

00:00:00	Music	Music	"Switchblade Comb" by Mobius VanChocStraw. A jaunty, jazzy tune reminiscent of the opening theme of a movie. Music continues at a lower volume as Katie introduces herself and her guest, and then it fades out.
00:00:07	Katie Walsh	Host	Hello! And welcome to <i>Switchblade Sisters</i> , the podcast where women get together to slice and dice our favorite action and genre films. Every week here on the podcast, we invite a new female filmmaker—a writer, director, actor, or producer—and we talk in-depth about their fave genre film, maybe one that influenced their own work.
			I'm film critic Katie Walsh, and today we have actress, host, writer, and horror maven Clarke Wolfe!
00:00:28	Clarke Wolfe	Guest	Yaaay!
00:00:29	Katie	Host	Welcome, Clarke! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:00:31	Clarke	Guest	Well, thank you so much for having me!
00:00:32	Katie	Host	Yay!
00:00:33	Clarke	Guest	This is such a treat!
			<i>[Music fades out.]</i>
00:00:34	Katie	Host	This is <u>so</u> exciting to have you here. Little bit about Clarke: actress, host, and writer Clarke Wolfe is one of the most well-known female voices in the horror community. Her thoughts on the genre have been read and seen on Nerdist, Collider, Syfy, IMDb, and more. She recently appeared in Fangoria's <i>Satanic Panic</i> , directed by Chelsea Stardust—another <i>Switchblade Sister</i> guest—and the acclaimed documentary <i>Memory: The Origins of Alien</i> .
			She could next be seen opposite Barbara Crampton—another one of our <i>Switchblade Sisters</i> —in the holiday horror anthology <i>Deathcember</i> . Holiday horror anthology! Tongue-twister! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:01:07	Clarke	Guest	I know, right? Every time I promote it I'm like—or mention it, it's—it's definitely like a—
00:01:11	Katie	Host	I'm like—
00:01:12	Clarke	Guest	Just gotta get in the habit.
00:01:14	Katie	Host	"Horror day, holiday—anthology, yes."
			<i>[Both laugh.]</i>
			So Clarke, today you have chosen my personal horror gateway drug, Wes Craven's <i>Scream</i> !
00:01:23	Clarke	Guest	Yay!
00:01:25	Katie	Host	So why did you choose <i>Scream</i> ?
			<i>[Katie responds affirmatively several times as Clarke speaks.]</i>
00:01:26	Clarke	Guest	This movie has had such a big impact on me over the years. I have probably taken notes on <u>this</u> movie specifically more than any other movie that I can think of, just because it comes up in important conversation or on podcasts or whatever. Or looking at it from a writing perspective! And—but for me, this was a movie that came out

when I was a little too young to see it. But I wanted to know everything about it, and my best friend Ginny, she got to see it, so she told me all the secrets, and she told me who the killers were—'cause I asked.

Normally I do not like to know the secrets before I go in, but when I was a kid I did. And then, you know, this was a movie that for sure—part of the reason that I love genre so much, and genre storytelling so much, is because I believe that what you're afraid of, or what scares you, says a lot about a person, about a society, about a place and time. And so this movie really resonated with people, and I think there is so much going on beneath the surface... that that really occurred to me, like, later in high school, early college, when I was studying film a little more closely.

And the more I have watched this movie, I think that it holds up. I mean, I—*[stifles laughter]* the one example that I always give is they keep calling the phones "cellulars." *[Laughs.]*

00:02:48 Katie Host I knowww!

00:02:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Katie:** Cellular telephones!

**Clarke:** *[Laughing]* So—yeah!

00:02:51 Clarke Guest So he keeps saying like "We cloned his cellular!"

*[Katie laughs.]*

Or "This cellular! What are you doing with a cellular?!" And it's like—it's very silly. But aside from that...

00:02:59 Katie Host Mm-hm.

00:03:00 Clarke Guest ...I feel like this movie feels very contemporary.

00:03:02 Katie Host Mm-hm.

00:03:03 Clarke Guest And so the—it's very meaningful for me in all of those ways, and honestly I—I am not a slasher fan.

00:03:10 Katie Host Wow!

00:03:11 Clarke Guest Not at all. And it's—in fact, it's probably my least favorite horror sub-genre.

00:03:17 Katie Host Interesting!

00:03:18 Clarke Guest But this movie is in my top five favorite horror movies of all time.

00:03:21 Katie Host Alright. So, we are gonna get into the nitty-gritty of *Scream*, but I'm gonna give a little synopsis first. I mean, I'm sure a lot of people have seen *Scream*.

*[Both laugh.]*

But! For those of you who haven't seen *Scream*, today's episode will contain spoilers. *[Stifling laughter]* Much like your friend spoiled it for you.

00:03:37 Clarke Guest *[Laughs.]* Yes.

00:03:38 Katie Host But that shouldn't stop you from listening before you watch. Like we always say, it's not what happens but how it happens that makes a

			movie worth watching. Still, if you wanna pause this episode and watch it, now's your chance.
00:03:47	Music	Music	"Trouble In Woodsboro / Sidney's Lament" by Marco Beltrami begins to play, and continues until the first clip.
00:03:49	Katie	Host	<p>Okay! So in 1996, <i>Scream</i>, written by Kevin Williamson, directed by Wes Craven, revitalized horror with its smart and snarky take on the slasher genre. The film opens with a little bit of bait and switch. We all thought Drew Barrymore was the star of this movie, thanks to the poster.</p> <p>She plays Casey Becker, who receives a creepy phone call at home, and the mysterious caller asks her <i>[harsh whisper]</i> "What's your favorite scary movie?"</p> <p><i>[Regular voice]</i> And then torments Casey with a deadly game of horror trivia.</p> <p><i>[Music stops.]</i></p>
00:04:16	Clip	Clip	<p><b>Phone Voice:</b> Name the killer in <i>Friday the 13th</i>.</p> <p><b>Casey Becker:</b> <i>[Breathing hard, frantic]</i> Jason! Jason, Jason!</p> <p><b>Phone Voice:</b> I'm sorry! That's the wrong answer!</p>
00:04:24	Katie	Host	So Casey and her boyfriend Steve end up disemboweled on the front lawn, a grisly murder that rocks the small town of Woodsboro. Which has already been rocked one year earlier, as we will come to find out, by the murder of Maureen Prescott, who's the mother of Sidney Prescott—played by Neve Campbell—who is our heroine, our final girl.
00:04:41	Clip	Clip	<b>Gale Weathers:</b> Only a year ago, Maureen Prescott, wife and mother, was found raped and murdered not far from this peaceful town square.
00:04:48	Katie	Host	The killer—who they dub Ghostface because of his Halloween costume disguise—calls Sidney when she's home alone, and then attacks her.
00:04:56	Clip	Clip	<p><b>Sidney Prescott:</b> Nice try, Randy. Tell Tatum to hurry up, okay? Bye, now.</p> <p><b>Phone Voice:</b> If you hang up on me, you'll <u>die</u> just like your mother!</p> <p><i>[Booming music sting and/or crash of thunder.]</i></p> <p><b>Phone Voice:</b> Do you wanna <u>die</u>, Sidney?</p>
00:05:06	Katie	Host	But of course she fights him off. She's very smart, <i>[stifling laughter]</i> <u>very</u> good, the—
00:05:09	Clarke	Guest	Yes.
00:05:10	Katie	Host	The little door move is very, uh, clutch in that moment.
00:05:13	Clarke	Guest	Uh-huh!
00:05:14	Katie	Host	When her boyfriend Billy Loomis—played by Skeet Ulrich—suddenly arrives and drops a "cellular telephone." <i>[Laughs.]</i>

00:05:19	Clarke	Guest	His <u>cellular</u> . <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:05:20	Katie	Host	Sidney starts to suspect him, and he spends the night in jail, though he's eventually cleared through phone records, and the police start to suspect her father Neil. Anyway, their school is absolutely out of control.
			<i>[Clarke laughs.]</i>
			I cannot—I—rewatching it, I was like "What is going on?" People are like, pranking in Ghostface costumes, <i>[stifles laughter]</i> and the iconic Principal Himbry, played by Henry Winkler, who's one of my personal MVPs in this movie—
00:05:43	Clarke	Guest	So good.
00:05:44	Katie	Host	He suspends school.
00:05:46	Clip	Clip	<b>Principal Himbry:</b> Due to the recent events that have occurred, effective immediately, all classes are suspended until further notice.
			<i>[Students cheer.]</i>
00:05:52	Katie	Host	And of course all the teens decide to throw a party at Stu's house. Stu is played by Matthew Lillard, who is—he gives one of the most <u>unhinged</u> ...
00:06:01	Clarke	Guest	So good.
00:06:02	Katie	Host	...horror movie performances I've ever seen, which is saying a lot. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:06:05	Clarke	Guest	I love it so much.
00:06:06	Clip	Clip	<b>Stu Macher:</b> <i>[Dramatically]</i> I'll be right back!
			<i>[Teens "ohhh!"]</i>
00:06:09	Katie	Host	So at the party, video store clerk Randy—Jamie Kennedy—expounds on the <u>rules</u> of the horror genre, and his scream queen Jamie Lee Curtis.
00:06:17	Clip	Clip	<b>Randy Meeks:</b> There are certain <u>rules</u> that one must abide by in order to successfully survive a horror movie! For instance, number one: you can never have sex!
			<i>[Teens boo and jeer.]</i>
			<b>Randy:</b> Big no-no!
00:06:31	Katie	Host	So aggressive news personality Gale Weathers ingratiates herself with Deputy Dewey—this is Courteney Cox and David Arquette, obviously. They infiltrate the party, she puts up—she sets up a little camera. And then Ghostface starts to claim a few more victims, including Tatum—played by Rose McGowan—who meets her doom on the wrong end of a garage door.
			Meanwhile, Sidney just upends all the rules of the final girl.
00:06:52	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm!
00:06:53	Katie	Host	<i>[Stifling laughter]</i> By having sex with Billy.
			<i>[Clarke laughs quietly.]</i>

			Who's then melodramatically stabbed by Ghostface. He has, like, an amazing death scene.
00:06:59	Clarke	Guest	<i>[Laughing]</i> Mm-hm!
00:07:00	Katie	Host	So there's only a few people left in the house, because all those... <i>[stifling laughter]</i> <u>hellion teens</u> go off to look at the principal's <u>body</u> .
00:07:07	Clip	Clip	<b>Randy:</b> They found Principal Himbry dead. He was gutted and hung from the goalpost on the football field.
			<i>[Group murmuring amongst themselves.]</i>
			<b>Drunk Teen:</b> What're we waiting for? <i>[Laughing]</i> Let's go over there before they pry him down!
00:07:17	Katie	Host	So a distraught Sidney doesn't know who to trust. Suddenly, Billy is up and about. He survives. With a little bit of a nod to <i>Psycho</i> , he declares:
00:07:25	Clip	Clip	<b>Billy:</b> <i>[Dramatic whisper]</i> We all go a little mad sometimes.
00:07:27	Katie	Host	And reveals that he and <u>Stu</u> are the two murderers. They framed Cotton Weary—Liev Schreiber—for the murder of Sidney's mother, and they killed her due to an extramarital affair with Billy's father, which broke up his parents' relationship. After a lot of movie references and psychobabble, and with a key assist from her former nemesis Gale Weathers—
			<i>[Clarke laughs quietly.]</i>
00:07:47	Clip	Clip	<b>Gale:</b> <i>[Breathing hard between sentences]</i> I've got an ending for you. The reporter left for dead in the news van... comes to. Stumbles on you two <u>dipshits</u> . Finds the gun. Foils your plan, and saves the day.
			<b>Sidney:</b> I like that ending.
00:08:04	Katie	Host	—Sidney takes on her true final girl form and fights back, attacking Billy in the Ghostface costume and <i>[stifling laughter]</i> murdering Stu with the TV that is playing <i>Halloween</i> . <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:08:13	Clarke	Guest	So good. <u>So</u> good.
00:08:15	Katie	Host	Obviously this movie revitalized horror in the nineties. It was—it had become kind of a joke—
00:08:19	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:08:20	Katie	Host	—with <u>all</u> of the sequels, all of the direct-to-video, <u>really</u> low-brow type of franchise, like, you know... installment number ten.
00:08:28	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:08:29	Katie	Host	But I think that Kevin Williamson was really smart in realizing that the way to come at a smart revitalization of horror was to talk about the genre.
00:08:42	Clarke	Guest	Yeah!
00:08:43	Katie	Host	And to have Sidney in the beginning say "Oh, I don't watch those movies. They're such an insult." Like, "I know all the tropes."
00:08:48	Clarke	Guest	Right.
00:08:49	Katie	Host	It's really smart writing.

00:08:50	Clarke	Guest	Yeah! And I also think that the idea—one thing that I <u>love</u> about this script, and honestly I love about a lot of Wes Craven's better movies, is that he—they treat the audience as though they're smart.
00:09:03	Katie	Host	Yes, exactly.
00:09:04	Clarke	Guest	You know? It doesn't—it doesn't—it's not like, too smart for its own good. But it also, you know, says "No. You'll keep up."
00:09:10	Katie	Host	Yes.
00:09:11	Clarke	Guest	"You keep up with us." And you know, I think that that <u>trusting</u> —trusting the audience with that, in—and also trusting <u>teenagers</u> with that!
00:09:18	Katie	Host	Yeah!
00:09:19	Clarke	Guest	You know, that's something that I've—so Wes Craven is my favorite of all the horror auteurs.
00:09:24	Katie	Host	Mm-hm.
00:09:25	Clarke	Guest	And part of the reason why is because he's always treated his characters with agency.
00:09:28	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:09:29	Clarke	Guest	You know, like the teenagers often <u>are</u> the ones who know exactly what's going on, and nobody <u>listens</u> to them. The grownups don't listen, you know? Or whatever.
00:09:36	Katie	Host	Right.
00:09:37	Clarke	Guest	And so I feel like that's so on display here, and I just—I love a smart movie, and I love a smart movie that like, really plays by <u>its</u> rules.
00:09:46	Katie	Host	Yes!
00:09:47	Clarke	Guest	It's—it's just such a... it's such a well-written script.
00:09:51	Katie	Host	Yeah. You know, it's interesting, because I don't know that I ever—like, when I initially watched the film—there's so many <u>big</u> characters. Like, Tatum is <u>so</u> fun to watch. And Stu, who's just off the wall. And then I think Randy's—you know, for the horror fan, he's kind of like our way in.
00:10:08	Clarke	Guest	Yeah.
00:10:09	Katie	Host	Like, he's savvy, he's knowing, <i>[laughing]</i> he survives.
00:10:12	Clarke	Guest	Yeah!
00:10:13	Katie	Host	Amazingly. But I think re-watching <i>Scream</i> when I—like, I re-watched it last night, and I was—this was the first time I was <u>really</u> struck by Neve Campbell—
00:10:24	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:10:25	Katie	Host	—and her performance. And last night I was like, <i>[laughing]</i> "Oh no, she's really wonderful!"
00:10:31	Clarke	Guest	Yeah! Well, you know what's funny, is that the last time I watched this movie, I was so moved and <u>upset</u> by the opening scene.
00:10:41	Katie	Host	<u>Oh</u> my god.
00:10:42	Clarke	Guest	Like—
00:10:43	Katie	Host	Clarke, it is insane. I was <u>screaming</u> on my couch. How many times have I seen this movie? Last night I had full-on goosebumps, I was

screaming...

00:10:51	Clarke	Guest	Yeah.
00:10:52	Katie	Host	It's so effective! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:10:53	Clarke	Guest	It's real—I mean, it is well done for <u>so</u> many reasons, but I have to say that like, Casey Becker, the character, it—I mean I—like, last time I watched it I legitimately teared up.
00:11:04	Katie	Host	Oh, wow.
00:11:05	Clarke	Guest	It just—it made me really sad. I think I'm also at the—I'm getting— <i>[stifles laughter]</i> as I get older—and I hear this about horror fans, like, when you have kids your relationship to horror can change. Or you know, as you get older, you know—I tell this story all the time, but my relationship with <i>Rosemary's Baby</i> has changed <u>so</u> much—
00:11:20	Katie	Host	Right.
00:11:21	Clarke	Guest	—the older that I get. It doesn't—it just—I—and I <u>cannot</u> make it out of watching that movie without crying.
00:11:26	Katie	Host	Mm-hm.
00:11:27	Clarke	Guest	'Cause it's <u>so</u> upsetting to me.
00:11:28	Katie	Host	Mm-hm.
00:11:29	Clarke	Guest	And <u>that's</u> what's scary to me, is not the devil, it's the whole idea of, you know, getting—you're just sold out by the people who are—allegedly love you.
00:11:37	Katie	Host	By that horrible relationship? <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:11:39	Clarke	Guest	I mean, it's just awful! But I say that to say that, you know, I take <u>brutal</u> violence, against young women especially, <u>really</u> harder! A lot harder now.
00:11:52	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:11:53	Clarke	Guest	<u>Epecially</u> when it's done well. And as you say, this sequence—I mean, it is just like—you can see why this movie was a pop culture phenomenon. Because that opening scene is <u>vicious</u> .
00:12:06	Katie	Host	It is! And I think—one thing that I was thinking about last night while I was watching it is that in slasher movies, we almost never see parents.
00:12:13	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:12:14	Katie	Host	And—
00:12:15	Clarke	Guest	Yes!
00:12:16	Katie	Host	When her parents show up...
00:12:17	Clarke	Guest	<u>Yes</u> .
00:12:18	Katie	Host	...and see her, it's like, devastating.
00:12:19	Clarke	Guest	We fi—they <u>find</u> her! Like, you're exactly right. I wrote that down, too.
00:12:23	Katie	Host	Yeah. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:12:24	Clarke	Guest	Like, you <u>never</u> see the mom and dad finding the body—
00:12:27	Katie	Host	Yes.
00:12:28	Clarke	Guest	—of their <u>dead child</u> . And we forget, too, because like—okay, <i>Scream</i> definitely— <i>[laughs]</i> I—this cast is perfection. I think he

found—

00:12:34 Katie Host Yes.

00:12:35 Clarke Guest Wes has always found superstars. Like, he just—his amazing—his taste in young talent is so impeccable. But these actors look like adults. *[Laughs.]*

00:12:47 Katie Host *[Laughing]* They do.

00:12:48 Clarke Guest 'Cause they are! And look, that is left over from a time, like, of the eighties, where grown—you know, 30-year-olds, *[laughs]* are playing—

00:12:54 Katie Host Yes.

00:12:55 Clarke Guest —like, teenagers, and that's fine. But my bigger point is we in the audience have to remember... Casey's a child.

00:13:00 Katie Host Right.

00:13:01 Clarke Guest She's a child. She's home alone. Like, so if that—she's supposed to be what, 16, 17? She—again, does not look 16 or 17. *[Laughs.]*

00:13:08 Katie Host *[Laughing]* Right.

00:13:09 Clarke Guest But if you think about that—if you think about the idea of this girl—'cause I was really struck by like... talk about the rules. I mean, Casey's boyfriend wasn't sneaking over for her. They weren't, like—you know, while her parents were out. Casey's not drinking. She's not sitting on the couch smoking weed, whatever.

And by the way, if she was doing any of those things, like, she's good! She's allowed! She—she can.

00:13:30 Katie Host Right.

00:13:31 Clarke Guest But my point is just, as we deconstruct the rules... Casey's staying in, watching a movie.

00:13:36 Katie Host Yeah. She's very innocent.

00:13:37 Clarke Guest And that is so... like, it's just... the slow motion when she's run—that choice—

00:13:44 Katie Host Oh my god.

00:13:45 Clarke Guest —that he made, to let you see her running and see the penetration... Like, this is something again that I love about Wes Craven, is he is—I would argue, you know, consistently directs violence, you know, really—so it is upsetting, and is jarring. But he always does it for a reason.

00:14:06 Katie Host It's poetic, that scene.

00:14:07 Clarke Guest Yes.

00:14:08 Katie Host Like, the fact that Ghostface reaches around and stabs her in the heart—

00:14:12 Clarke Guest Yeah.

00:14:13 Katie Host —in the front? Like, you would—he's chasing behind her. You expect him to stab her in the back. And then she pulls the mask off, and we don't see who it is. But you see her—

00:14:22 Clarke Guest Yes.

00:14:23 Katie Host —recognize. And... it's like, that little flicker of recognition is just such

a little beautiful performance piece, and like, little button on that scene. Ugh. It's so good.

00:14:34	Clarke	Guest	Who do you think is in the mask?
00:14:35	Katie	Host	Oh...
00:14:36	Clarke	Guest	Who do you think kills her? Because I—I did a lot of—so I know what <u>I</u> think.
00:14:40	Katie	Host	Mm-hm.
00:14:41	Clarke	Guest	But I did a lot of Googling, and the Internet seems to think differently, but I think they're wrong.
00:14:46	Katie	Host	My gut instinct is Billy.
00:14:47	Clarke	Guest	I think it's Billy, too.
00:14:48	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:14:49	Clarke	Guest	And a lot of people were saying they think it's Stu, because you find out in the next scene that Casey and Stu dated for a minute, and she <u>does</u> have that flicker of recognition.
00:14:58	Katie	Host	Mm, mm-hm.
00:14:59	Clarke	Guest	And I think I read in one place that Kevin Williamson on Twitter said that in <u>his</u> mind it was Stu.
00:15:04	Katie	Host	Okay.
00:15:05	Clarke	Guest	But I think it's directed—I think it's Billy. I <u>absolutely</u> think it's Billy.
00:15:08	Katie	Host	Well, also Billy is the mastermind.
00:15:11	Clarke	Guest	Yes.
00:15:12	Music	Music	"Switchblade Comb" starts fading in.
00:15:13	Katie	Host	And Stu just seems along for the ride, so... Billy seems like he takes more pleasure out of killing people, and Stu is just like "Sure, whatever."
00:15:19	Clarke	Guest	Exactly.
00:15:20	Katie	Host	Alright. We are gonna take a little break.
00:15:21	Clarke	Guest	Okay.
00:15:22	Katie	Host	And when we come back, we're gonna talk more about <i>Scream</i> with Clarke Wolfe.

*[Music continues at full volume until the promo.]*

00:15:31	Promo	Clip	<b>Music:</b> Upbeat rock plays in the background.
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**Announcer:** *Dead Pilots Society* brings you exclusive readings of comedy pilots that were never made, featuring actors like Patton Oswalt—

**Patton Oswalt:** So the vampire from the future sleeps in the dude's studio during the day, and they hunt monsters at night. It's *Blade* meets *The Odd Couple*!

*[Audience laughs.]*

**Announcer:** —Adam Scott and Jane Levy—

**Jane Levy:** Come on, Cory. She's too serious, too business-y. She doesn't know the hokey-pokey.

**Adam Scott:** Well, she'll learn what it's all about.

*[Audience laughs.]*

00:16:01   Promo   Clip

**Announcer:** —Busy Philipps and Dave Koechner.

**Dave Koechner:** Baby, this is family.

**Busy Philipps:** My Uncle Tal, who showed his wiener to Cinderella at Disneyland, is family. Do you want him staying with us?

*[Light audience laughter.]*

**Dave:** He did stay with us, for three months.

**Busy:** And he was a delight!

*[Audience laughs harder.]*

**Announcer:** A new pilot every month, only on *Dead Pilots Society* from Maximum Fun.

00:16:20   Music   Music

"Switchblade Comb" plays again, fading out as Katie speaks.

00:16:27   Katie   Host

Okay! We are back. We're talking about *Scream*, one of my favorite movies, with the lovely Clarke Wolfe.

*[Music fades out.]*

It's an interesting thing to think—like, what you were saying about before, like, how horror as a genre helps us deal with...

00:16:39   Clarke   Guest

Yeah!

00:16:40   Katie   Host

...fears that we have individually, as a group—and I think Wes Craven has said stuff about that, about how he's like "Let's get this out in the open!"

00:16:48   Clarke   Guest

In a safe space!

00:16:49   Katie   Host

Yeah.

00:16:50   Clarke   Guest

Yeah, that's the idea! The idea that you go into a theater, and you exorcise whatever fear or anger or anxiety you have, and then you have the luxury of walking out of there, and you've actually done something for yourself!

00:17:04   Katie   Host

Yeah, it's cathartic.

00:17:05   Clarke   Guest

Absolutely!

00:17:06   Katie   Host

So you're a writer—a screenwriter, and an actress, and I'm curious, when you were taking notes on *Scream*, what were you taking notes on?

00:17:13   Clarke   Guest

Oh my god.

*[Katie chuckles.]*

Well, I just—okay. So for me, I think that there's a lot to be learned from movies that you think are effective, and then breaking down why you think they are effective.

00:17:26 Katie Host

Right.

00:17:27 Clarke Guest

And it could be different for everybody! You know, I think—but for me, you know, what I—I watched some—I'm writing a slasher movie. And I watch, you know, Bob Clark's *Black Christmas*, or I watch *Scream*. Those are movies that I'm just like... "How did he—how did they do what they do? Why is this hitting me in a way that I'm saying 'okay, this is effective'?"

And so, you know... this movie—okay. So my kind of, um, intense theory—and—or—or—

00:17:59 Katie Host

Oh, yes. Let's get all the theories.

00:18:00 Clarke Guest

Yeah. I mean—or connecting the dots, rather. The reason that this movie, I think, is really, really important—and I think that it actually did resonate with so many people aside from being well-directed and well-written. So *Scream* came out in 1996. And Columbine happened in 1999.

00:18:20 Katie Host

Mm-hm.

00:18:21 Clarke Guest

And I think that this movie—the more I watch it, and the more I watch two boys, two white upper-middle-class boys, who have the whole—their whole lives ahead of them—but they decide they were wronged.

00:18:35 Katie Host

Mm-hm.

00:18:36 Clarke Guest

Or slighted in some way. And decide to kill high school kids.

00:18:41 Katie Host

Mm-hm. Yeah.

00:18:42 Clarke Guest

I mean talk about, like, predicting—you know, and I listen to—so, what I take notes on or what I have been taking notes on with something like that is like... listening to the Maureen Prescott story.

00:18:54 Katie Host

Yeah.

00:18:55 Clarke Guest

Because so much of that is delivered in dialogue or news reports, or in passing.

00:18:59 Katie Host

Mm-hm.

00:19:00 Clarke Guest

But if you put it together, Maureen was raped.

00:19:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk

**Katie:** Yeah. He's—

**Clarke:** They set—it—

**Katie:** It's a horribly savage crime, yeah.

**Clarke:** Yeah.

00:19:06 Clarke Guest

So when you know who has committed this crime—

00:19:08 Katie Host

Oh my god. I'm getting goosebumps.

00:19:09 Clarke Guest

Yeah! They sexually assaulted Maureen. They killed her. Billy had been dating Sidney for two years.

00:19:18 Katie Host

Right.

00:19:19 Clarke Guest

And we're coming up on the one-year anniversary of this murder.

00:19:21	Katie	Host	Oh my god...
00:19:22	Clarke	Guest	So he had been playing this long game.
00:19:24	Katie	Host	Ugh.
00:19:25	Clarke	Guest	Or he learned about something and then <u>decided</u> —but like, this is a <u>really</u> savage, horrifying human being, in Billy Loomis.
00:19:35	Katie	Host	Yeah. He's terrifying.
<i>[Katie responds affirmatively multiple times as Clarke continues.]</i>			
00:19:36	Clarke	Guest	And I think that that's <u>really</u> —like, the—and the idea of "I'm gonna punish <u>everyone</u> , because <u>my</u> mom left <u>me</u> ." You know, if you read anything about incels and what's going on in terms of like, radicalization of young, specifically white men on the Internet... <u>so</u> much of it you read is dedicated to single moms. The feminization of men. And how <u>their</u> moms have ruined <u>everything</u> , whether they stay, whether they go, whatever.
			And I was <u>really</u> struck last night when I hear Billy say, you know, "My mom left <u>me</u> . So it's <u>your</u> mom's fault. And now I'm gonna make <u>everyone</u> suffer." And it's like... that is so—
00:20:23	Katie	Host	Right. It's terrifying.
00:20:24	Clarke	Guest	And—but this is 1996!
<i>[Katie laughs.]</i>			
			Like, wh—oh my god! He—like, Kevin Williamson was so prolific—
00:20:30	Katie	Host	I know.
00:20:31	Clarke	Guest	—in terms of these motivations, it is <u>fascinating</u> to me.
00:20:36	Katie	Host	And even just now when you're talking about sort of—'cause I wrote down in my notes, like—I was like "Oh, this is very prescient in terms of like, the toxic masculinity conversation we're talking about."
00:20:45	Clarke	Guest	Totally.
00:20:46	Katie	Host	Like, feeling entitled to sex?
00:20:48	Clarke	Guest	Yep.
00:20:49	Katie	Host	And the whole subplot about Sidney having sex or not, and like, that's sort of played for "Oh, she's not following the rules as the final girl," which is—were set out in the 1970s. Not even <u>intentionally</u> .
<i>[Laughs.]</i>			
00:21:03	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm!
00:21:04	Katie	Host	I've actually asked both Jamie Lee Curtis and John Carpenter about final girl rules, and they were like "I don't know what you're talking about."
00:21:08	Clarke	Guest	Yeah.
00:21:09	Katie	Host	And I'm like "No, let's talk about it!" And they're just like "No, we weren't thinking about that!"
00:21:12	Clarke	Guest	Yeah.
00:21:13	Katie	Host	And like, it's so frustrating, but—they were just like "Yeah, we're just writing a character!" But—anyway, but the sex and them <u>not</u> having

sex or having sex and the way he pressures her—

00:21:24 Clarke Guest Mm-hm.

00:21:25 Katie Host And she's like "Hey, my mom was raped and murdered a year ago. I'm a 17-year-old girl." And nobody is—I was like—last night I was like "Oh my god, her trauma is—everyone is re-traumatizing her all the time!" And she has this great line where she's like "Sorry my traumatized life is an inconvenience for you."

But yeah, he's being denied... sex. The fact that her daughter's boyfriend rapes... the mother.

00:21:53 Clarke Guest Mm-hm.

00:21:54 Katie Host Like, that is insane. But yeah, it's—it definitely is tapping into this like, bubbling sense of whether it's entitled upper-class kind of like masculinity, or that kind of like, you know—it's intimate partner violence.

00:22:08 Clarke Guest Mm-hm.

00:22:09 Katie Host It's like a domestic violence story, even the climactic scene where it's the two of them and they're in the kitchen with Sidney.

00:22:15 Clarke Guest Mm-hm.

00:22:16 Katie Host I'm like "This is a domestic violence story!"

00:22:17 Clarke Guest Totally! Well, and I love the reveal that Stu doesn't know this. That to me is such a choice. Now don't get me wrong, like, Stu participates willingly.

00:22:27 Katie Host Mm-hm.

00:22:28 Clarke Guest And I—you know, I think we'll get to this in a minute, but I don't know how many he actually kills. I have a theory.

00:22:35 Katie Host Mm-hm.

00:22:36 Clarke Guest But you know, I love—love—the choice of Billy tells, you know, Sidney what was happening with her mother, and the look on Matthew Lillard's face of like "Whoa, what?" Like, he has no—I mean, that is... *[laughing]* even more just like—

00:22:53 Katie Host I know.

00:22:54 Clarke Guest And—and it just says so much more about Billy!

00:22:56 Katie Host Yes.

00:22:57 Clarke Guest The idea that Billy is—you know, finds this—and I don't—again. I am not saying that "Oh, poor Stu." No. But you can see that Billy has been playing Stu this whole time.

00:23:08 Katie Host Right.

00:23:09 Clarke Guest And it's just this fascinating, like, "Whoa, what—!"

00:23:12 Katie Host Well, it's—it's also very Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, in the sense that Eric Harris was like the psychopath, the mastermind, and Dylan was the one who followed along.

00:23:21 Clarke Guest Right.

00:23:22 Katie Host And he was more depressive suicidal, and Matthew Lillard is like—manic—

00:23:25 Clarke Guest Party boy, yeah!

*[Katie laughs.]*

I love it! I love his—can I just say, for a moment of levity, I love Matthew Lillard in this movie so much. And I saw—I was at a WGA screening that—in January of maybe 2017, I wanna say? And Lillard did the Q&A—

00:23:43 Katie Host Amazing.

00:23:44 Clarke Guest —with Kevin Williamson.

00:23:45 Katie Host Oh my gosh!

00:23:46 Clarke Guest And they sat there and watched the movie, and then did the Q&A.

00:23:49 Katie Host Amazing.

00:23:50 Clarke Guest So neither of them had seen the movie in so long. And Matthew Lillard actually was like "Oh my god, I'm so—" He said, he was like, "I'm a little embarrassed."

*[Katie laughs.]*

Because "Wow! He really let me—I—he just really let me go on that one!" Like, "I'm so—it's so over-the-top!" But—

00:24:04 Katie Host It's so over-the-top but it somehow works.

00:24:06 Clarke Guest It works!

00:24:07 Katie Host And he's consistent the whole way through. Um, fun fact about Matthew Lillard being cast is that he was accompanying his then-girlfriend to an unrelated audition taking place in the same building. Casting director Lisa Beach saw him in the hallway and asked him to audition for the part. He got into the role with an "incredible ferocity," *[laughing]* quote-unquote.

*[Clarke laughs.]*

Which I'm not surprised to hear at all.

00:24:29 Clarke Guest No.

00:24:30 Katie Host And then the other thing is that he famously ad-libbed "My parents are gonna be so mad at me." *[Laughs.]* Or "My mom and dad are gonna be so mad at me." Which is so funny, and it really does add, though, to the character... kind of just going along on this like, kooky scheme and being like "Yeah! It's a mov—I'm gonna do it like a movie! We watched a lot of movies and took notes!" *[Laughs.]*

00:24:50 Clarke Guest Or "We'll get away with it."

00:24:51 Katie Host Right.

00:24:52 Clarke Guest Because that's what it says to me. Like, the thing about Stu that's so interesting is to me, it looks like—especially—I love that scene in the kitchen. Like, I love it so much. But it looks to me like Stu is really realizing for the first time, "Oh."

00:25:07 Katie Host "This is what we've done."

00:25:09 Clarke Guest "Wait a minute." Like, "We're gonna get caught." Because in their heads, they're gonna—like, they're gonna walk outta that unscathed! In their heads, they're just gonna keep living their lives!

00:25:21	Katie	Host	And—yeah. They're—they think they're Michael Myers.
00:25:23	Clarke	Guest	Yeah—but—but—but <u>do</u> they?
00:25:25	Katie	Host	<i>[Stifling laughter]</i> Yeah.
00:25:26	Clarke	Guest	Does <u>Stu</u> <u>really</u> think that?
00:25:27	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<b>Katie:</b> Right. That's true, yeah.
			<b>Clarke:</b> Like, I just—
00:25:29	Clarke	Guest	That is what is <u>so</u> ... just—
			<i>[Katie laughs.]</i>
			I <u>really</u> —like, my—it is so... interesting, especially when we see young teenage boys doing what—committing violence on a regular basis.
00:25:42	Katie	Host	Yeah, and this idea of like, do they realize what the <u>real</u> consequences are?
00:25:46	Clarke	Guest	Sure.
00:25:47	Katie	Host	And do they—or you know, and this gets into the, like, one of the major questions of the film, which is like, media effect. Which is like...
00:25:55	Clarke	Guest	Mm!
00:25:56	Katie	Host	Do horror movies make people violent? Or... no? <i>[Laughs.]</i> You know, 'cause like, I think that people <u>could</u> —like, people try to make those arguments all the time that like, you know, "Oh, watching scary stuff like desensitizes people."
00:26:09	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:26:10	Katie	Host	And that was a very like, <u>nineties</u> argument. <i>[Laughs.]</i> Like the video games...
00:26:12	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:26:14	Katie	Host	...argument, and also—and even the principal kinda gets into it. He—at one point he's like, talking to the pranksters and he's like "Desensitized!"
00:26:22	Clarke	Guest	Yeah.
00:26:23	Katie	Host	And I'm like "Oh, that's interesting that there's this undercurrent of 'these kids have watched too many horror movies and now they're all messed up.'"
00:26:31	Clarke	Guest	That is a <u>very</u> Wes Craven thing.
00:26:33	Katie	Host	Mm-hm.
00:26:34	Clarke	Guest	He—Wes gave interview after interview addressing this his entire career.
00:26:39	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:26:40	Clarke	Guest	And it's fun—if any of you listening <u>haven't</u> seen <i>Wes Craven's New Nightmare</i> recently—it pre-dates this movie by a couple of years. It sets the stage for <i>Scream</i> <u>so</u> —it is <u>so</u> meta. It is so—
00:26:53	Katie	Host	Amazing.
00:26:54	Clarke	Guest	—like, <u>about</u> movies.
00:26:55	Katie	Host	Yeah.

00:26:56	Clarke	Guest	And movies causing <u>this</u> , and all of that stuff, and I think that—you know, what Billy even says is "Don't blame the movies!" You know, "Movies only make us more creative."
00:27:04	Katie	Host	Right.
00:27:05	Clarke	Guest	Which is a great line. But I think what Billy is saying is like, Billy was gonna do this <u>anyway</u> .
00:27:09	Katie	Host	He's a psychopath.
00:27:10	Clarke	Guest	Exactly.
00:27:11	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:27:12	Clarke	Guest	But I do love that Wes, as a creator, does get to actually tackle that conversation.
00:27:18	Katie	Host	Yeah! And I think that the conversation <u>is</u> tackled really well in that—those lines of Billy's where he's like "No. I—this just made—this just gave me some ideas!"
00:27:26	Clarke	Guest	Right. And you see Randy, too, by the way.
00:27:29	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<b>Katie:</b> Yes, exactly.  <b>Clarke:</b> Who is <u>harmless</u> .  <b>Katie:</b> Exactly!  <i>[Both laugh.]</i>
00:27:33	Katie	Host	Exactly! Like, it's so important to have those two different—
00:27:35	Clarke	Guest	Yeah.
00:27:36	Katie	Host	—characters playing off each other. And by the way, I would <u>love</u> for you to program and host a <i>New Nightmare/Scream</i> double feature.
00:27:42	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<b>Clarke:</b> Ohhh my god.  <b>Katie:</b> Oh my god.
00:27:43	Music	Music	"Switchblade Comb" is fading in.
00:27:44	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<b>Clarke:</b> Please.  <b>Katie:</b> <i>[Laughing]</i> Let's manifest that into the universe.  <b>Clarke:</b> <u>Please</u> let me do that. <u>Please</u> , someone. Alamo Drafthouse, are you listening? <i>[Laughs.]</i>  <b>Katie:</b> Yeah. Yeah.
00:27:51	Katie	Host	Okay, we are gonna take a quick break, and we will wrap up <i>Scream</i> when we come back!  <i>[Music continues at full volume until the promo.]</i>
00:28:01	Promo	Clip	<b>Music:</b> Sophisticated electronic/string music.  <b>Travis McElroy:</b> Hello, Internet! I'm your husband host, Travis McElroy.  <b>Teresa McElroy:</b> And I'm your wife host, Teresa McElroy!

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*[Music fades out.]*

00:28:30	Music	Music	"Switchblade Comb" plays again, fading out as Katie speaks.
00:28:37	Katie	Host	Welcome back to <i>Switchblade Sisters</i> . We are talking about <i>Scream</i> with writer, actress, host—podcast host—Clarke Wolfe. I am Katie Walsh, and, um—what's interesting about this movie is that it was <u>such</u> a huge marquee project for Dimension. Which was the genre... sub-label of Miramax.
00:28:59	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:29:00	Katie	Host	And you know, notoriously shepherded by Bob Weinstein and Harvey Weinstein. Um, but— <i>[stifling laughter]</i> I—when I was reading up on the film, they tried to fire Wes Craven like <u>multiple</u> times over the <u>dumbest</u> things.
			They wanted to shoot it in Vancouver, Wes Craven wanted to shoot it in the States so that it looked very American. And they almost fired him over that. I was like "Why would you fire Wes Craven over a <u>location</u> ?"
00:29:23	Clarke	Guest	After they allegedly just hounded him and hounded him and hounded him to take the movie. Like, Wes <u>passed</u> on the movie.
00:29:29	Katie	Host	Mm-hm.
00:29:30	Clarke	Guest	And—so like, hound him, hound him, hound him, and then try to fire him throughout the whole process. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:29:34	Katie	Host	Right! And then—yeah, they tried to fire him <u>again</u> when they were looking at dailies, and they didn't think it was <u>scary</u> enough. So then Wes Craven and editor Patrick Lussier—who went on to direct <i>Dracula 2000</i> , <i>My Bloody Valentine</i> , <i>Drive Angry</i> , and <i>Trick</i> —they put together a work print and... so then they were like "Okay. It'll be scary enough." <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:29:56	Clarke	Guest	Yeah. Yeah.
00:29:57	Katie	Host	And then poor Wes Craven, like, had a—a <u>time</u> trying to get it not NC17-rated!
00:30:03	Clarke	Guest	Oh my god. I mean—
00:30:04	Katie	Host	Had to like, lie to the MPAA! He's like "Oh yeah, I only have one take

of that. Sorry. Ehhh." *[Laughs.]*

00:30:09 Clarke Guest Yeah. No. The whole—I mean, Wes Craven, I think there's no love lost between him and the MPAA.

00:30:13 Katie Host Right. *[Laughs.]*

00:30:14 Clarke Guest Like, I think they were the bane of his existence forever. But yeah, man! The—it—the whole legacy of the *Scream* franchise, and firing Wes Craven, and firing Kevin Williamson...

00:30:27 Katie Host Mm-hm.

00:30:28 Clarke Guest And the Weinsteins just doing everything they can to make these two people's lives completely miserable... It's just wild to me!

00:30:37 Katie Host Right.

00:30:38 Clarke Guest And you know, I wonder if—you know, I mean Kevin Williamson has—he's got an incredible career, still. And—but I do wonder now that—*[laughs]* the Weinsteins have fallen out of favor, if maybe he'll start being a little more candid?

00:30:54 Katie Host Right.

00:30:55 Clarke Guest About, just, the process! Because you can watch these movies—I mean obviously like, *Scream 2* has this history of, you know, being written on set and things changing—

00:31:04 Katie Host *[Laughs.]* Right.

00:31:05 Clarke Guest —and just like, so frantic, and honestly I think it is a miracle that that movie is as good as it is. I love *Scream 2*.

00:31:11 Katie Host Mm-hm.

00:31:12 Clarke Guest But 3 I hate. And allegedly, movie was taken away from, you know, Kevin Williamson and given to Ehren Kruger. And then to come back for *Scream 4*, allegedly, you know, Williamson had a whole nother trilogy planned, and he was promised all these things. And then they did it again and took the movie away and gave it to Ehren Kruger, *[stifles laughter]* and you're just like, "What is happening? I don't understand." I don't know if—how much of this is actually true.

00:31:36 Katie Host Right.

00:31:37 Clarke Guest But, um—or what the process of it all was.

00:31:39 Katie Host It's probably worse than we know. *[Laughs.]*

00:31:40 Clarke Guest It is! That's the thing that is so interesting to me, and I would—I would just be—but yeah. The—the—*[chuckling]* you know, the Weinsteins, bad for many reasons.

00:31:47 Katie Host Right. And—yeah. I mean, you always hear the notorious stories about—I mean. About Harvey Weinstein, but also that he would just like, edit...

00:31:55 Clarke Guest Oh, yeah!

00:31:56 Katie Host ...the living shit out of movies, beyond the director's wishes, and so many filmmakers are just like "Ugh. Screw him."

00:32:05 Clarke Guest Yeah.

00:32:06 Katie Host For a number of reasons. But esp—before we knew about all of the... criminal acts he was doing, uh, he was cutting movies to shit. *[Laughs.]*

00:32:16	Clarke	Guest	Right. Exactly.
00:32:17	Katie	Host	So—you know, we talked a little bit about how this movie was like, super influential.
00:32:23	Clarke	Guest	Mm-hm.
00:32:24	Katie	Host	In... you know, you becoming a budding horror enthusiast. But I'm curious, like, how it has kind of shaped what you do, or how, just, like, discovering horror through this movie has like, shaped, you know, your <u>role</u> in sort of talking about horror, acting in horror, writing horror? I mean, what are your thoughts on that, and the way that it's like, influenced your life?
00:32:47	Clarke	Guest	It's actually been incredibly influential for many reasons. I would say I fell in love with horror as a teenager <u>because</u> I was always interested in the politics of horror.
00:32:58	Katie	Host	Right.
00:32:59	Clarke	Guest	And this was a movie that was a huge gateway into that. And thinking about genre and what scares you in a <u>bigger</u> way.
00:33:07	Katie	Host	Right.
00:33:08	Clarke	Guest	And then <u>that</u> led to more and more of an appreciation <u>for</u> the genre. Because I think even though now horror is booming; it's on TV year-round, it's in—you know, movies year-round. Some of those movies go on to great acclaim. You know, even—it's still a little bit of a, you know, disrespected genre.
00:33:30	Katie	Host	Right.
00:33:31	Clarke	Guest	And so—
00:33:32	Katie	Host	It's amazing to me that people still... are like "Ew, no. Horror."
			<i>[Katie responds affirmatively several times as Clarke speaks.]</i>
00:33:36	Clarke	Guest	Of course! I mean, but I think it's because people—this is my true belief. A lot of people, <u>most</u> people, do not like to feel uncomfortable. They do not like to look at things that make them uneasy. And when you're talking about teen boys killing their classmates, that sucks! That's not fun to watch! When you're talking about, you know, alcoholism in <i>The Shining</i> —you know, when you're talking about—the list goes on and on and on.
			So I think that that's <u>why</u> those movies—certain horror movies—resonate, and <u>do</u> become like cultural phenomena, and kind of have broad appeal, is that they're talking about things that are bigger-picture issues.
			But, um, so that was a big introduction to me that led into studying horror academically as a film student. Which led into writing about horror. Which led—which allowed me to find my first internship in Los Angeles. Which allowed me to—you know, when I met Ryan Turek, and he invited me to cohost <i>The Bloodcast</i> with him, you know, <u>that</u> led to—it's like—you know what I'm saying? So like, this movie, and understanding that there is more to horror than what necessarily meets the eye, opened up so much for me.
			And in terms of <u>now</u> , you know, I—as I am <u>writing</u> more... <u>structurally</u> , and... treating the audience with respect, and treating

the audience as though they are smart, but also being one step ahead. To me, those are the things that I try to take away from—that I love about this movie, that have influenced me as a writer.

00:35:24	Katie	Host	You know, you talking about sort of like, how do we deal with the death of teenagers when we're <u>constantly</u> , you know, experiencing the tragedy of the death of teenagers? Also ties back to <i>Scream</i> because of the <u>news</u> element.
00:35:37	Clarke	Guest	<u>Yes</u> .
00:35:38	Katie	Host	And the way in which Gale Weathers and these <u>really</u> aggressive news personalities, who are sort of in the like Geraldo mode—
00:35:46	Clarke	Guest	<i>[Stifling laughter]</i> Mm-hm!
00:35:47	Katie	Host	—of like, chasing after people and like, shoving microphones in their face. But I mean, that—in the nineties, that was the way news <u>was</u> . These like, scandalous—that was like, you know, bad, bad news. Was these like, scandalous news magazine programs, like, searching for tabloid-ish kind of stories, and even Gale's book, and—
00:36:06	Clarke	Guest	Yeah.
00:36:07	Katie	Host	—speculation about who did what, and... you know, that—the film is really playing on these ideas of like, how violence is media— <u>mediated</u> in news media. And it's interesting to think about like, how that's changed <u>now</u> , and how we consume news <u>now</u> , and it's <u>not</u> the Gale Weathers model, but it's like the— <i>[laughs]</i> constant Twitter model, or news notifications model, and like, what that does to our psyches and how we experience real-world violence.
00:36:36	Clarke	Guest	Yeah, and there is a performative nature to Gale which I love. So the idea that there is a—the duality to her, of she presents—she even says it! Tacky, sleazy tabloid journalist. Which, by the way, I cannot say how much I love Courteney Cox in this role.
00:36:51	Katie	Host	She's so good!
00:36:52	Clarke	Guest	Like, <u>she</u> is so— <u>every</u> time I watch. And to <u>think</u> that she was <u>just</u> on <i>Friends</i> , where she's playing this, like—or meaning she had had one or two seasons of <i>Friends</i> where she's playing this <u>very</u> specific character, and then to just turn around and do this... You know, she's <u>so</u> underrated. But in <u>this</u> one in particular—but I <u>love</u> that she says, you know, like, "I don't think Cotton's guilty."
00:37:13	Katie	Host	Yeah!
00:37:14	Clarke	Guest	"And I stand by that." And, you know, yeah.
00:37:17	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<b>Katie:</b> And she says it based on evidence and testimony.  <b>Clarke:</b> That's exactly—and <u>research</u> .
00:37:20	Katie	Host	Yes.
00:37:21	Clarke	Guest	So I love that! And I—but I also think that, you know, <i>[laughs]</i> I would say the performative nature of on-camera hosts or journalists reporting what they <u>think</u> is going to get a rise out of people, but <u>also</u> believing something differently behind the scenes, is quite prolific!
00:37:39	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<b>Clarke:</b> You know, because—  <b>Katie:</b> Yeah, no, it—it anticipates clickbait journalism.

**Clarke:** Yeah!

00:37:45	Katie	Host	You know? <i>[Laughs.]</i> It's like—it's—like, Kevin Williamson was just like, <u>telling</u> us what our world was gonna be.
00:37:51	Clarke	Guest	Yeah!
00:37:52	Katie	Host	While also commenting on the world that we lived in.
00:37:55	Clarke	Guest	Yeah. I mean, talking heads, and like the idea of like, you know, crazy and sensational on camera but then if you talk to them <u>behind</u> the scenes they're actually have a good head on—you know, they <u>know</u> what they're doing is performative and nonsense. And it's like, conflating that with <u>news</u> ...
00:38:11	Katie	Host	Mm-hm.
00:38:12	Clarke	Guest	...is something that I think is <u>very</u> prolific.
00:38:13	Katie	Host	<i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> I love when the one—there's a different host. After Sidney punches Gale.
00:38:19	Clarke	Guest	Yes.
00:38:20	Katie	Host	And it's the next day, <i>[laughs]</i> and this host <u>runs</u> up to her—this is a <u>high</u> school <u>student</u> — <i>[laughs]</i> —runs up to her, shoves a microphone in her face, and says:
00:38:29	Sound Effect	Transition	<i>[Whoosh.]</i>
00:38:30	Clip	Clip	<b>Replacement Reporter:</b> So how does it feel to be almost brutally butchered?
 <b>Deputy Dewey:</b> Hey! Come on, leave her alone.			
 <b>Reporter:</b> People wanna know! They have a right to know!			
00:38:35	Sound Effect	Transition	<i>[Whoosh.]</i>
00:38:36	Katie	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> I was like "What the hell is going on?!"
00:38:39	Clarke	Guest	Do you know who that was?
00:38:40	Katie	Host	<i>[Still laughing]</i> Who was it?
00:38:41	Clarke	Guest	Linda Blair!
00:38:42	Katie	Host	<i>[Still laughing]</i> No! Oh my god!
00:38:43	Clarke	Guest	<i>[Stifling laughter]</i> That was Linda Blair!
00:38:44	Katie	Host	<i>[Still laughing]</i> I didn't realize!
00:38:45	Clarke	Guest	Yeah! Yeah! "What does it feel like to be almost brutally butchered?!" Yeah!
00:38:49	Katie	Host	<i>[Still laughing]</i> Yes, brutally butchered!
00:38:50	Clarke	Guest	Yeah! Yeah! Oh, but also, think about—you're right! You're right to bring up <u>Twitter</u> .
 <i>[Katie laughs again and then stops.]</i>			
I mean, the difference is that <u>now</u> you have <u>thousands</u> of people finding these kids who are survivors and <u>Tweeting</u> at them!			
00:39:01	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:39:02	Clarke	Guest	I mean—!

00:39:03 Katie Host Oh my—I—*[laughs]*.

00:39:04 Clarke Guest Like, at least Linda Blair is like, polite about it!

*[Both laugh.]*

You know? Where now on social media it's like a thousand Linda Blairs—

00:39:11 Katie Host Oh my god...

00:39:12 Clarke Guest —being like "Neh, neh, neh, neh, neh, neh, neh, neh, neh!"

00:39:14 Katie Host Yeah, that's such a good point.

00:39:15 Clarke Guest I mean, it's insane!

00:39:16 Katie Host Oh my god.

00:39:18 Clarke Guest It's insane, but Court—I—but yeah. Oh! But anyway, what I was gonna say is last night while I was watching this movie, I absolutely Googled "lime green skirt suit" because I am being Gale Weathers for Halloween next year. *[Laughs.]*

00:39:29 Katie Host Okay. I—let's get a group.

00:39:30 Clarke Guest Yes!

00:39:31 Katie Host Because I really wanna be Casey!

00:39:34 Clarke Guest I have—

00:39:35 Katie Host I was like "I'm gonna be Casey Becker. I'm gonna get a phone..."

00:39:37 Clarke Guest It's so good. I—

00:39:38 Katie Host "And a wig."

00:39:39 Clarke Guest I will have to show you—one of my girlfriends did Casey—

00:39:41 Katie Host Oh!

00:39:42 Clarke Guest —did a *Scream* thing, and they were—

00:39:44 Katie Host Amazing!

00:39:45 Clarke Guest It was so good.

00:39:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Katie:** Okay.

**Clarke:** Open call! *[Laughs.]*

**Katie:** *[Stifling laughter]* Whoever wants to be in our *Scream* 2020 Halloween costume—

**Clarke:** Yes.

**Katie:** We're gonna have a Billy.

**Clarke:** Oh my god.

**Katie:** We're gonna have a Stu. We're gonna have a Randy. We're gonna have a Ghostface. It's gonna be amazing.

**Clarke:** Yep. Yep. A Kenny... I love it.

00:40:00 Katie Host So any last thoughts on *Scream* before we wrap up?

00:40:03	Clarke	Guest	Yes. The—I did wanna point out that I love the choice to set this—to <u>show</u> us that these houses are all kind of in the middle of nowhere.
00:40:11	Katie	Host	Yeah!
00:40:12	Clarke	Guest	So like the opening scene, you know, you see the <u>long</u> drive-in for Casey. And then when Sidney's home alone, you see that gorgeous shot where she's out on her—the patio, and it just overlooks <u>all</u> the hills.
00:40:23	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:40:24	Clarke	Guest	Like, these kids are so—and then Stu's house, of course.
00:40:26	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:40:27	Clarke	Guest	Like, <u>so</u> isolated. I think that's so brilliant and scary.
00:40:29	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:40:30	Clarke	Guest	And then there were a couple of lines that I just wanted to point out that I think are <u>amazing</u> . One of them is "There's always some stupid bullshit reason to kill your girlfriend." <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:40:40	Katie	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Yeah!
00:40:41	Clarke	Guest	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Randy says that. And it's just like—I—yes, you're right. Amen.
00:40:45	Katie	Host	I love that scene in the video store.
00:40:46	Clarke	Guest	Oh my god. It is <u>excellent</u> .
00:40:48	Katie	Host	I love when the girl walks up and she's like "What's the werewolf movie with E.T.'s mom?" <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:40:51	Clarke	Guest	Yeah! Exactly! That one. And then of course, like, at the very end of that exchange between Randy and Stu and Billy, Randy like looks at Stu and goes "Tell me <u>that's</u> not a killer."
00:41:01	Katie	Host	<i>[Stifling laughter]</i> Yes. Yes.
00:41:02	Clarke	Guest	You know, like, I—I do love how there is <u>no</u> subtlety to Skeet Ulrich <u>at</u> all.
00:41:07	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:41:08	Clarke	Guest	And yet we still believe what we see! And that is so great! You know?
00:41:14	Katie	Host	Yeah. I also—I was thinking about this, like... the amount of times that he has to protest that he's not the killer to Sidney is <u>insane</u> . If—like, girls, if your boyfriend—
00:41:25	Clarke	Guest	Seriously.
00:41:26	Katie	Host	—keeps having to tell you that he did not try to murder you... <i>[laughing]</i> he tried to murder you.
00:41:31	Clarke	Guest	I mean, yeah. There's—well, and you know what's so funny? Is that Sidney actually says, in the grocery—to your point—in the grocery store, to Tatum, "Whenever he touches me, I can't relax!"  <i>[Katie laughs.]</i>  But then she goes "Oh, but it's my fault, because <u>I'm</u> messed up." And you're just like "No, girl, that's your gut!"
00:41:45	Katie	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> I know.
00:41:46	Clarke	Guest	You know? That is your intuition!

00:41:48	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:41:49	Clarke	Guest	But I also love—yeah, Randy tells you everything you need to know in that video scene.
00:41:55	Katie	Host	Yes.
00:41:56	Clarke	Guest	I actually wrote this down. He also says "Maybe Sidney wouldn't have sex with him" for motive.
00:42:00	Katie	Host	Yes.
00:42:01	Clarke	Guest	You know. "I'm telling you, dad's a red herring. It's Billy. That's the—"
00:42:04	Katie	Host	I love that too! And I love that Kevin Williamson just <u>openly</u> —
00:42:09	Clarke	Guest	Yep!
00:42:10	Katie	Host	—puts <u>all</u> of this structural analysis and like—into—just, on the surface.
00:42:15	Clarke	Guest	Yep.
00:42:16	Katie	Host	It's <u>so</u> smart.
00:42:17	Clarke	Guest	It's <u>so</u> smart. And then essentially, again, he—you have to have a master craftsman in your script <u>and</u> in your direction to <u>tell you</u> all of this and <u>show</u> you all of this, and you <u>still</u> go "Well it <u>can't</u> be Billy, because the police <u>said</u> ."
00:42:31	Katie	Host	Right.
00:42:32	Clarke	Guest	"It <u>can't</u> be Billy because <u>this</u> ."
00:42:33	Katie	Host	Right.
00:42:34	Clarke	Guest	Even though you're like "No, it's <u>totally</u> Billy!" And I think that's really indicative of us and our, like, true—you know, like, I think that's really indicative of us as a—especially—I can't speak for all women, but some women who are like "No, no, no, it's me, it's me, it's me."
00:42:48	Katie	Host	It's gaslighting, yeah.
00:42:48	Clarke	Guest	Yeah, exactly!
00:42:49	Katie	Host	Yeah.
00:42:50	Clarke	Guest	The last line that I wanna point out is—and it struck me when I watched it last night, and it struck me when I watched it earlier this year and took notes, was Dewey says "Don't worry, Sid. It's school. You'll be safe here."
00:43:02	Katie	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Oh, god.
00:43:03	Clarke	Guest	I mean, sorry to be a downer, guys, but like, that's—that is—uh, talk about things that have not aged well?
00:43:10	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<b>Clarke:</b> That line—
			<b>Katie:</b> Yeah. Yeah, oh my gosh. That is <u>so</u> ironic. I love it.
00:43:15	Clarke	Guest	That and "cellular."
			<i>[Both laugh.]</i>
00:43:17	Katie	Host	Yeah, "cellular." Well, Clarke, this was the <u>best</u> conversation—
00:43:19	Clarke	Guest	Ohhh!
00:43:20	Katie	Host	I had <u>so</u> much fun talking to you.

00:43:22	Clarke	Guest	Me too!
00:43:23	Katie	Host	So thank you for coming on the podcast, and thank you for picking <i>Scream</i> .
00:43:25	Clarke	Guest	Oh my gosh. Thank you for letting me pick <i>Scream</i> —
00:43:27	Katie	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Yeah.
00:43:28	Clarke	Guest	—and for inviting me!
00:43:29	Katie	Host	Is there anything you wanna share, you know, promote?
00:43:32	Clarke	Guest	Yeah! If you guys enjoyed this, you know, deep dive into a pop movie, I have a podcast. It's currently on hiatus but there's two seasons' worth of content.
00:43:41	Katie	Host	Yeah, check it out!
00:43:42	Clarke	Guest	So it's a total of 60 episodes, and the show is called <i>Sending</i> —S-E-N-D-I-N-G— <i>The Wolfe</i> , like the <i>Pulp Fiction</i> line. And yeah! My guest picks an—a movie off of <u>any</u> AFI list and we talk about it, and then they get to add a movie to the list and we talk about that. It's really fun.
00:43:58	Katie	Host	Cool!
00:43:59	Clarke	Guest	I have an incredible roster of guests—directors, actors, writers, all of it.
00:44:04	Music	Music	"Switchblade Comb" starts fading in.
00:44:05	Clarke	Guest	And yeah! You can find me on <a href="#">Instagram</a> and <a href="#">Twitter</a> at @clarkewolfe, Clarke with an E, Wolfe with an E!
00:44:09	Katie	Host	Yay! Thank you so much, Clarke! And thank you all for listening.
			Thank you for listening to <i>Switchblade Sisters</i> with me, Katie Walsh! If you like what you're hearing, please leave us a five-star review on Apple Podcasts. If you wanna let us know what you think of the show, you can Tweet us at <a href="#">@SwitchbladePod</a> or email us at <a href="mailto:switchbladesisters@maximumfun.org">switchbladesisters@maximumfun.org</a> . Please check out our Facebook group, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/switchbladesisters">Facebook.com/groups/switchbladesisters</a> .
			Our producer is Casey O'Brien. Our senior producer is Laura Swisher. This is a production of <a href="https://www.MaximumFun.org">MaximumFun.org</a> .
			<i>[Music finishes.]</i>
00:44:44	Clip	Clip	<b>Stu Macher:</b> <i>[Dramatically]</i> I'll be right back!
00:44:46	Music	Transition	A cheerful guitar chord.
00:44:47	Speaker 1	Guest	<a href="https://www.MaximumFun.org">MaximumFun.org</a> .
00:44:48	Speaker 2	Guest	Comedy and culture.
00:44:50	Speaker 3	Guest	Artist owned—
00:44:51	Speaker 4	Guest	—audience supported.