THE LEE HAYES PRESENTS

PRESS KIT

Hell hath no fury like a scorned witch.

A 50-MINUTE SUPERNATURAL HORROR FILM

Executive Producer, Writer, and Director The Lee Hayes

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THE STORY

About A Devil’s Tempest

50 MINUTES | SUPERNATURAL HORROR | NEW ORLEANS SETTING

Logline

In New Orleans, a witch consumed by jealousy unleashes dark magic on the boyfriend and best friend he suspects of an affair, turning his fear of betrayal into a terrifying campaign of revenge.

Synopsis

Set in New Orleans, A Devil’s Tempest follows Elijah, a witch whose suspicions about his boyfriend, Nathan, and best friend, Steven, ignite a consuming jealousy. Convinced their closeness conceals an affair, Elijah turns to dark magic to punish the two people he fears have betrayed him. As suspicion hardens into obsession, love becomes entangled with possession and revenge in a psychological drama about the destructive power of doubt—and the fury of a scorned witch.

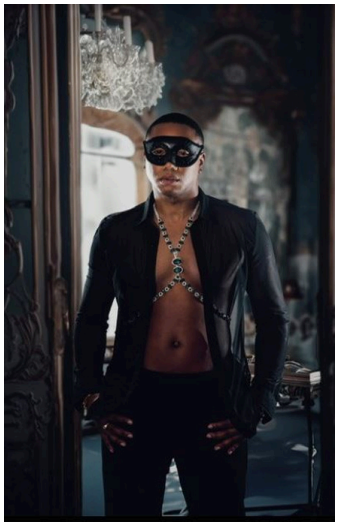
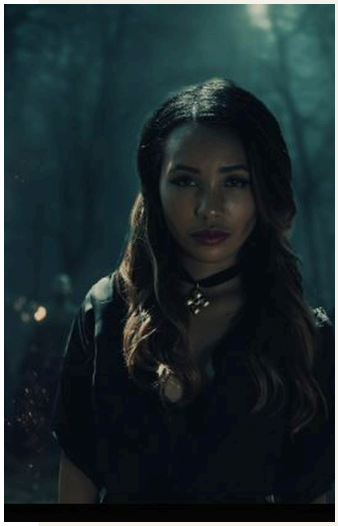
Nathan, Elijah, and Steven (left to right) in promotional imagery for A Devil’s Tempest.

BEHIND THE STORY

Magic with a darker purpose

Inspired by the magic and high jinks of one of his favorite television shows, A Devil’s Tempest is The Lee Hayes’s ode to Bewitched, in which Endora and the rest of Samantha’s magical family wreaked havoc on Samantha’s husband, Darrin.

That collision between a magical family and a mortal relationship becomes the foundation for a horror story about control. Elijah’s exile has already cost him much of his power. When he reaches for forbidden magic, his desire to punish a suspected betrayal threatens everyone closest to him.

The characters

Elijah

Exiled for loving a mortal, Elijah has surrendered his coven and much of his magic. A vision he cannot reliably interpret turns his fear of betrayal into a plan for revenge.

Nathan

Elijah’s mortal boyfriend does not know the full truth about the man he loves. Forbidden blood magic makes Nathan both a victim of Elijah’s rage and the instrument of it.

Steven

Elijah’s best friend arrives for dinner and finds himself accused of an affair. With the house sealed and Nathan transformed, survival becomes his only priority.

Sandrine

Elijah’s sister is a gifted Seer and the next High Witch of the Council of Covens. She understands the danger of his forbidden magic and tries to stop him before his rage becomes irreversible.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER · WRITER · DIRECTOR

The Lee Hayes

Author. Filmmaker. Storyteller.

In his own words

I fell in love with words long before I understood love. Growing up poor, Black, and gay in rural East Texas, I found refuge in stories that opened doors to worlds beyond my own. Words became trusted friends, then passionate lovers. We’ve weathered breakthroughs, breakdowns, and breakups, but always found our way back.

I am The Lee Hayes. This is my love story.

My first published work was a poem written before my teens. College, graduate school, and corporate life followed, but writing remained my constant companion. In 2003, my debut novel, Passion Marks, explored the rarely discussed reality of intimate partner violence between Black gay men. Four more novels followed: A Deeper Blue: Passion Marks II, The Messiah, The Bad Seed, and The First Male, exploring subjects ranging from serial killers to witches. I also selected stories for and edited Flesh to Flesh, an erotic anthology.

In 2015, I wrote and produced BAIT, a film and web series that serves as a cautionary tale about a gay psychopath whose search for love through a dating app more often yields victims. I also produced What Do You Know About Love?, a documentary exploring what a diverse group of people knows—or thinks it knows—about love.

Through it all, writing has sustained me in ways titles and paychecks never could. It has never abandoned me. True love never dies.

I am The Lee Hayes. Author. Filmmaker. Storyteller.

Selected works

Novels Passion Marks; A Deeper Blue: Passion Marks II; The Messiah; The Bad Seed; The First Male.
Anthology Flesh to Flesh, editor.
Screen BAIT; What Do You Know About Love?; A Devil’s Tempest.

THE CENTRAL RELATIONSHIP

Lead cast

R.J. Allan

AS ELIJAH

An exiled witch whose jealousy becomes a deadly exercise of power.

R.J. Allan has been active in entertainment since age 10, with a foundation in music and performance. He began writing music at age 9, working across multiple genres before moving into live performance. Between ages 10 and 11, he performed twice at the historic Apollo Theater, as well as at the Publick Playhouse, the convention center for For Sisters Only, and Howard University.

At 14, he expanded into musical theater, taking on major roles in Into the Woods, Grease, and Once Upon a Mattress. In 2011, he performed the national anthem on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

At 27, he moved into screen work, starring in the web series BoyDrama, which premiered in 2015. He also appeared in the 2016 short film Damage Control. His work draws on decades of experience in music, theater, and screen performance.

Social profiles: Instagram — RJ. Allan; TikTok and YouTube — RJ Allan

Troy Chimuma

AS NATHAN

The mortal man Elijah loves, transformed by forbidden blood magic.

Courageous, vivacious, and down-to-earth, Troy Chimuma was born and raised in Prince George's County, where he grew up surrounded by art and creative expression.

He brings an infectious energy to his work, filling a room with warmth and enthusiasm. Primarily a stage actor, Chimuma is expanding into film and embracing the possibilities of a new medium.

Instagram: @ChillinWithTroy

FRIENDSHIP AND FAMILY

Cast

Brandon Singleton

AS STEVEN

Elijah's best friend, accused of betrayal and trapped in a fight for survival.

Brandon Singleton is an emerging television and film actor and model whose work spans scripted series, true crime, and commercial campaigns. He is cast in Season 4 of the Tubi original series The Braxtons: First Family.

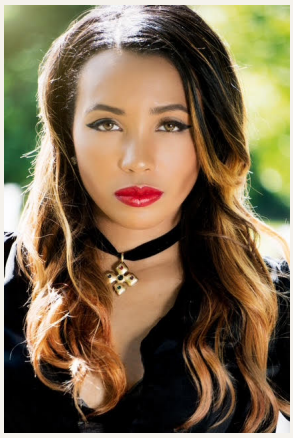
Singleton has appeared in the independent film Friday at Dewayne's and starred in the true crime series Murder in the Family on REELZ and One Deadly Mistake on Oxygen. His performances emphasize emotional authenticity and character-driven storytelling.

His modeling and commercial work includes a national print advertisement for Apple and multiple local campaigns. Across television, film, and modeling, Singleton continues to build a varied body of work.

Instagram: @itz_Brandon_

Monique Rice

AS SANDRINE



Elijah's sister, a gifted Seer determined to stop his descent into darkness.

An original cast member of the first iteration of A Devil's Tempest nearly a decade ago, Monique Rice returns with the energy and heart that helped define the story's beginnings. Reprising the role feels less like a comeback than a homecoming, bringing both history and a fresh perspective to the screen.

Rice began in fashion, working behind the scenes to shape images, narratives, and style. That experience informs her visual awareness and presence on set. Her move into on-camera performance brings together her passion for character, storytelling, and creative expression.

CAMPAIGN ARTWORK

Four faces of the tempest

Elijah

Nathan

Steven

Sandrine

Original character posters are included in the media bundle. Preserve the title treatment and tagline when reproducing the artwork.

FOR EDITORS AND PRODUCERS

Media resources

Film credits

Executive Producer, Writer, and Director The Lee Hayes
Cast R.J. Allan as Elijah; Troy Chimuma as Nathan; Brandon Singleton as Steven; Monique Rice as Sandrine.
Runtime 47:00 minutes
Genre Supernatural horror
Story setting New Orleans

Media bundle

The companion media collection includes the press kit, press release, character posters, promotional imagery, portraits, and five linked promotional videos. Contact the production for high-resolution masters and image-credit requirements.

Video assets

Official A Devil·s Tempest Promo video

Elijah character teaser

Sandrine character teaser

Nathan character teaser

Steven character teaser

Press contact

The Lee Hayes
Leehayesproductions@gmail.com

Interview requests, screening inquiries, release information, and technical specifications.

Executive Producer, Writer, and Director The Lee Hayes

A DEVIL'S TEMPEST • OFFICIAL FILM POSTER