



COWBOY COSMONAUT

MINUTES

AFTER MIDNIGHT

Jona Headon

# MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

A SERIES TREATMENT BY JONA HEADON

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MINUTES

AFTER

MIDNIGHT

Jona Headon

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MINUTES  
AFTER  
MIDNIGHT

**MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT** IS A HORROR ANTHOLOGY TV SERIES BASED ON THE SHORT STORIES CREATED BY JONA HEADON, AUTHOR OF THE NOVEL **THE DARK DAYS AFTER**. THE SERIES COMPRISES HORRIFYING AND MACABRE HAPPENINGS ONCE THE CLOCK STRIKES TWELVE.

THESE OMINOUS SHORT STORIES SUBVERT PERCEPTIONS AND NARRATIVE EXPECTATIONS THROUGH ELEMENTS OF THE SURREAL, AND THOUGH THESE STORIES ARE UNRELATED, THEMATICALLY THEY RESIDE WITHIN THE SAME DARK, TWISTED UNIVERSE.

IN EVERY MINUTE AFTER THE HOUR, YOU WILL BE MOVED INTO A DEEPER, MORE DISTURBING REALM OF THE NIGHTMARES OF MANKIND.

Jona Headon

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IT IS 12:01 AM.  
THE FIRST ISSUE AWAITS YOU.

# PUBLISHED SHORT STORIES



MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT  
**AFTERLIFE**  
12:03 AM

JONA HEADON

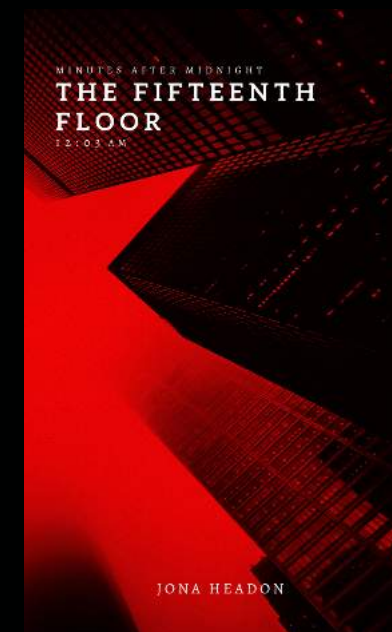
AFTER UNKNOWNLY INVITING A BLOOD-STARVED, GUILT-RIDDEN VAMPIRE INTO HIS CHURCH, AN IMPATIENT PRIEST MUST FIND A WAY TO SURVIVE AND ESCAPE TO BE AT THE HOSPITAL FOR THE BIRTH OF HIS FIRST CHILD.



MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT  
**TWO HEARTS**  
12:02 AM

JONA HEADON

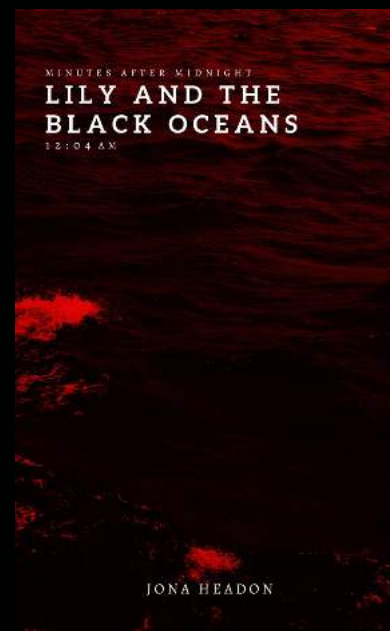
AFTER LURING AND MURDERING HIS INNOCENT, DISFIGURED INTERNET LOVER, A COSMETIC SURGERY ADDICT MUST FIGHT THE MANIFESTATION OF HIS UGLY EGO WHILST OUTRUNNING THE POLICE IN A JUNK-FILLED RV.



MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT  
**THE FIFTEENTH FLOOR**  
12:05 AM

JONA HEADON

UPON DISCOVERING HIS SUCCESSFUL TWIN BROTHER IS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THEIR MOTHER'S 'ALIEN' CULT, A DESPERATE, HOMELESS TWIN MURDERS HIS BROTHER TO ESCAPE THE DEMONS OF HIS PAST AND STEAL HIS IDENTITY FOR A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE ON THE MOTHERSHIP.



MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT  
**LILY AND THE BLACK OCEANS**  
12:04 AM

JONA HEADON

WHILST RESCUING HER CRIMINAL HUSBAND FROM SAN QUENTIN PRISON IN A DINGHY, A PREGNANT WOMAN GIVES BIRTH AND IS FORCED TO PROTECT HER NEWBORN FROM LARGER-THAN-LIFE CREATURES OF THE DEEP IN THE MIDDLE OF A STORM.



MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT  
**BABY BLUE**  
12:05 AM

JONA HEADON

A HYSTERICAL HITCHHIKER ACCIDENTALLY THWARTS A GRIEVING MOTHER'S PLANS TO BURY A LOVED ONE, BUT WHEN THE HITCHHIKER LEARNS THE TO-BE-BURIED IS A LIVING BOY, SHE MUST LEARN TO OVERCOME HER OWN POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION BY SAVING ANOTHER'S CHILD.



MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT  
**MWAMBA**  
12:06 AM

JONA HEADON

WITH THE PUSH FROM AN IMAGINARY FRIEND, A LONELY, POVERTY-STRICKEN CHILD MUST OVERCOME HIS FEAR OF SPIDERS TO EXACT REVENGE ON HIS VIOLENT FATHER.

© 2020  
AND MORE...



# REVIEWS

MINUTES  
AFTER

MIDNIGHT

★★★★★

"A DEPRAVED PAGE-TURNER. A DECADENT SNACK FOR INSOMNIACS. A BAPTISM-PLUNGE INTO THE INK-BLACK POOL OF ANTHOLOGY HORROR. MIDNIGHT INDEED. GIVE ME MORE."

★★★★★

"A MINIATURE TOUR DE FORCE OF THE HUMAN AND NOT SO HUMAN CONDITION; HEADON'S UNAPOLOGETIC TAKE ON THE CONSEQUENCES OF IMMORTALITY LEAVE YOU REELING."

★★★★★

"THIS IS DRIPPING WITH TENSION. JONA HEADON DELIVERS A STRONG TONE, DELICIOUS TURNS AND A TIGHT NARRATIVE WITH CINEMATIC VISUALS STILL RESONATING IN MY CRANIUM."

★★★★★

"ARRESTING, PRESENT AND NOT FOR THE FAINT HEARTED. THE WORK IS SO VISCERAL AND HURTLES TOWARD ITS UNAVOIDABLE, MAGNETIC END. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT STORY!"

★★★★★

"UNEXPECTED, GRIPPING, TERRIFYING. A SNAPSHOT OF HIGH EMOTIONS, HIGH STAKES AND HIGH SEAS. REALLY APPRECIATE THE DIVERSITY OF SETTINGS AND IMAGERY IN THIS SERIES OF SHORTS."

★★★★★

"AS WITH ALL GREAT SHORT STORY WRITERS, HEADON LEAVES THE READER WANTING MORE! THIS IS A FAST MOVING, SUCCINCT HORROR THAT PLUNGES YOU DOWN THE BARREL THE MOMENT IT STARTS."

★★★★★

"'MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT' IS A HORROR ANTHOLOGY THAT KEEPS EXPANDING TO SURPRISING, DARKER, UNTAPPED REALMS: THIS TIME, A THROBBING CORNER OF IMPOVERISHED, WILD, TANZANIAN JUNGLE WHERE MONSTERS OF ALL FORMS ROAM THE NIGHT. A POWERFUL BLEND OF IMAGINATIVE, BOLD HORROR IMAGERY WITH A COMPACT, ENGAGING CHARACTER ARC AND REAL WORLD AFRICAN ISSUES."

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# JONA HEADON

WRITER

AFTER COMPLETING THE FEATURE SCREENPLAY BASED ON HIS AWARD WINNING ANIMATED SHORT THE AMAZING ELEPHANT MAN (NOMINATED BEST STUDENT ANIMATION BY THE ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY AWARDS), JONA SELF-PUBLISHED HIS FIRST SCI-FI HORROR NOVEL THE DARK DAYS AFTER (BEING ADAPTED TO FEATURE WITH COWBOY COSMONAUT FILMS), CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY AFRICAN HORROR SCREEN-PLAY ENTITLED WHEN PREY SLEEPS.

FOLLOWING IN HIS GENRE TRADITION, **MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT** LEAD THE WAY.

THESE DEVASTATING STORIES HAVE YET TO BE TOLD, AND HAVE THE ABILITY TO STAND ALONE AND HOLD PRESENCE IN THE WORLD.



## COWBOY COSMONAUT

COWBOY COSMONAUT FILMS IS A PRODUCTION OUTFIT BASED OUT OF LONDON AND AMSTERDAM WITH AN AFFINITY FOR INTELLIGENTLY-ELEVATED GENRE MOVIES AND POTENT DRAMA AT ITS CORE, EXPLORING RELEVANT THEMES THAT RESONATE WITH A CONTEMPORARY AUDIENCE.

UNDER THE COMPANY BANNER, THEY'RE LAUNCHING A ROSTER OF EXCEPTIONAL WRITERS AND DIRECTORS (REPRESENTED BY WME, UA, ITG) WITH SEVERAL GENRE PROJECTS SET UP AT, OR IN COLLABORATION WITH: SPYGLASS MEDIA GROUP, AGBO, ENDEAVOR, XYZ, ACE PICTURES, BFI, INTERMISSION AND GAUMOUNT.

THESE INCLUDE: A HIGH-OCTANE TRUE CRIME THRILLER, A JAPANESE-INSPIRED NEW YORK SET HORROR, AND A SCI-FI ROAD TRIP MOVIE INVOLVING A MOTHER AND GIFTED DAUGHTER ON THE RUN.

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# THEME

EACH **MINUTE** WAS CREATED TO EXPLORE THE PAINFUL HUMAN CONDITION IN THE MOST HORRIFIC WORLD. IT SHINES A BLACK LIGHT ON THE FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS WE ALL EXPERIENCE, WHETHER IT BE THE SENSE OF LOVELESSNESS, BELIEVING YOU'RE INSIGNIFICANT, OR FEARING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHANGE.

WHILE THESE THEMES SIMMER BENEATH THE SURFACE, AUDIENCES WILL REVEL IN ENTHRALLING, BONE-CHILLING AND ADDICTING BITE-SIZED CHUNKS OF HORROR. THIS VISCERAL, EVOCATIVE SERIES WILL KEEP AUDIENCES CLAMOURING FOR THEIR NEXT ADRENALINE RUSH.

HORROR BASED ON REAL EMOTIONS AND REAL AFFLICTIONS ONLY MAKE THESE STORIES MORE RELATABLE, AND THE JUXTAPOSITION OF REALISM WITH SURREALISM IS ENHANCED BECAUSE IT HITS HOME FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US. AND IN A WORLD OF EVER-GROWING SEPARATISM AND ISOLATION, THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WE CAN LOOK AT HORROR AND **EMPATHISE** IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF MEDICINE WE NEED TODAY.

MINUTES

AFTER

MIDNIGHT

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MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

# SAMPLE EPISODES

A DEEPER LOOK AT THE CHARACTERS AND SETTINGS  
IN THE WORLD OF

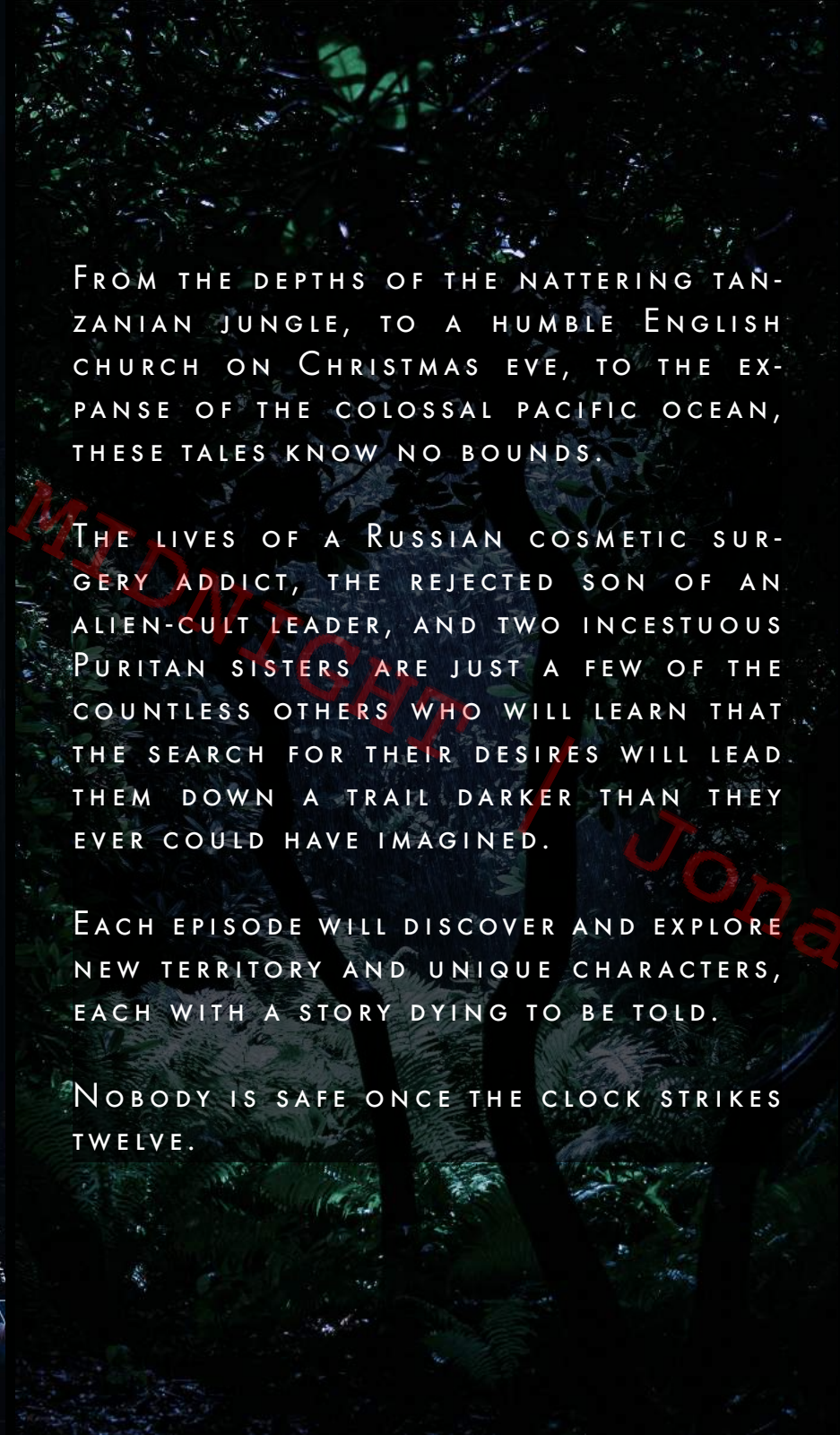
**MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT**

12:03 AM | 12:04 AM | 12:06 AM

JONATHAN HEADON © 2020



MINUTES  
AFTER



FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE NATTERING TANZANIAN JUNGLE, TO A HUMBLE ENGLISH CHURCH ON CHRISTMAS EVE, TO THE EXPANSE OF THE COLOSSAL PACIFIC OCEAN, THESE TALES KNOW NO BOUNDS.

THE LIVES OF A RUSSIAN COSMETIC SURGERY ADDICT, THE REJECTED SON OF AN ALIEN-CULT LEADER, AND TWO INCESTUOUS PURITAN SISTERS ARE JUST A FEW OF THE COUNTLESS OTHERS WHO WILL LEARN THAT THE SEARCH FOR THEIR DESIRES WILL LEAD THEM DOWN A TRAIL DARKER THAN THEY EVER COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

EACH EPISODE WILL DISCOVER AND EXPLORE NEW TERRITORY AND UNIQUE CHARACTERS, EACH WITH A STORY DYING TO BE TOLD.

NOBODY IS SAFE ONCE THE CLOCK STRIKES TWELVE.



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MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

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# THE FIFTEENTH FLOOR

12:03 AM

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**JACKIE** (30)

THE YOUNGER TWIN BORN MILES BELOW SECOND PLACE, BUT LIVING ON THE STREETS HASN'T BROKEN HIM, IT'S JUST CONSTANTLY REMINDED HIM HE WAS DESTINED FOR MORE.





## **JON** (30)

THE GOLDEN BOY. AFTER GIVING HIS LIFE TO THE CORPORATE WORLD, HE TAKES IT BACK ONLY TO BE ABLE TO GIVE IT TO A HIGHER POWER: MOTHER'S DESIGN.

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MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

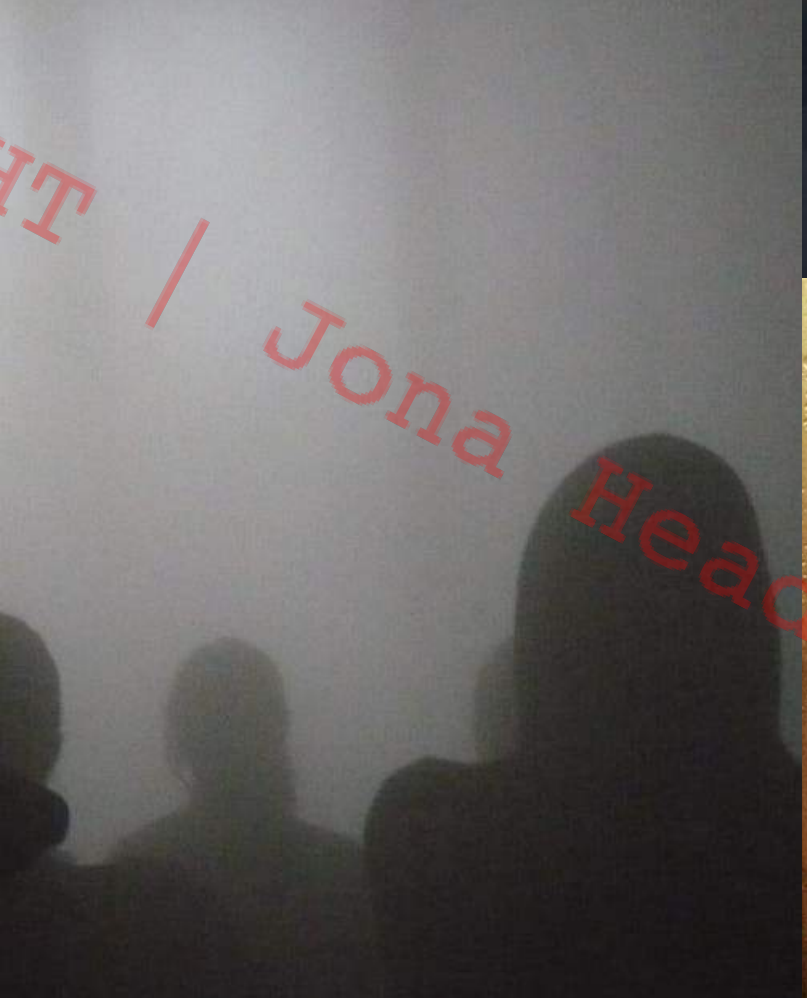
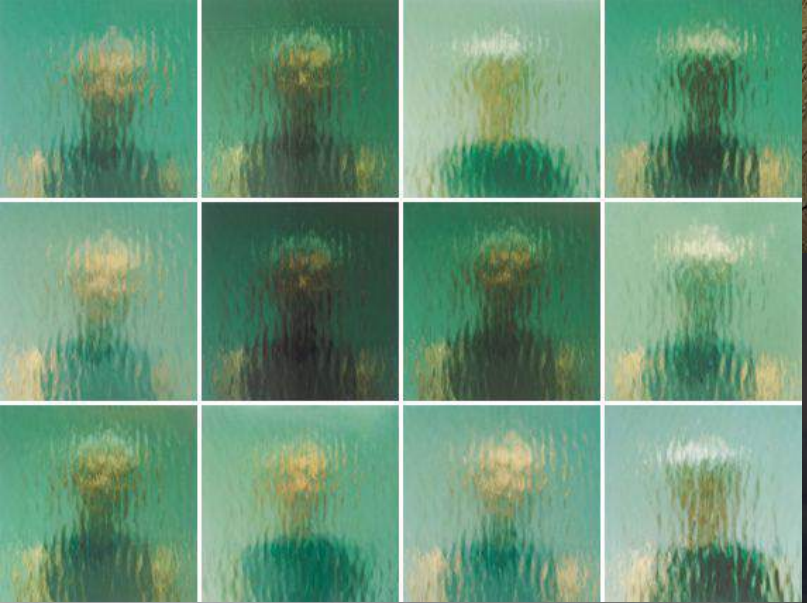
## SETTING

INNER CITY, LONDON

THIRTEEN FLOORS ABOVE THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF A PULSATING CITY, TWO BROTHERS CUT THE TENSION IN AN EMPTY HIGH-RISE APARTMENT WHILE SOMETHING LIFE CHANGING AWAITS ONLY ONE OF THEM TWO FLOORS UP.

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MINUTES

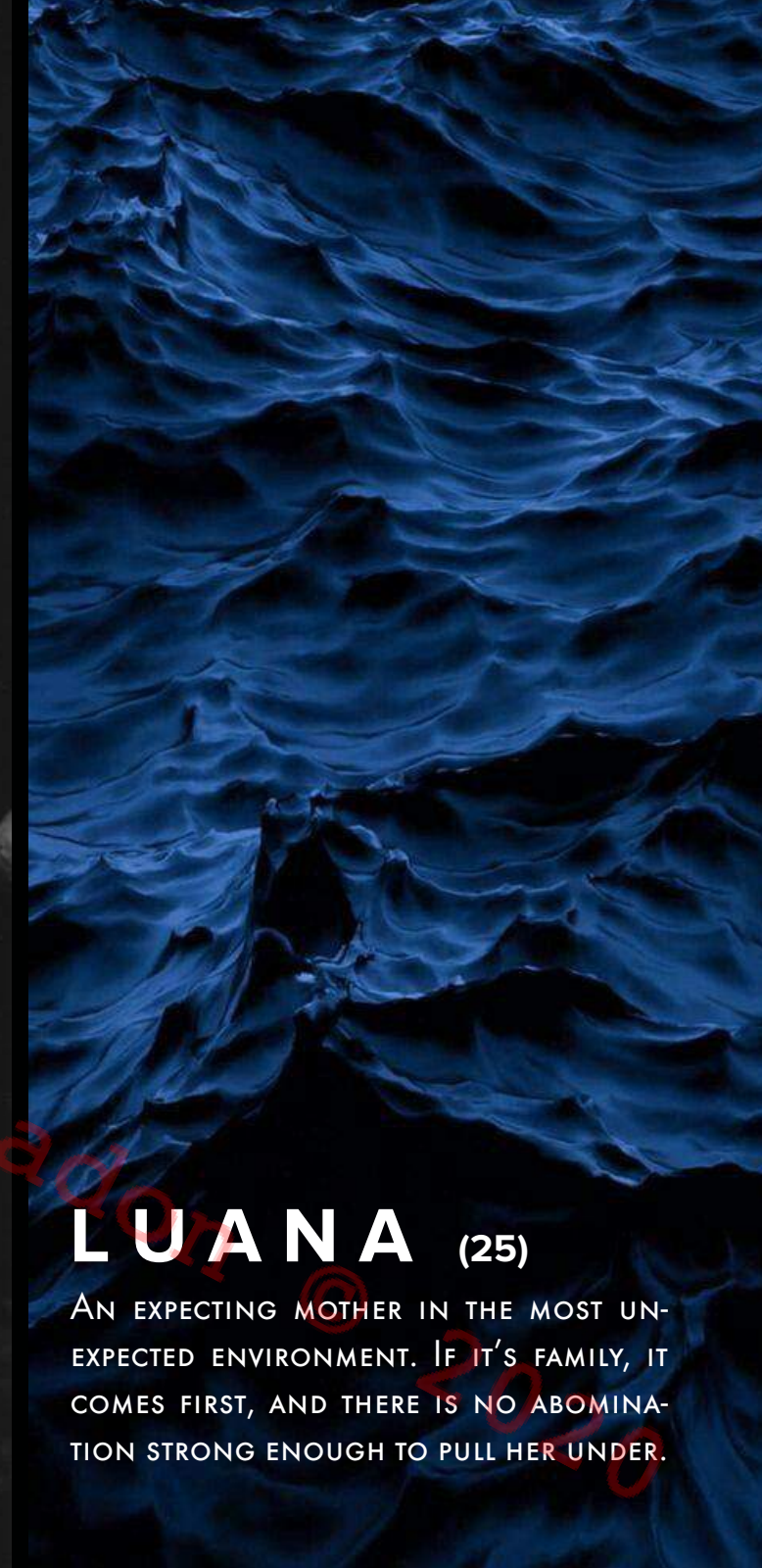
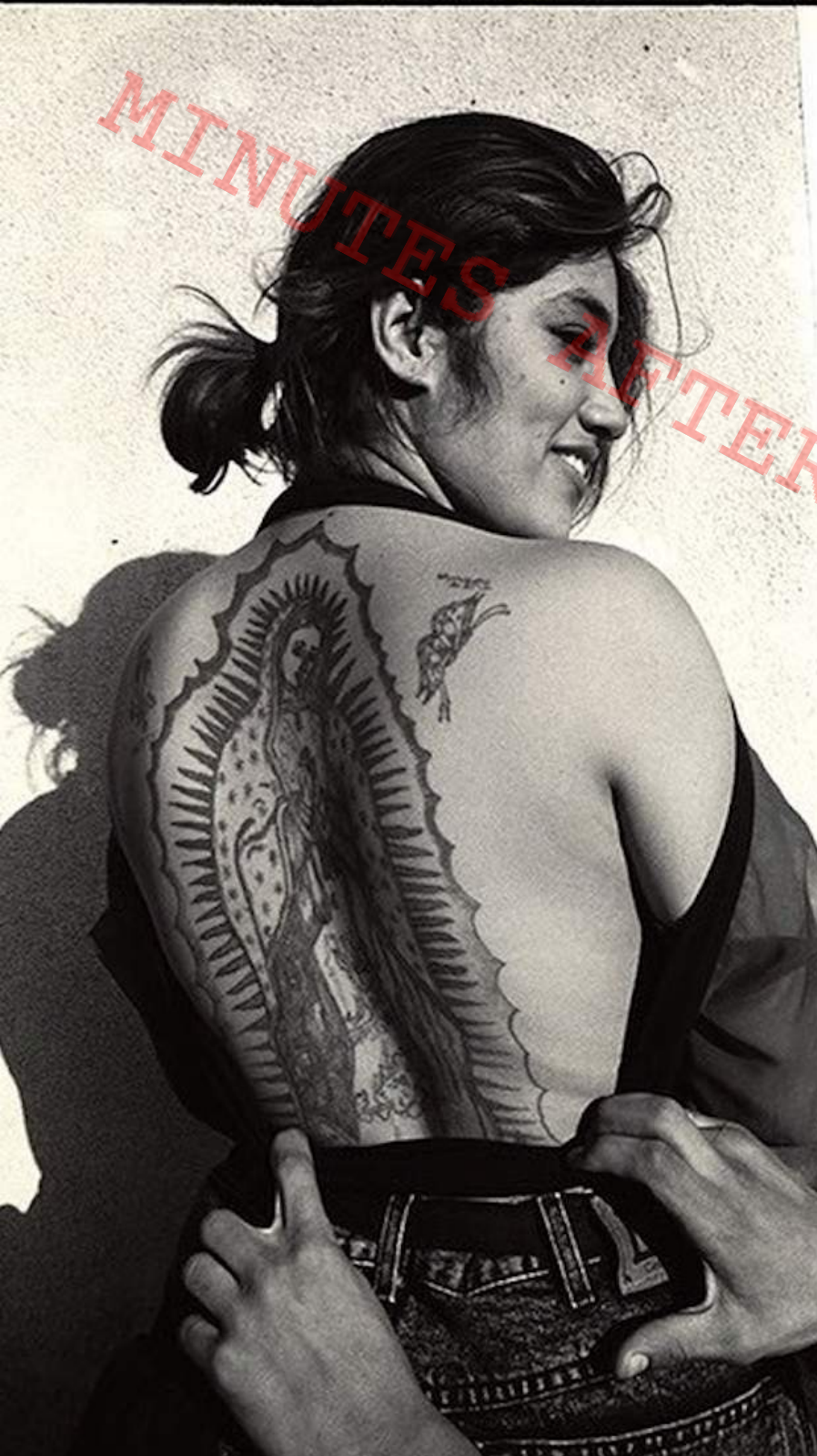
MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

# LILY AND THE BLACK OCEANS

12:04 AM

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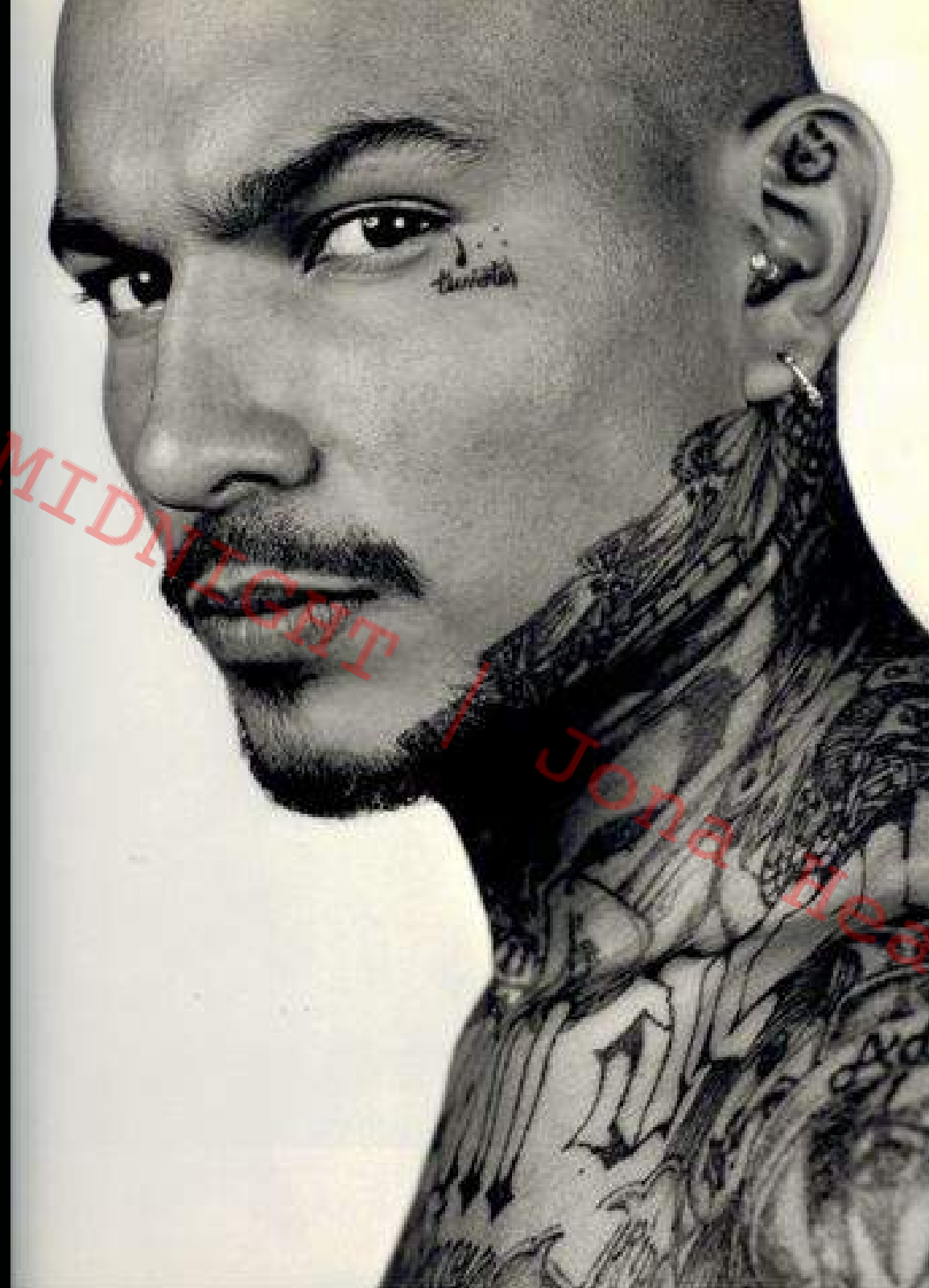
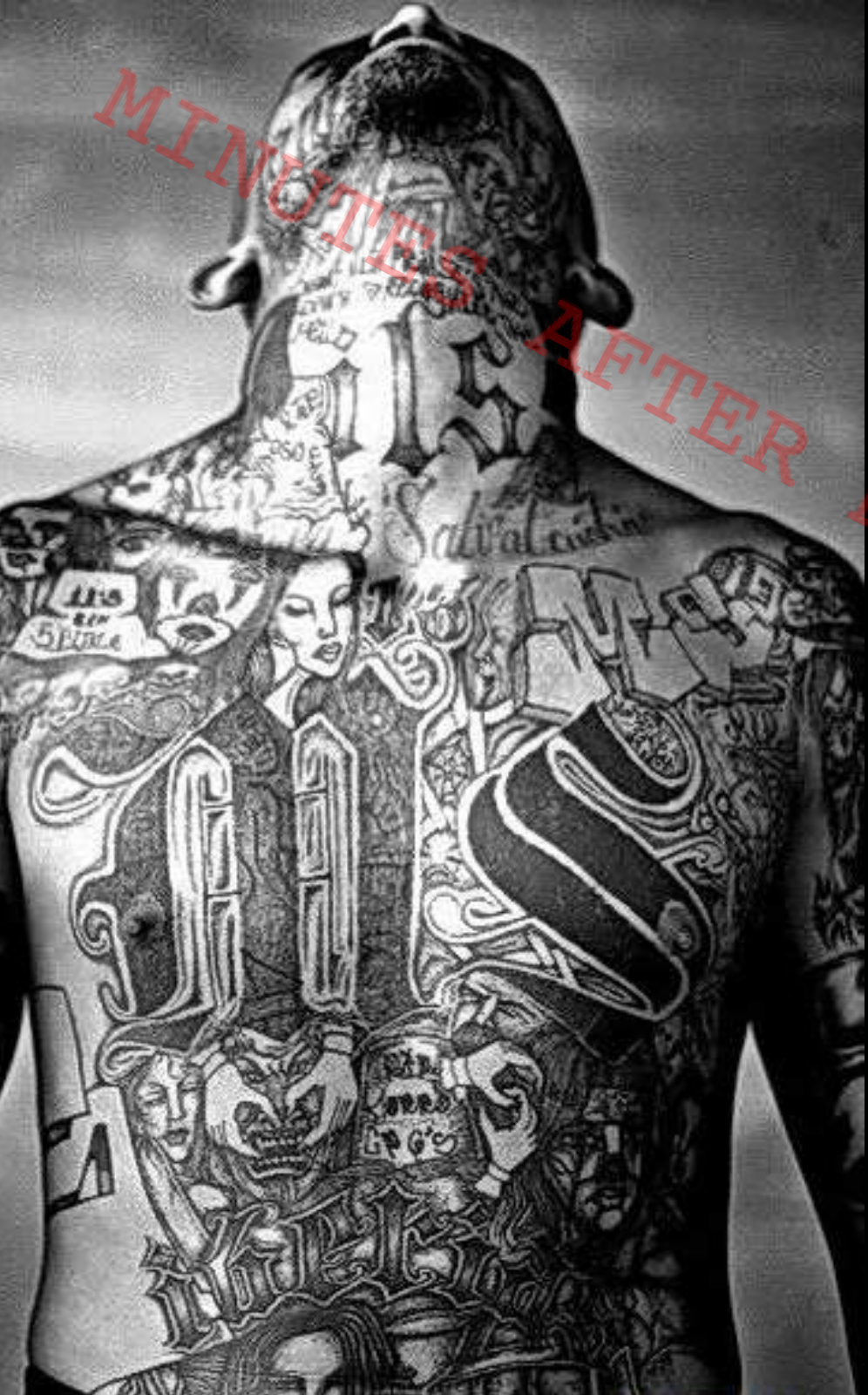




**LUANA** (25)

AN EXPECTING MOTHER IN THE MOST UN-EXPECTED ENVIRONMENT. IF IT'S FAMILY, IT COMES FIRST, AND THERE IS NO ABOMINATION STRONG ENOUGH TO PULL HER UNDER.





## ALONZO (30)

DESPERATE TO BE A BETTER MAN OUT OF PRISON THAN HE WAS BEFORE INCARCERATION, EVEN IF HE HAS TO BREAK THE LAW AGAIN TO PROVE IT.



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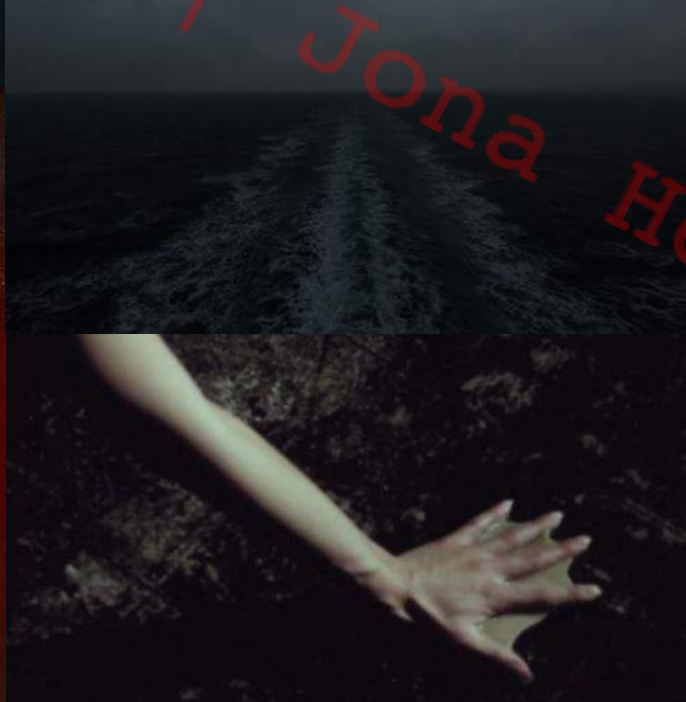
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## SETTING

THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

THE OCEAN HEAVES AND ATTEMPTS TO BURST AN INFLATABLE DINGHY ON ROUTE TO MEXICO, BUT THE CARGO QUICKLY BECOMES MORE PRECIOUS AS THE STAKES RISE HIGHER THAN THE CRASHING WHITE WAVES.





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# MWAMBA

12:06 AM

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# KIBWE (8)

A CHILD WHO HAS NEVER FELT LOVE. WITH MONSTERS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF HIS HOME, HE CAN EITHER BE PREY OR BECOME THE PREDATOR.

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MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

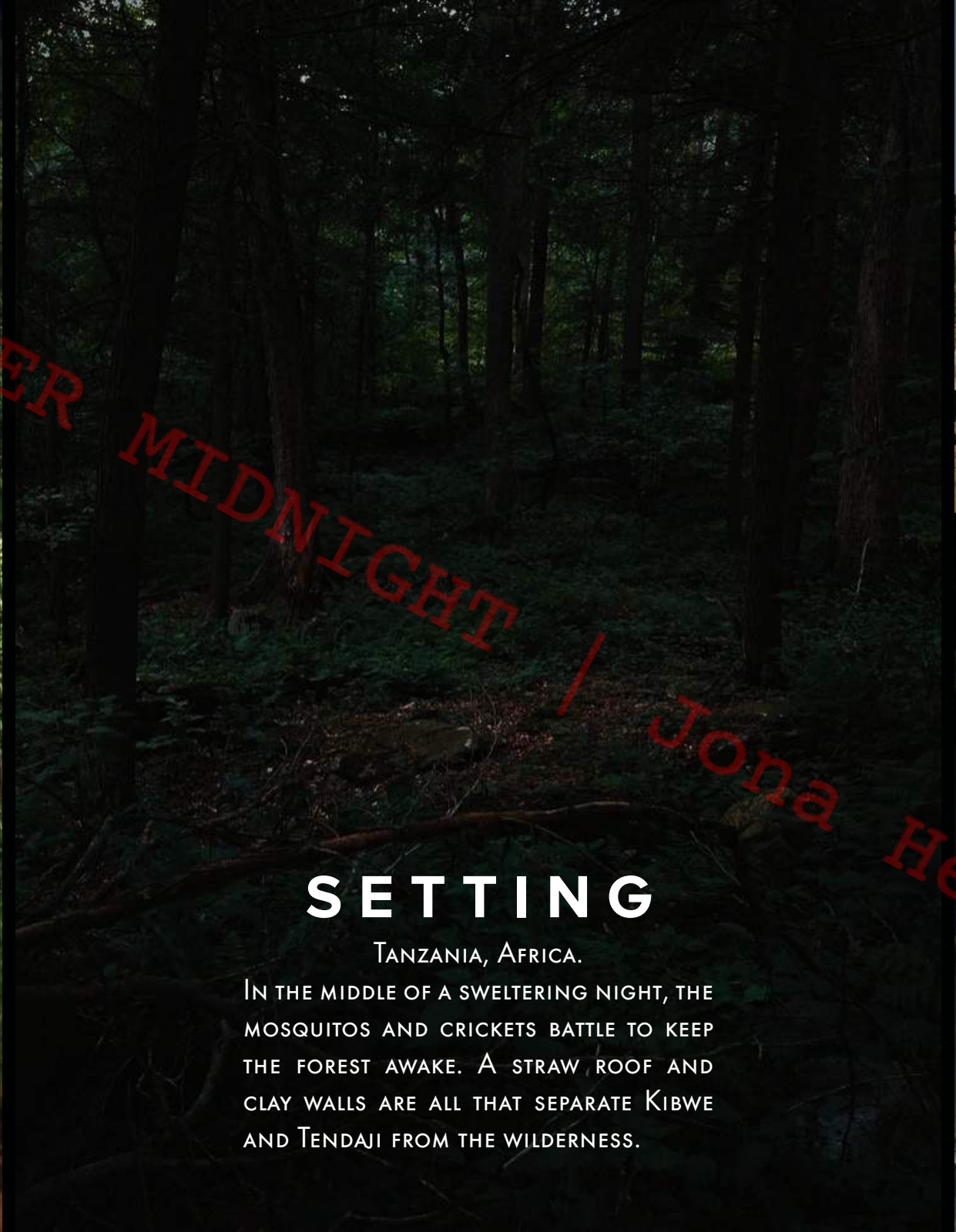


**TENDAJI** (40s)

A MAN WHO REGRETS FATHERHOOD. WITH A WIFE LOST TO CHILDBIRTH, THIS PART-TIME WITCH DOCTOR SEEKS POWER IN THE MOST FORMIDABLE CREATURES HE CAN FIND.

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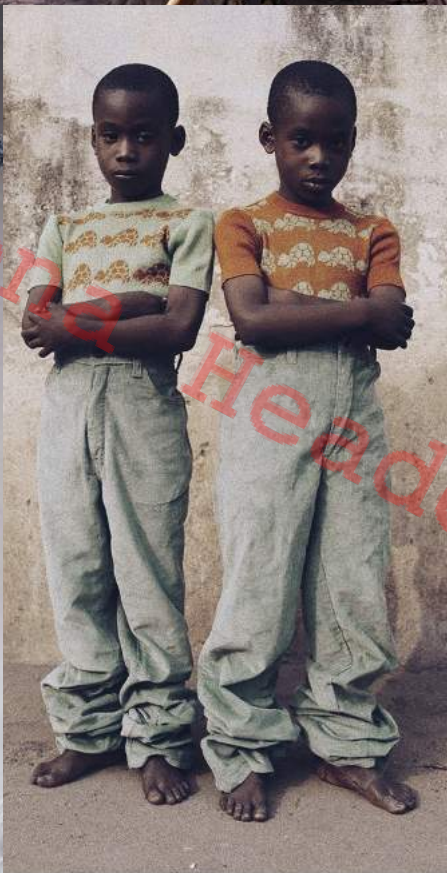
## SETTING

TANZANIA, AFRICA.

IN THE MIDDLE OF A SWELTERING NIGHT, THE MOSQUITOS AND CRICKETS BATTLE TO KEEP THE FOREST AWAKE. A STRAW ROOF AND CLAY WALLS ARE ALL THAT SEPARATE KIBWE AND TENDAJI FROM THE WILDERNESS.

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MINUTES

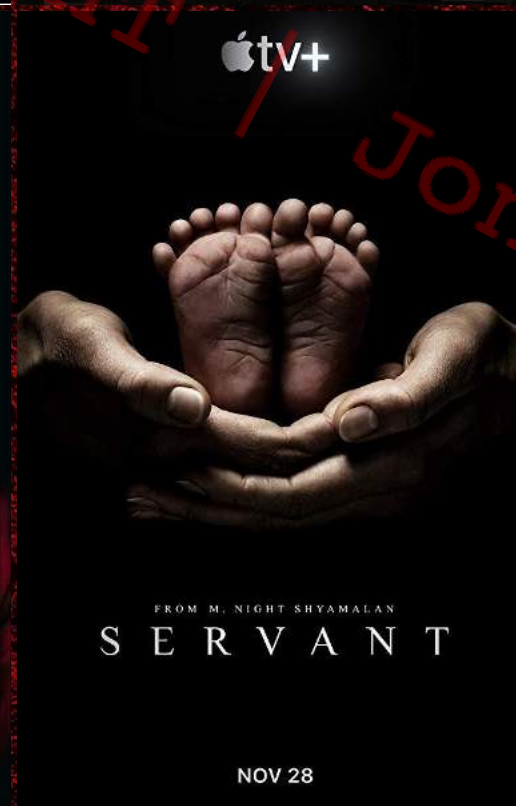
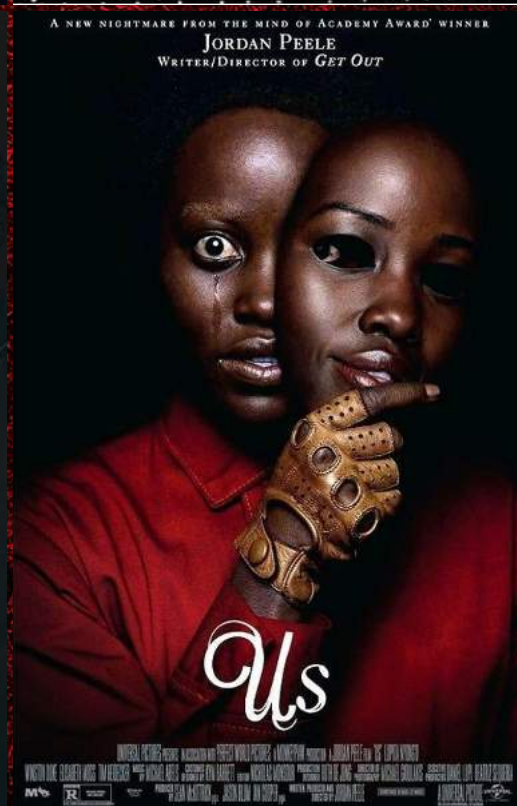
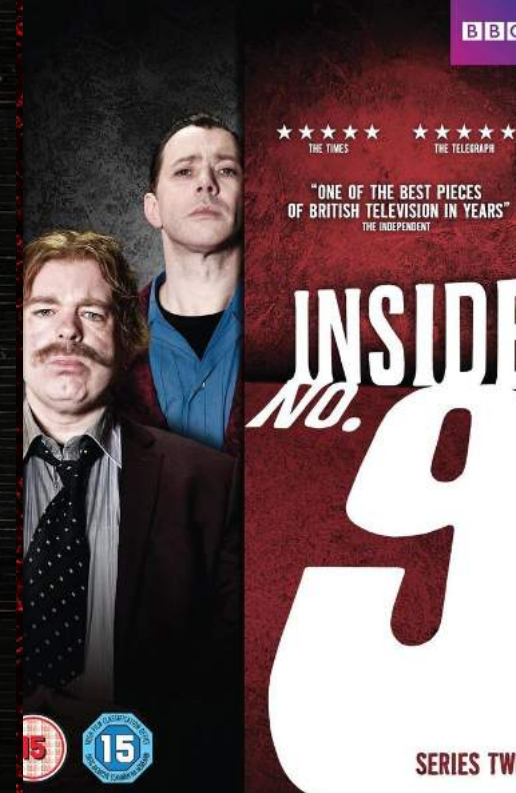
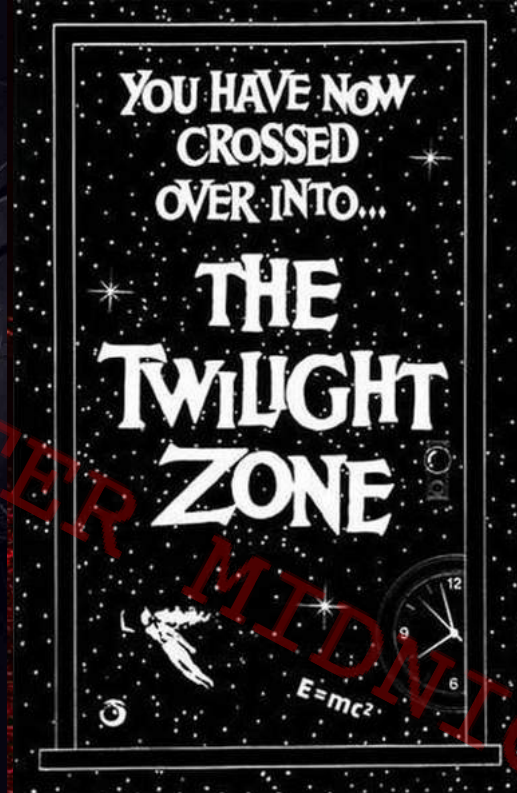
AFTER

MIDNIGHT

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# REFERENCES





MINUTES AFTER

## MINUTES AFTER MIDNIGHT

IS AN ENTIRELY ORIGINAL TAKE ON HORROR. THE OLD TWISTS AND TROPES OF THE GENRE HAVE BEEN DROWNED TO MAKE ROOM FOR A NEW SURGE. ITS INSIDIOUS BUILD SNEAKS UP ON YOU AND BRINGS YOUR FEARS TO YOUR VERY DOORSTEP. REAL FEARS, REAL EMOTIONS, REAL STORIES.

OUR CHARACTERS, OUR PEOPLE, OUR VICTIMS WALK AMONG US. THEY ARE OUR LOVED ONES, OUR FRIENDS, OUR NEIGHBOURS.

THEY ARE OURSELVES.

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