save her lover and confront her own self-righteousness.

The plot of the film intricately weaves in myths and tales associated with the Hamptons, lending a sense of history and folklore to the story.



## The Story

Adele, a student from Estonia, arrives in the Hamptons in early summer through a Work and Travel program. Back home, her fiancé Mikhel expects her to return with money for their wedding. He calls constantly, often jealous and suspicious about what she is doing in America. Just as it was back home.

Adele moves into a small house where she lives with Teresa, an older Polish seasonal worker who has spent many summers in the Hamptons. Teresa keeps to herself but helps Adele settle in and shows her around town. She also warns her about the ocean and the strong rip currents along the coast. Every year, she says, someone disappears in the water.

Adele starts working at a coffee shop. One of the regular customers is Kyle, the son of a wealthy local family. Kyle spends most of his time drinking and hosting small parties in houses his family owns. His father quietly protects him whenever trouble appears.

Despite Teresa's warnings and Mikhel's constant phone calls, Adele and Kyle begin seeing each other. She rides bikes to his town, they go out on boat rides, beach walks, and stroll about town shops and restaurants. And of course, parties where she feels out of place and Kyle's friends make fun of her. Their relationship grows quickly. She quits her job.

## The Story

Rip currents silently claim girls along the coast, TV's announce warnings everywhere. Teresa grows increasingly watchful, at the police office, she presses an officer for answers about the disappearances. He is polite but evasive, secretly working with Kyle's father to hide the truth.

Teresa spends long periods near the water and seems unusually connected to the ocean. At one point Adele sees something in the water while swimming with Teresa, though it is unclear what it was: a shadow, or an ancient monster. Once after an instance of impromptu inhaling glue with Kyle, Teresa seems to appear and prevent Adele from helping Kyle when he's passed out. That turns into a violent fight and Adele causes Teresa to break her neck. Whether it was imaginary, a dream or reality Adele does not know.

The relationship between Adele and Kyle begins to fall apart after a misunderstanding about a credit card. Kyle's father had left him the card, and Adele believed it was meant for her. She uses it to buy clothes and other things, spending more than thirty thousand dollars. Kyle only realizes this while planning to buy a ring for her. The discovery leads to a painful argument at a party she was not invited to, and they break up.

## The Story

Adele is disoriented, she walks into the water, Teresa emerges from the bottom and transformation starts. The next day Adele's coworker Lisa inquires from Teresa what happened to Adele, that inquiry grows into a fight. Lisa ends up in the water and drowns in what looks like a rip current. Later, after another party, Teresa finds Kyle's ex-lover, Kim, drunk and alone and drives her toward the beach. Kim also disappears in the water.

Kyle's life begins to fall apart. He drinks heavily and becomes paranoid. He believes he sees Adele even when she is not there. He goes to see his mother and promises he will clean up.

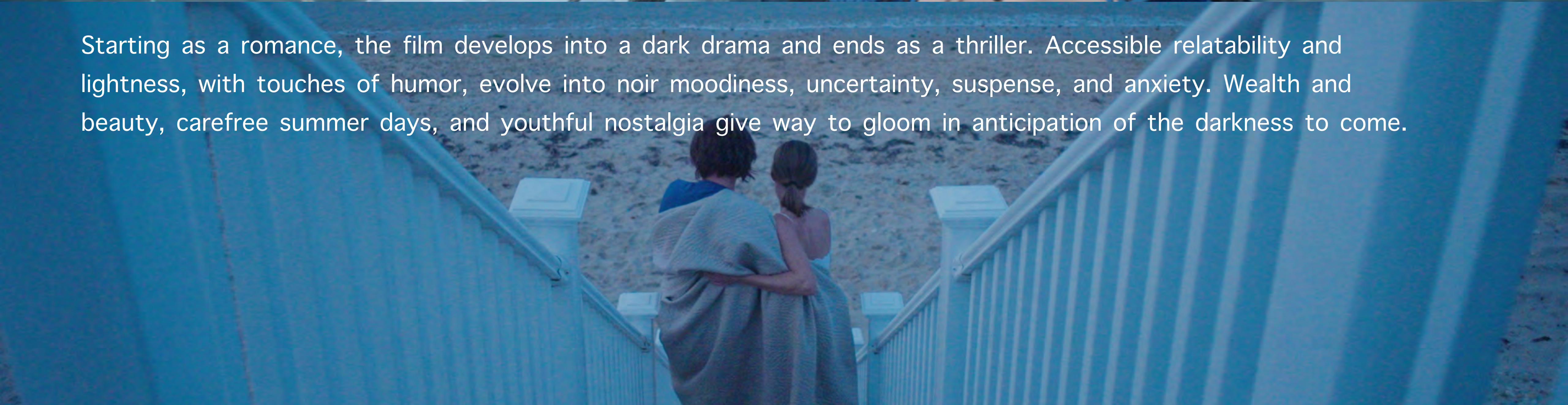
In the final moments, Adele and Kyle are together again by the ocean. The water is cold and the beach is empty. Adele sits at the shore holding Kyle in her arms, and begins making a strange, wordless sound toward the sea — something closer to a call than a song. It is not clear whether what has been happening is real, but Adele now seems connected to the ocean in the same unsettling way Teresa once was. Her voice carries across the water, quiet, haunting. The danger of the ocean hasn't passed, but Adele is part of it now.





NARRATIVE TONE:

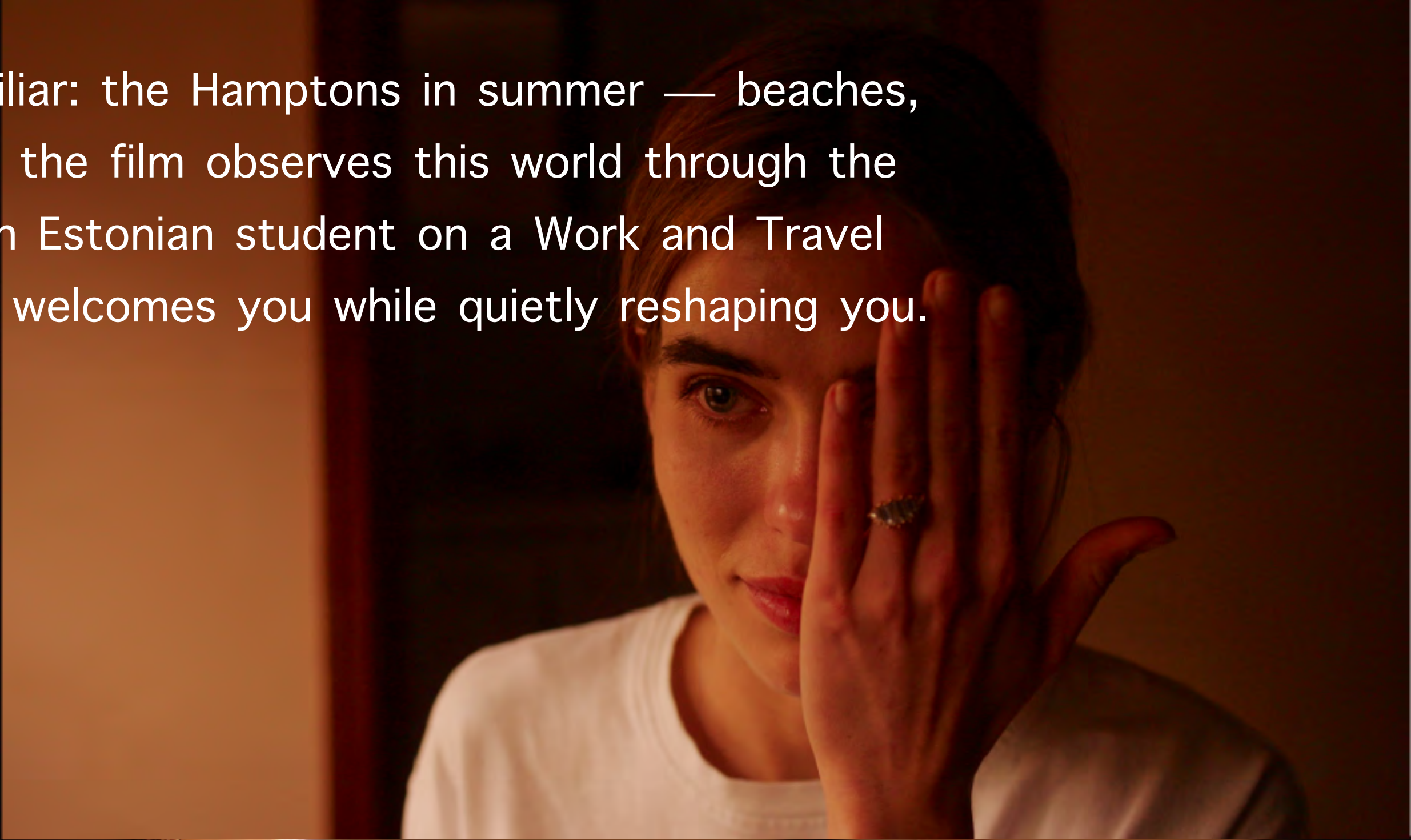
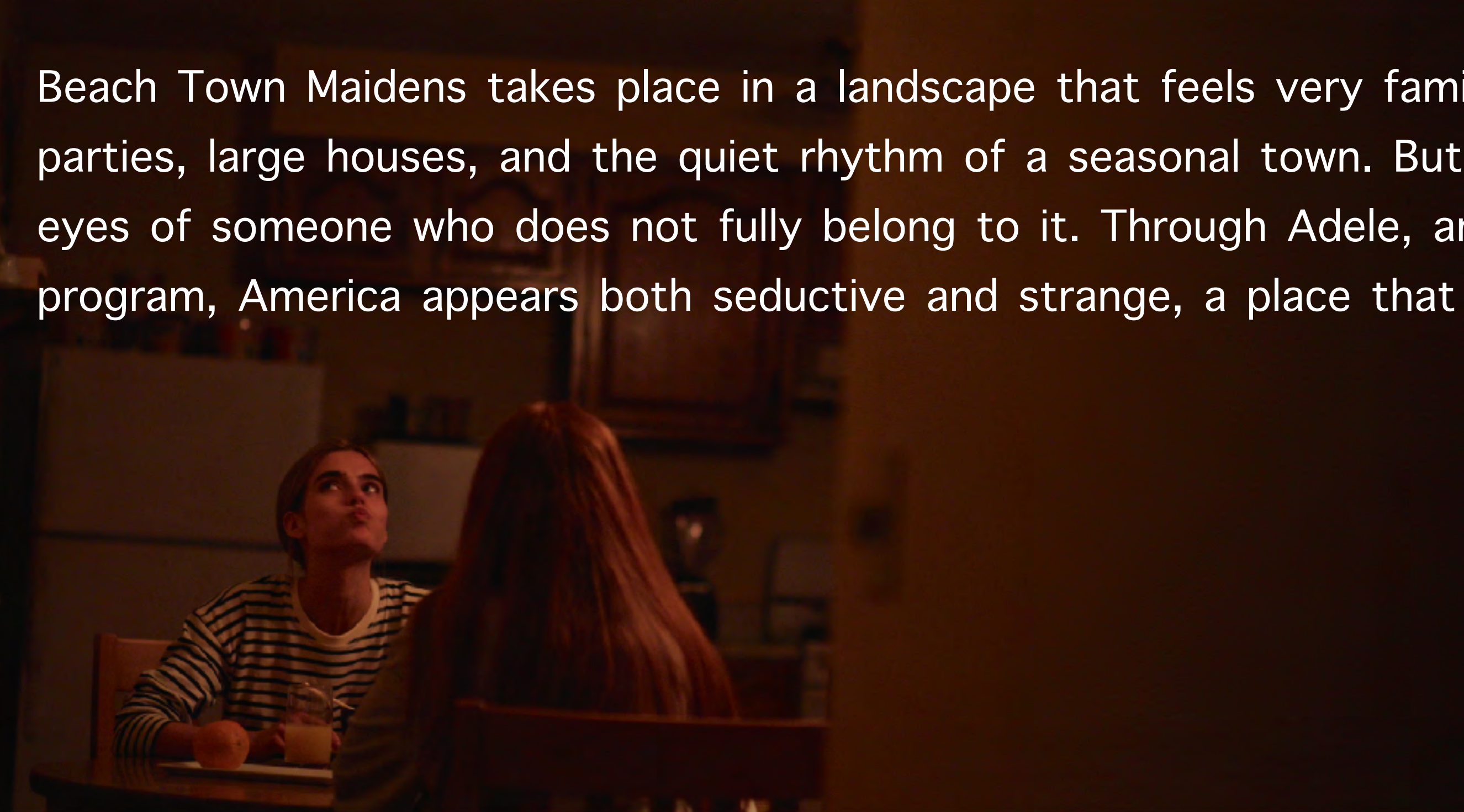
Starting as a romance, the film develops into a dark drama and ends as a thriller. Accessible relatability and lightness, with touches of humor, evolve into noir moodiness, uncertainty, suspense, and anxiety. Wealth and beauty, carefree summer days, and youthful nostalgia give way to gloom in anticipation of the darkness to come.





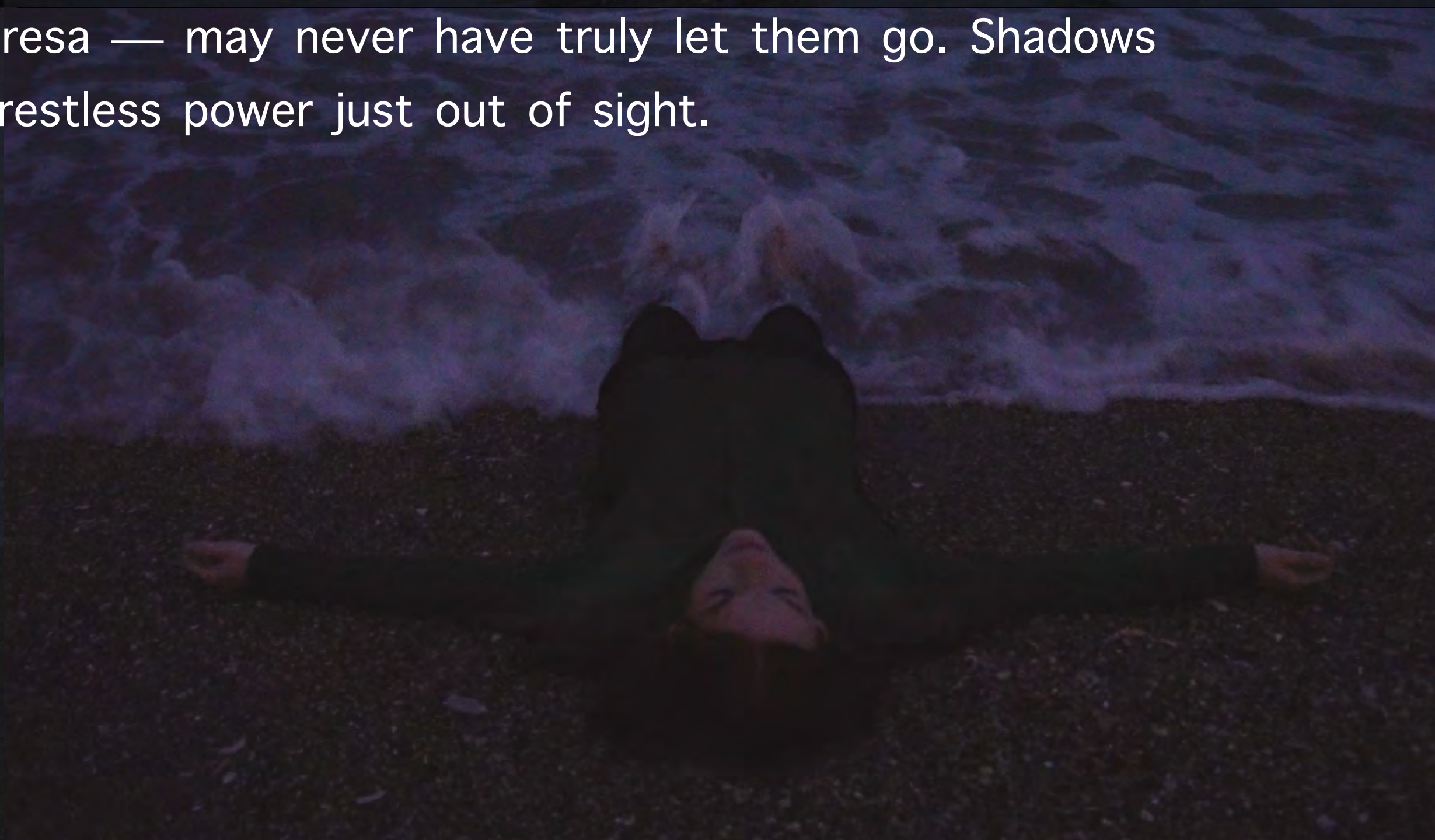
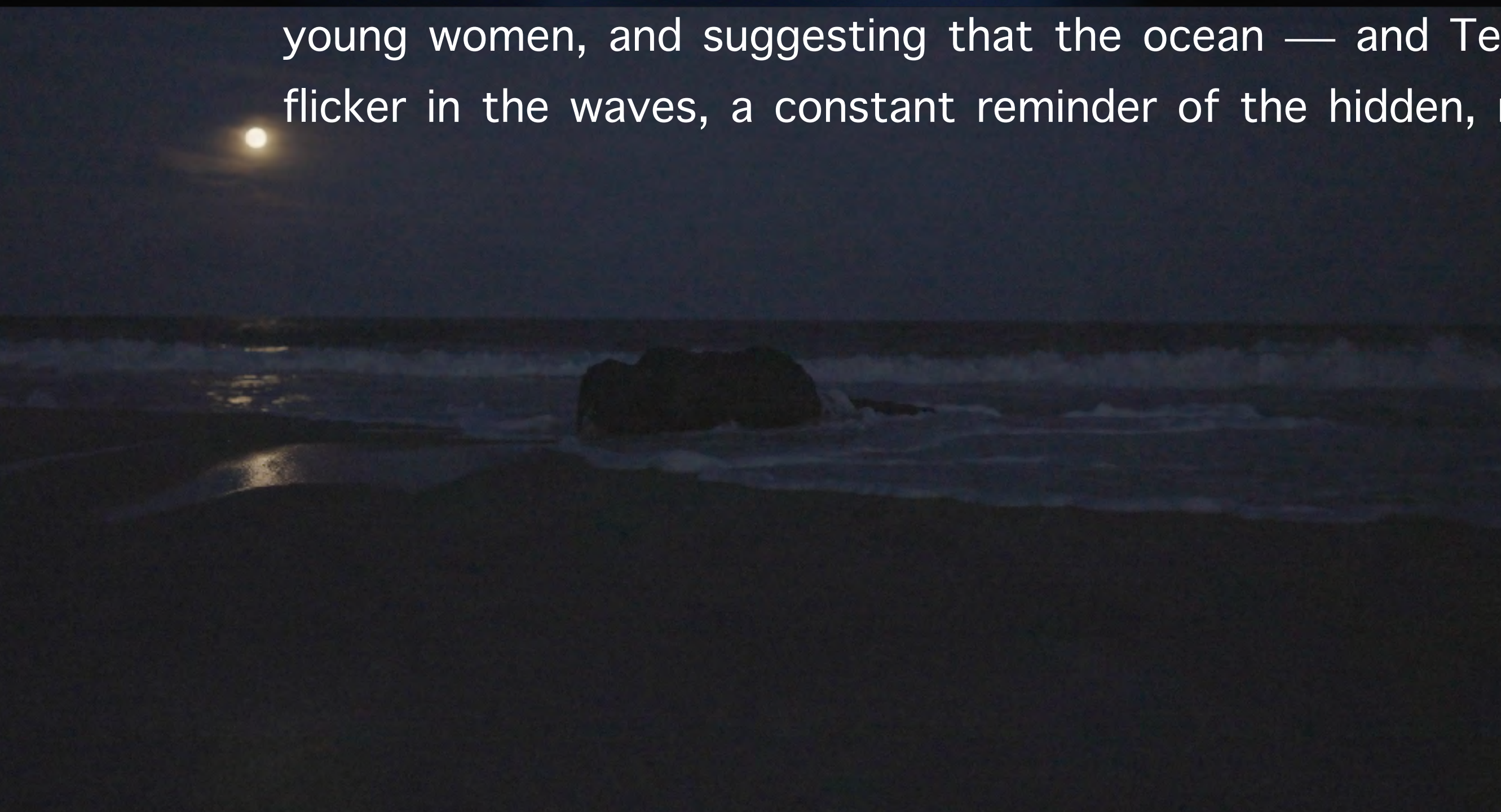


Beach Town Maidens takes place in a landscape that feels very familiar: the Hamptons in summer — beaches, parties, large houses, and the quiet rhythm of a seasonal town. But the film observes this world through the eyes of someone who does not fully belong to it. Through Adele, an Estonian student on a Work and Travel program, America appears both seductive and strange, a place that welcomes you while quietly reshaping you.

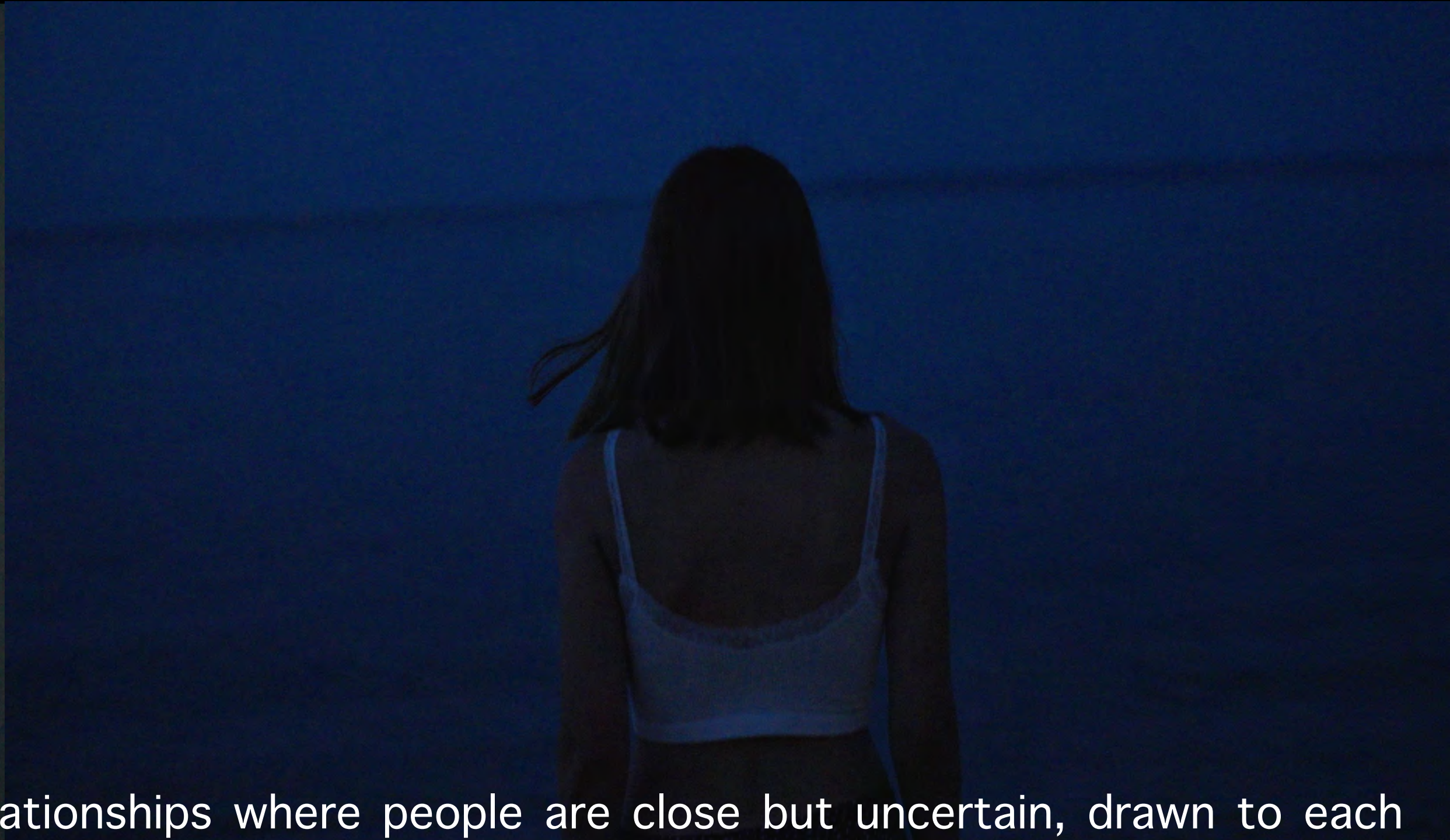




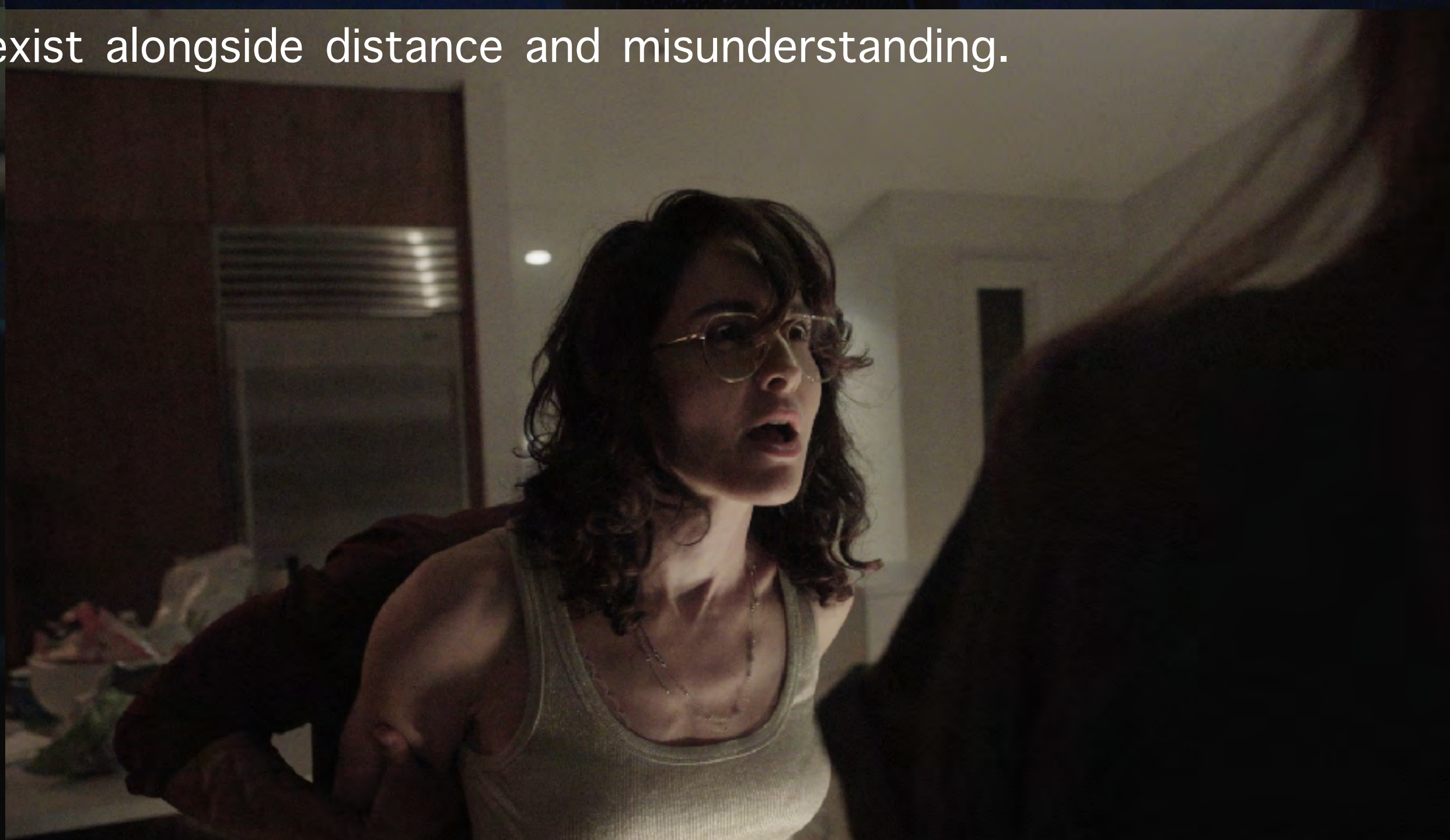
In the Hamptons beneath the surface, currents shift and flow through the town, shaping fates, calling the lost young women, and suggesting that the ocean — and Teresa — may never have truly let them go. Shadows flicker in the waves, a constant reminder of the hidden, restless power just out of sight.

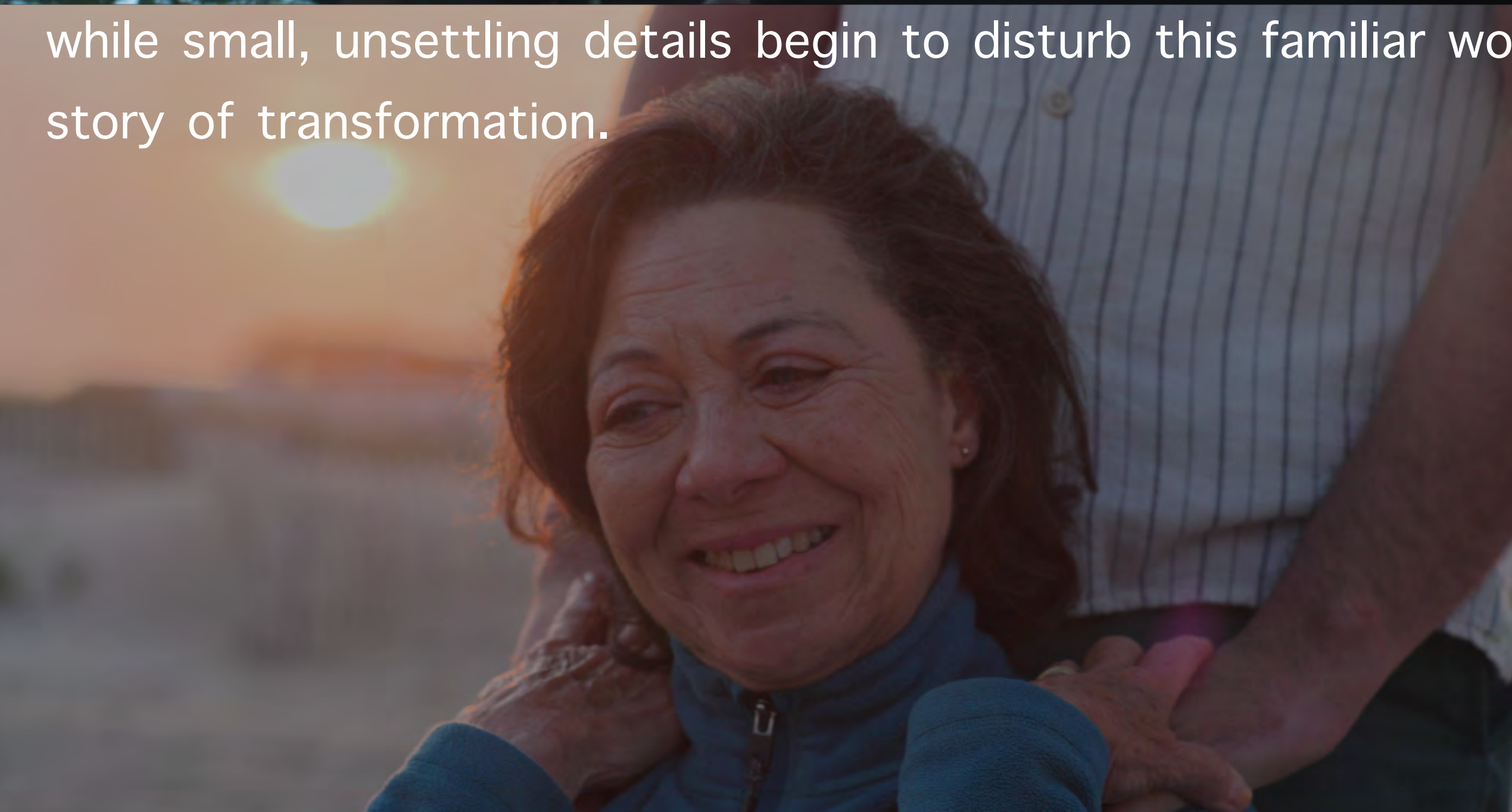






Emotionally, we are interested in a feeling of cold intimacy — relationships where people are close but uncertain, drawn to each other yet unable to fully connect. Desire, care, and vulnerability exist alongside distance and misunderstanding.





Visually, the film will remain grounded in everyday reality — shared houses, quiet streets, the movement of the ocean — while small, unsettling details begin to disturb this familiar world. What starts as a summer romance slowly shifts into a story of transformation.



VISUALS:



We are first bathed in daylight, with soft exteriors and a summery glow. The camera flow is steady, at times still. It builds up with evening shots of natural landscapes in rural locations: empty streets, fences, streetlamps, the dark light of the ocean and the twilight sky. Interiors are shadowy — details in the confined spaces become vague and ominous while foregrounds are partially obscured. In essence, we go from light to dark, until we feel as if we are being watched by an obsessed otherworldly presence.



**ADELE:** Eastern-European exchange student, 23.  
Arrives in the Hamptons hoping to save money for her wedding.  
Questions her dreams when she discovers that freedom  
and real passion appeal more in her new setting.

- Cast: Sif Saga



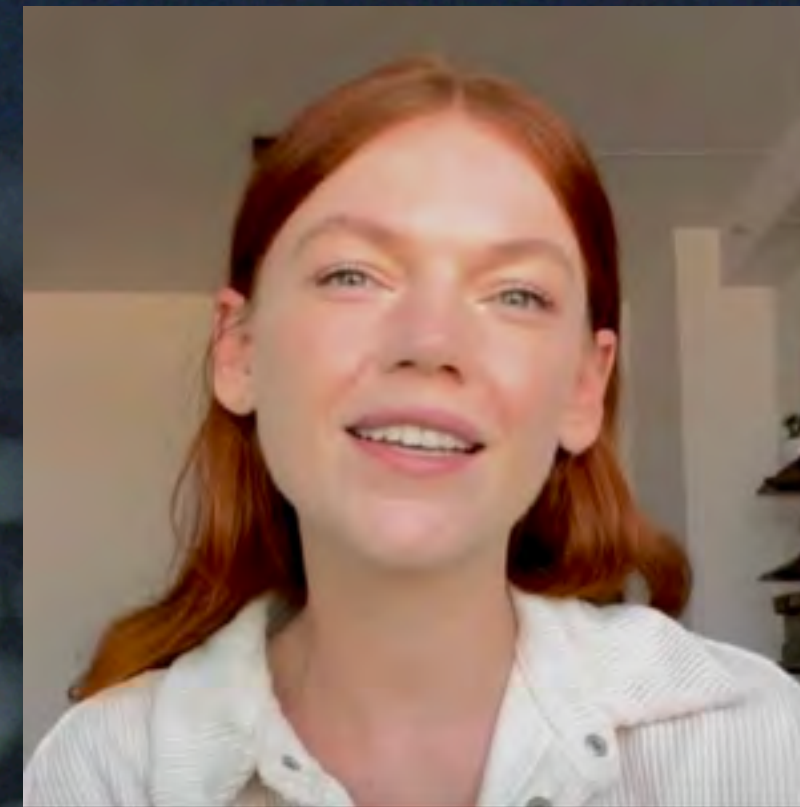
**KYLE:** Son of a local billionaire, 36  
Entitled. Seeks a passion to call his own and please  
his demanding parents. But the hedonism of the Hamptons  
lifestyle is an escape from all his problems.

- Cast: Griffin Blazi



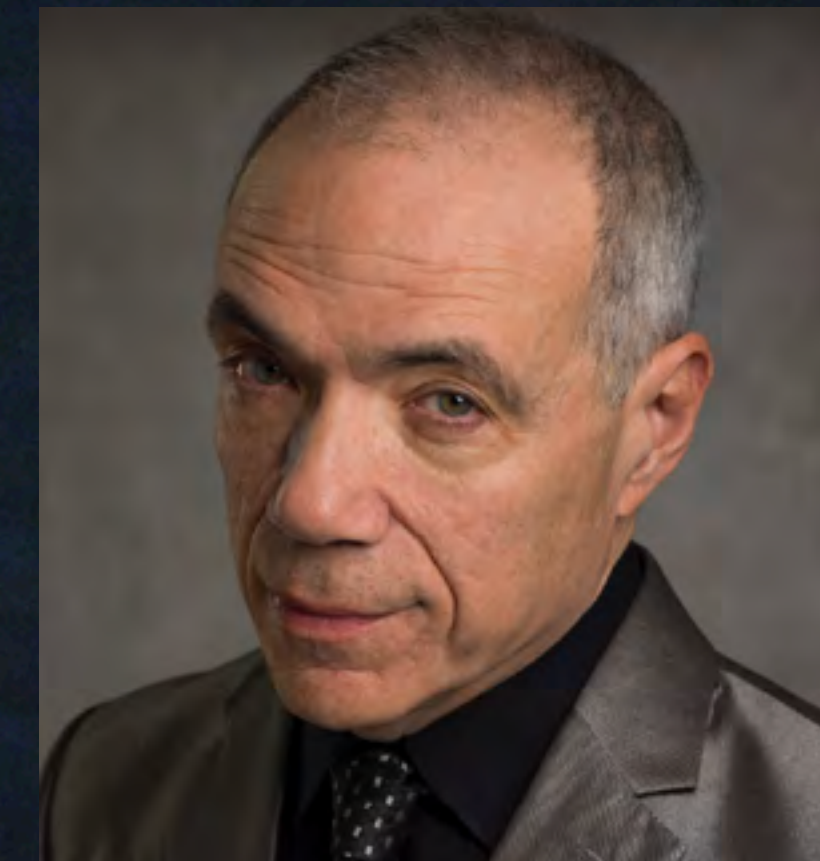
TERESA: Eastern-European exchange student, 25  
Has worked in the Hamptons the past few summers but feels she has been wronged and eventually seeks revenge — with Adele as her pawn.

Cast: Agnes Artych



WILLIAM, Kyle's Father, 72.  
Local billionaire who owns practically the entire town, in cladding the chief of police; his only worry is his son.

Cast: Michael Takiff



DEREK: Kyle's friend, 36.  
Secretly in love with Kyle and the main source of Kyle's lack of ambition and constant partying. Derek is an entrepreneur and a son of the chief of police.

Cast: Leonys Delossantos





KIM: American, Kyle's friend, 36.  
Rich heiress, ex-fitness instructor,  
spends her life socializing and  
exploring her vices. They were close  
with Kyle and she can't forget that.

Cast: Jessica Kaye



LISA: American, 23.  
Summer coffee shop worker, obsessed with  
class differences exposed in the Hamptons.

Cast: Su Yilmaz



BRANDON: American, 42  
Coffee shop manager. Proud of his position  
and thinks that makes him attractive. His  
jokes are corny, but he keeps trying.

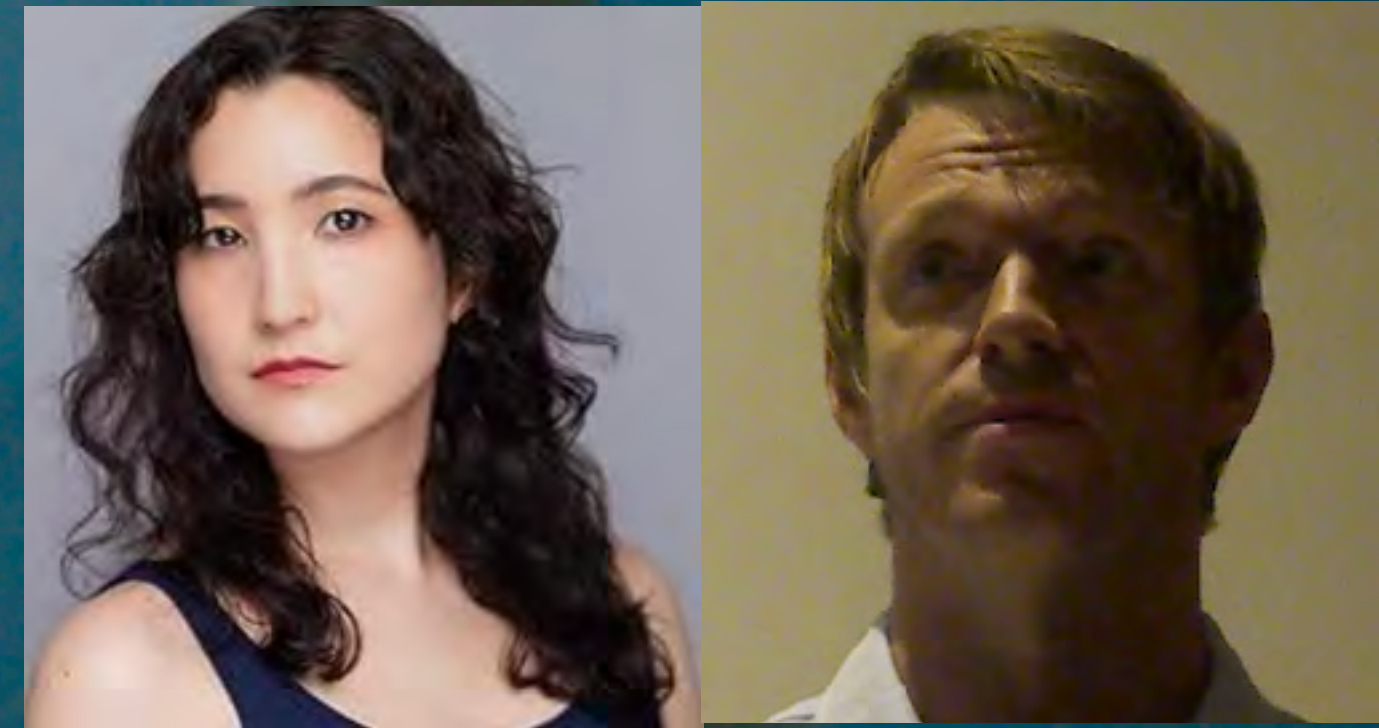
Cast: Nick Weber



CHAD and MOMOKO.

Party couple, always around at Kyle's parties,  
Always in search of vicious adventures and  
getting in trouble.

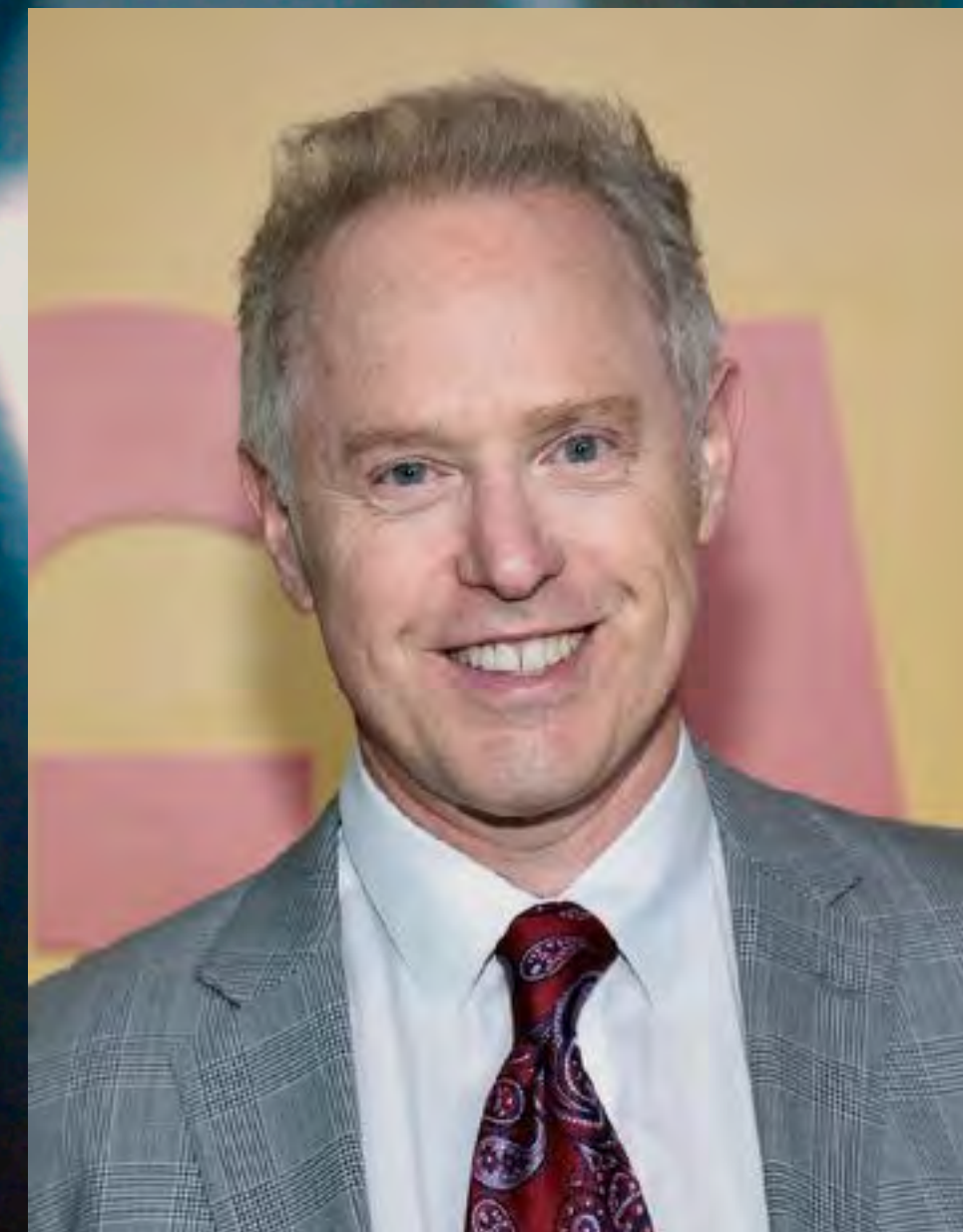
Cast: June Asai, Cormac Lawler



DETECTIVE/CHIEF OF POLICE.

A very tired law servant, mostly following  
William's orders, but strongly willing to do good  
for the community.

Cast: Raphael Sbarge



## Team



### Director Of Photography FEDOR LYASS

Fedor Lyass is one of Russia's top award-winning cinematographers. A Moscow's famous VGIK graduate, Lyass has worked with many of the top Russian mainstream and independent directors and gained widespread recognition for his work. With technically innovative and modern visual style being his trademark, he shot some of the most high-grossing films in the local box-office, like soccer drama *The Coach*, and *Soulless*, an atoned trader story based on a best-selling novel. Lyass has worked in different genres, be it a small-budget art film (*I'll Be Around*) or a period TV show (sixties-set *The Thaw* is considered one of the best shows in the Russian language to this day). Lyass has received many awards for his work. Following the box office hit *Hardcore Henry* (2015), a POV action film directed by renowned director Ilya Naishuller, Lyass started working in the US. He filmed a crime thriller *Awake*, starring Jonathan Rhys Meyers, an arthouse romance *Middleground*, and a sci-fi thriller *AntiSocial.App*. Among his recent works is "86," (2025), a feature film directed by Cliff Dorfman ("Entourage," "The Warrior"), which features a series of extra-long takes that weave together multiple storylines. He also worked as a camera operator on Amazon Studios' production "Mercy," (2025), directed by Timur Bekmambetov and starring Chris Pratt and Rebecca Ferguson.



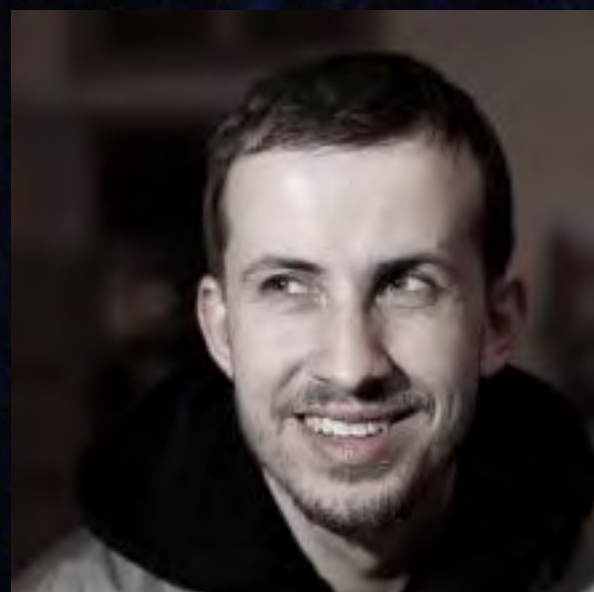
### Writer/Director DMITRIY ROZIN

Dmitriy's family immigrated to New York in 1992 as ex-USSR Jewish refugees. He has a BA in Film Production from Brooklyn College, an MFA in Computer Graphics and Interactive Media from Pratt Institute, and an MFA in Film Directing from Feirstein Graduate School Of Cinema.

His editing and camera work track record include both narrative and documentary films presented in most major festivals, as well as commercial spots for TV and web, industrial promotional videos, and music videos.

Dmitriy has also worked internationally in Western Europe, Russia, Japan as a cameraman and an editor. He often works in languages he does not speak. To this day Dmitriy wrote and directed about a dozen short films and documentaries.

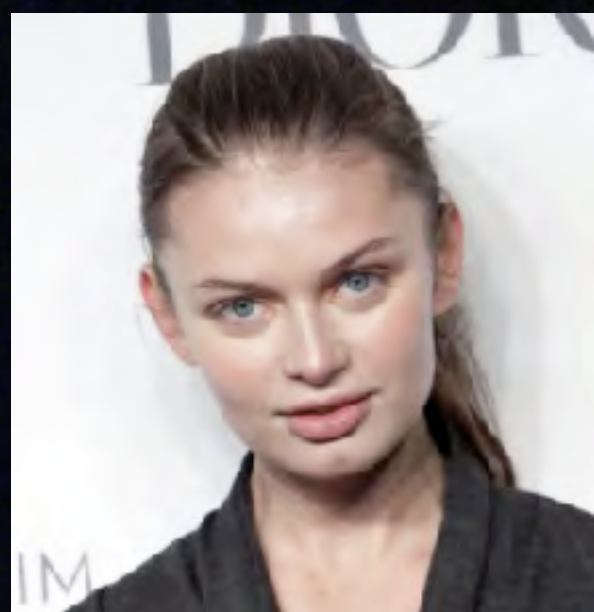
## Team



### Idea/Producer/Production Designer MAXIM REPIN

Maxim's distinctive visual style is raw and clean, influenced by his education in painting and set design. In Moscow, He quickly became established as the hot photographer of the emerging Russian fashion scene, shooting for Numéro, L'Officiel, Harper's Bazaar, PF magazine, ELLE, GQ, InStyle etc.

In 2007, he moved to New York City. Four years later, his works have graced many international publications from his adopted hometown. Later, he also fell in love with color grading and completed a TV pilot for Brick City called Ocean Warriors. He also filmed and graded music videos for Schur, Converge, Julia Bhansali.



### Producer KATYA KULYZHKA

Kateryna is a fashion and film producer, who worked with Zev Starr-Tambor on multiple projects for the past 3 years. She specializes in PR, locations and partnerships, based on her experience in fashion world.

Originally from Ukraine, she worked in fashion as a model for the last 15 years in New York, Paris, London, Milan, Tokyo, with top fashion brands, such as LV, DG, MAC, KENZO and RL.

Kateryna also directed short art films and worked on documentaries.



### Line Producer/Camera Operator NANA NABI

A London Film Academy graduate, Nana Nabi is a skilled filmmaker, marketer, and fashion model with a wide range of experience. She has worked as a director of photography and produced commercials in England and the US. As a producer, she has managed creative plans and oversaw German and French campaigns from initial scope through execution and refinement since 2015. In addition, Nana has experience in script revision, casting, directing actors, and post-production work.



#### Still Photographer/Behind The Scenes ILYA POPENKO

Throughout the 15 years of his career, Ilya has collaborated with a diverse range of clients and photographers, showcasing his adaptability and creativity. His client list includes prestigious names such as TBWA advertising agency, Toyota, NY, Mega Media record label (for a Junior M.A.F.I.A. album cover), Rolling Stone Magazine (Russia), Snob Magazine (Russia), Ego Miami Magazine, and the Consul General of Finland in NY, among others. He has also worked with governmental organizations such as the Permanent Mission of Finland to the UN and the City of Newark, NJ, Mayor Cory Booker's Office.

Ilya's work has been featured in renowned publications such as Rolling Stone, Vibe Magazine, XXL Magazine, Don Diva Magazine, Time Out New York, Village Voice, and New York Times, among others. In addition, Ilya has honed his skills in video and film production, delivering exceptional work for clients, as well as producing critically acclaimed personal projects.



#### Costume Design STEFANIA CHEKALINA

Stefania has been in the fashion industry for over ten years, with a range of achievements to her name. As an Independent Fashion Stylist, she's led campaigns for big brands like Samsung, Nuface, Redken, and Matrix. Her work has been featured in top publications such as Vogue Italia and Vogue Mexico. Aside from her solo work, Stefania has supported well-known stylists like Alex White and Anya Ziourova as a freelance assistant. She helped with tasks like managing samples and communicating with clients. Stefania also started Velvetgrip Space, an online store showcasing exclusive fashion items. Stefania's recent venture into costume design for film adds depth to her career. With certificates in Fashion Management and PR and Management, she's committed to growing professionally, making her a respected name in the fashion world.



#### 1st Assistant Director ANNA STAR

Throughout her career, Anna has held various roles, including Assistant Director, Production Manager, Props Manager, and Producer. She gained a solid foundation in the development and production process while coordinating the Opening and Closing shows of the Winter Olympic Games of 2014. After relocating to New York, Anna studied creative writing and began working as an Assistant Producer. She traveled globally with the Bolshoi Ballet, managing and coordinating educational programs. As an Assistant Producer at Hype Film, she wrote and edited production materials, worked on sets, and selected films for international distribution. There she was involved in projects with acclaimed directors Kirill Serebrennikov, Vadim Perelman, and Mona Fastvold. Inspired by the diverse culture of New York City, Anna recently launched her first fashion clothing brand, Not A Word, specializing in inclusive outerwear. Currently, Anna works on film sets as a 1st Assistant Director while also developing her own projects.

Original Score: GREGOR MACKINTOSH



Gregor Mackintosh is a British guitar player. He is the founding member and main composer and lead guitarist in the iconic metal band **Paradise Lost**, which he founded in 1988 together with singer Nick Holmes, rhythm guitarist Aaron Aedy, and bassist Steve Edmondson. He also plays keyboards (on several **Paradise Lost** albums), and a founder of side project metal band Vallenfyre and Strigoi.

**Paradise Lost** are an English gothic metal band that formed in 1988 in Halifax, considered to be among the pioneers of the death-doom genre, and regarded as the main influence for the later gothic metal movement.

Despite the fact, that most of the heavy-metal fans knows Gregor Mackintosh as a guitarist of **Paradise Lost** – he's an all-rounded musician and composer.



THE BONEYARD

THANK YOU

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