



FILM DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL: BIRDWATCHER

Prepared For: Ann Greyson

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Project Type: Book-to-Screen Adaptation (Feature Film / Limited Series)

THE VISION

Birdwatcher is more than a thriller; it is an Elevated Supernatural Drama. In the current market, studios are moving away from "jump scares" and toward stories that balance high-stakes mystery with profound emotional depth. By adapting this narrative, we are creating a bridge between the Grief/Healing genre and the Supernatural Thriller market.

1. THE LOGLINE

When a young girl vanishes during a secluded Poconos vacation, a frantic search unearths a silence more terrifying than the crime. As her spirit lingers in the shadows of the pines, she becomes the silent architect of her own investigation, guiding her grieving parents toward a dark secret buried beneath the very earth they once trusted.

2. CORE NARRATIVE ARCHITECTURE

The screenplay will be structured through a Dual-Plane Narrative, a technique used in prestige hits like *The Lovely Bones* and *The Outsider*: The Grounded Procedural: Follows a relentless local Sheriff battling a case with zero forensic evidence. This provides the "hook" and the investigative tension for the audience. The Ethereal Guide: Follows the missing child from the "In-Between." Her presence isn't a haunting of horror, but of necessity, she is the only character who knows the truth, and her struggle to communicate creates a "ticking clock" suspense.

3. CINEMATIC DNA

Setting as Character: The Poconos mountain range provides a naturally claustrophobic, atmospheric backdrop. The contrast between the beauty of nature and the "secret buried beneath" creates a powerful visual metaphor. Visual Motifs: The use of "birdwatching" as a theme for observation, both from the living and the dead, will serve as the central visual thread of the film.

4. THE ADAPTATION PATHWAY (Next Steps)

To move this from the page to the screen, we propose the following development phases:

Phase I: The Cinematic Pitch Deck: A high-end visual presentation that establishes the tone, color palette, and "Look & Feel" of the film for producers.

Phase II: Screenplay Treatment: A detailed 10–15 page scene-by-scene breakdown of the movie's plot, character arcs, and dialogue highlights.

Phase III: Option & Development: We explore a Standard Option Agreement, allowing our development team to represent the IP to major streaming platforms and independent production houses.

5. MARKET VIABILITY

"Grief-driven thrillers" are currently a high-demand sub-genre. Birdwatcher aligns with the success of character-centric supernatural films that prioritize story over gore, making it an ideal candidate for Film Festival circuits and Global Streaming acquisitions.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

 **FORMAT:** Feature Film / Limited Series

 **GENRE:** Supernatural Thriller / Elevated Horror

A chilling supernatural thriller that blends a gripping investigation with a haunting, emotional quest for the truth.

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LOGLINE

When a young girl disappears during a quiet family vacation, a relentless investigation begins—but as her spirit lingers, she becomes the only one who knows the truth, determined to guide her grieving parents toward the secret buried beneath the place they once felt safe.



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CORE NARRATIVE

<i>The Investigation</i>	<i>The Haunting</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A relentless sheriff • A case with no leads • A hidden danger 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The girl's restless spirit • Signs from beyond • A path to the truth 

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CINEMATIC APPEAL

 ISOLATED CABIN SETTING Eerie & atmospheric	 UNRAVELING MYSTERY Clues uncovered	 BURIED SECRETS Dark revelations	 EMOTIONAL HAUNTING Spirit guiding the way
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March 18, 2026

Birdwatcher – A Story Made for the Screen

Hi Ann,

I just finished reviewing *Birdwatcher*, and I have to say it lingers. The tension, the mystery, and the emotional depth make it feel like it's already unfolding on screen.

I've put together this **Film Development Proposal** that highlights how your story could translate into a suspense-driven, emotionally rich film or limited series. The dual threads of mystery and supernatural presence give it a cinematic heartbeat that's rare to see.

I'd love to hear your thoughts and explore how this story could reach audiences in a truly compelling way.

Best regards,

Samantha Jacobs
Literary Publicist | Sales and Marketing

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