



# **The Budget List** **2021**

**Selling  
Your  
Screenplay  
.com**

with  
Ashley Scott Meyers

## **We're proud to present this year's The Budget List, the best unproduced screenplays from 2021.**

At *SellingYourScreenplay.com* we interface with lots of low budget screenplays, both through our screenplay analysis service as well as SYS's Six-Figure Screenplay Contest. Below you will find log lines from the best low budget scripts from the analysis service as well as all the quarter finalists and better from the contest.

This year was an exciting year for the contest, as the inaugural winning screenplay, [Killer Profile](#) by [Richard Pierce](#) was found, optioned, and produced by one of our contest industry judges, [Ted Campbell](#). Richard and Ted were both gracious enough to come on the SYS Podcast to talk about the experience and how it all came together. [Click here to listen to Richard Pierce's episode](#) and [click here to listen to Ted Campbell's episode](#).

We're also expanding our offerings next year to include a full-fledged, in-person film festival, which will also aim to highlight low budget, independent filmmakers. So if you know of any excellent low budget films, please send them to SYS.

Both features and TV pilots were eligible. If you're a producer / agent / manager / director / development executive and would like to learn more about any of these projects, please email us at [info@sellingyourscreenplay.com](mailto:info@sellingyourscreenplay.com).

Congratulations to all the scripts that are being recognized on this year's list, and a big congratulations to all the Quarter Finalists in SYS's Six-Figure Screenplay Contest.

**So without further ado, here is the 5th annual  
The Budget List...**

## **The Unborn**

*(Feature Horror)*

Alex Chew

A conservative Black woman struggling with infertility is targeted by a demonic force that threatens to control her body and soul.

\*One of the highest rated screenplays to ever come through the SYS system.

## **Aphrodite's Apple**

*(Feature Thriller)*

Nick Pollack

After losing a parlayed bet that would set his life back on track, a desperate professor seeks retribution from the footballer he holds responsible.

## **The Field**

*(Feature Dramedy)*

Keith Fingers Jr

Two cousins, in the late-2000s, set out to break a generational curse by earning basketball scholarships in the boisterous streets of Bakersfield where aspirations are often deterred by the allure of joining a gang.

## **Every Little Penny**

*(Feature Romantic Comedy)*

Andrew Ericksen

A lifelong penny pincher finds his livelihood challenged as he starts to fall for a freewheeling woman who moves into his apartment building.

## **Hunting the Deckers**

*(Feature Political Drama)*

John Ravitz

When the leaders from two very different terrorist organizations join forces to target the president of the United States and his son, a New York City police detective, father and son must do everything in their power to protect the country and their family.

## **Batter Up!!!**

*(Feature Family)*

Jeff Phister

When a pro baseball prospect loses a leg and his relationship with his overbearing sports dad on the same day, he must heed the tough-love advice of his mother, a zany sports psychiatrist, and his All-American softball girlfriend to rediscover himself, or take his own life.

## **How to Expose Possible Vampires (And Not Get Killed in the Process)**

*(Feature Horror/Comedy)*

Jerzy P. Suchocki

After witnessing a murder, a mentally unstable young woman becomes obsessed with the idea that a mysterious businessman might be a vampire with sinister intentions... and sets out to dangerous measures to prove it.

## **Trapped**

*(Feature Action/Adventure)*

Rick Omi

The ultimate love story without "I love you." When a world-weary hitman starts to fall in love with an escort that he saved, he must fight against a corrupt Governor and her hired guns in order to win their freedom.

## **Two Two-Zero**

*(1-hour TV Pilot Drama)*

Tony Cappasso

An ex-army medic struggles with life and love as he uses skills honed on Afghan battlefields to save lives at home.

# **SYS's Six-Figure Screenplay Contest Winners**

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Our contest aims to find the best screenplays that could be produced for less than \$1 million USD.





## Winner

### **Wilder**

*(Drama)*

Jessie Holder, Tourtellotte & Dan Gallun

The Wilder family are confined to their home during the three day search for their abducted daughter. Tensions rise, secrets are revealed, and fractures beneath the family and their small community bubble to the surface.

## Runner-Up

### **A Mystic Fog I Carry**

*(Drama)*

Yen Hwa Huang

As cyber crimes rampage, a stubborn Asian-American senior woman fights alone to save herself from an imminent death threat by a skillful Internet crime group till she loses her entire life savings, but also leads her to revitalize a deep secret in her past.



## Semi-Finalists

### **BFFs Never Say Die**

*(Horror)*

K. Jennifer Ilagan

With the aid of her best friend, a ballsy cheerleader tries to solve her own murder but the killer might be a lot closer than she thinks.

### **Glimpses**

*(Horror)*

Tammy Klembith

When a young woman discovers dark secrets in the fixer house she's flipping with her friends it opens the doorway to a nightmare they may not survive... but who or what is really pulling the strings?

### **Invisible Prisons**

*(Drama)*

Hoyt Richards & Lawrence Nelson

A teen athlete completely emotionally shuts down after a suicide attempt and the only one who can break down his walls is a bitchin' bulimic girl who is a force of fuckin' nature.

### **Lucky For you**

*(Comedy)*

Heidi Kozak Haddad & Caroline Somers

After Ellie wins the lottery, she anonymously uses the money to boost her husband's career and self-esteem, but must discover her self worth when her plan backfires.

### **Memoirs of A Stalker**

*(Thriller)*

Thomas W. Hodgkinson, Daisy Aitkens & Alastair Gourlay

"Just because you can't see someone, it doesn't mean they can't see you" is Jack's motto. What if you could live in a house without the two occupants knowing that you're living there too? That's Jack's irresistible dare: his memoir.

# **View From the 59th Floor**

*(Thriller)*

by Josh Taylor

An unemployed man in a struggling marriage grows dangerously suspicious that his neighbor may be plotting a presidential assassination on the Fourth of July.





## Quarter Finalists

### **1000 Miles To Ontario**

*(Drama)*

Farboud Vaziri

A true story of a young man who flees his home country of Iran to escape being drafted in the brutal war with Iraq and is forced into a Turkish refugee camp with only one way out.

### **Below, She Waits**

*(Horror)*

Lisa J Dooley

Suffering from a recurring nightmare, attorney Laura Raines escapes to her family lake home for some rest. However, upon arriving Laura discovers that her nightmare is a family curse, quietly killing for generations.

### **Drama Department**

*(Drama)*

Richard Willett

When Kevin Bartol, a gay screenwriter who's dismissive of the MeToo movement, is subpoenaed to testify on behalf of a friend who's suing their high school drama teacher over an affair he had with her when she was underage, he winds up taking over his teacher's class and falling for a student himself.

### **Figure Me Out**

*(Comedy)*

James Barnes

While a Millennial figures out his post-grad life, he substitute teaches to pay his bills and discovers his passion for education when he helps out a troubled youth. All while dealing with his family problems involving his overbearing older brother and his cancer-stricken mom.

## **In the Meantime**

*(Comedy)*

Joe Wielosinski

A lovelorn teacher falls for her student's imaginary sister, sending her into a surreal romance that affects her reality.

## **Madame Ram**

*(Biographical)*

Isabelle Davis

After the death of her husband in summer of 1979, former showgirl and widowed mother of two Georgia Rosenbloom is made owner of the Los Angeles Rams, becoming the first female owner of an NFL team and arguably the most controversial.

## **Paddy's Tonsorial Emporium**

*(Drama)*

Ronald Milburn

During the Vietnam War era a PTSD damaged Korean War veteran stalks a teenage boy to prevent him from testifying against him. Meanwhile, the threatened youth shines shoes in a barbershop listening to veterans of four wars and learns of their struggles returning home.

## **Silent Knight**

*(Romantic Comedy)*

Todd A McGee

When Michael Hudson runs into the front door of Hannah Knight's restaurant, long-lost dreams for both bubble to the surface.

## **Sunrise**

*(Drama)*

Andres Valentin Lopez

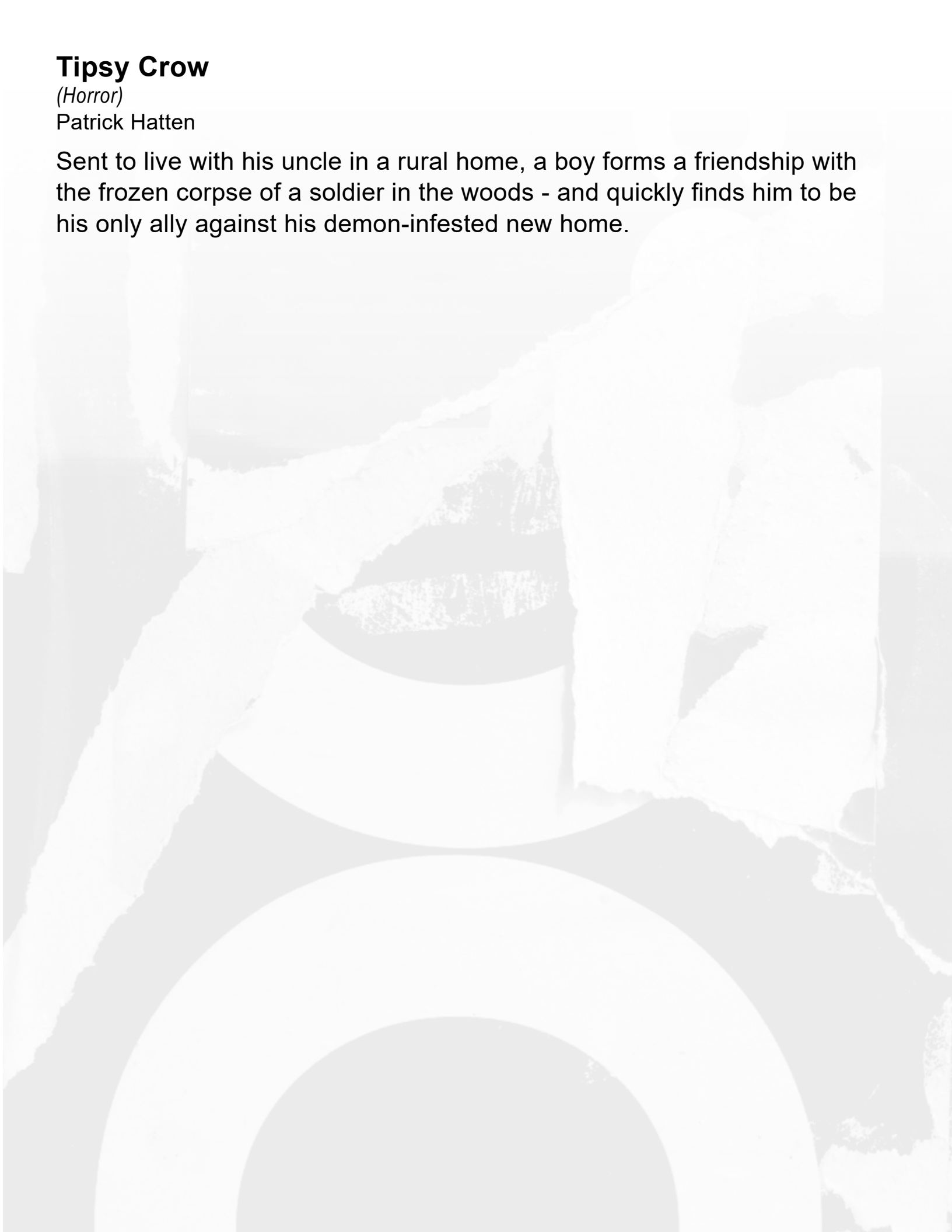
A young man's close group of friends must help him decide his future by next sunrise as he struggles to break free from small town life.

# **Tipsy Crow**

*(Horror)*

Patrick Hatten

Sent to live with his uncle in a rural home, a boy forms a friendship with the frozen corpse of a soldier in the woods - and quickly finds him to be his only ally against his demon-infested new home.



# SHORTS

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## Winner

### **Street Justice**

*(Thriller)*

Reginald Altidor

An escort and her bodyguard plan to rob their next client, only to realize he's an off duty police officer.

## Runner-Up

### **The Dog**

*(Comedy Animation)*

Kate Harpootlian

A sophisticated psychopathic dog de-tests his current owner and decides it's time for a change.





## Semi-Finalists

### **Afterbirth**

*(Horror)*

Marko Pandza

An entity brought into existence by grief haunts a woman in the wake of her first miscarriage.

### **Mei-Ying**

*(Crime Drama)*

Nicole Shuhan Shen

A Chinese single mother decides to conceal a traffic accident for her son, a college student to-be, and later discovers something unexpected.

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If you would like to learn more  
about any of these writers or  
screenplays please contact us at  
[info@sellingyourscreenplay.com](mailto:info@sellingyourscreenplay.com)

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