

# TASTE OF HEAVEN



**STORY**

# LOGLINE

A YOUNG FEMALE IMMIGRANT, DESPERATELY SEEKING A COMPANY TO SUPPORT HER WORKING VISA, WINDS UP AT A FRENCH BAKERY THAT IS RIFE WITH CONFLICT BETWEEN THE OWNER'S DAUGHTER AND THE OVERBEARING MANAGER.

# SYNOPSIS

TASTE OF HEAVEN FOLLOWS ANNA, AN IMMIGRANT WHO IS TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO STAY IN THE U.S. AFTER EARNING HER MASTER'S DEGREE. AFTER CONSTANT REJECTIONS FROM COMPANIES UNWILLING TO SPONSOR HER WORKING VISA, SHE STUMBLES INTO A FRENCH BAKERY, ALMOST BY FATE, AND MEETS JEAN PAUL, THE OWNER, WHO INFORMS HER THEY ARE ACTUALLY LOOKING FOR SOME HELP. ANNA JUMPS AT THE OPPORTUNITY AND STARTS AS AN INTERN WITHOUT MENTIONING THAT SHE WILL NEED SPONSORSHIP FOR HER VISA. AS IT TURNS OUT, JEAN PAUL IS NOT AS MUCH OF A PRESENCE IN THE BAKERY AS HIS MANAGER, STAN, WHO TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE STAFF. STAN'S AGGRESSIVE WORK ETHIC SLOWLY BECOMES A PROBLEM FOR ANNA. SHE FINDS SUPPORT FROM SEBASTIAN, A CHEF, AND JULIA, A SINGLE MOTHER WHO WORKS AS A WAITRESS. AFTER AN ALTERCATION AT THE BAKERY BETWEEN STAN AND JEAN PAUL'S DAUGHTER, ALLYSON, ANNA IS DETERMINED TO INFORM HIM OF HER NEED FOR SPONSORSHIP. HOWEVER, BEFORE SHE IS ABLE TO SPEAK WITH HIM, JEAN PAUL HAS A STROKE AND STAN HAS TAKEN OVER THE BAKERY.



**PRODUCTION DESIGN**

**TEAM**

# KSENIA NAUGHTON: DIRECTOR/CO-WRITER



KSENIA IS A RUSSIAN-BORN AWARD-WINNING FILM DIRECTOR, SCREENWRITER, AND PRODUCER BASED IN CHICAGO. SHE IS BEST KNOWN FOR HER SHORT FILM JACK AND ANNA (2019), A PERIOD DRAMA BASED ON A TRUE STORY. SHE EARNED HER MFA DEGREE IN CINEMA DIRECTING FROM COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO. KSENIA IS A MEMBER OF BAFTA CONNECT, FILM FATALES AND NYWIFT.

KSENIA'S WORKS COVER SOCIAL JUSTICE AND MENTAL ILLNESS AS WELL AS WOMEN'S, IMMIGRANT'S AND LGBTQ+ RIGHTS STORIES. DRIVEN BY HER OWN EXPERIENCES, SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED BY STORIES ABOUT HUMAN STRENGTH AND WILLPOWER, BUT ESPECIALLY STORIES WITH A FEMALE PROTAGONIST. HER FILMS HAVE BEEN SCREENED AT A MULTITUDE OF FILM FESTIVALS AROUND THE GLOBE. IN 2020, SHE CO-DIRECTED A FEATURE-LENGTH SCREEN ADAPTATION OF ONE WOMAN HAMLET, A SOLO SHOW DEDICATED TO MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS.

KSENIA'S PORTFOLIO INCLUDES CREDITS ON NUMEROUS WELL-KNOWN PRODUCTIONS IN VARIOUS ROLES. SHE IS CURRENTLY DEVELOPING A FEW PROJECTS, INCLUDING A PILOT, TWO SHORTS, AND A FEATURE. HER SHORT SCREENPLAY, THE BLOUSE, RECENTLY WON THE GRAND PRIZE AT FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (RIIFF) SCREENPLAY COMPETITION 2022. KSENIA HAS ALSO BEEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AICP MENTORING PROGRAM CYCLE 2.

# BRIAN NAUGHTON: PRODUCER/CO-WRITER/EDITOR



BRIAN NAUGHTON IS AN AWARD WINNING FILMMAKER BASED IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. HE RECEIVED A BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN CINEMA AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA BEFORE ENROLLING IN DEPAUL UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF CINEMATIC ARTS AS AN MFA CANDIDATE. HE GRADUATED IN 2021 AFTER EARNING HIS MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CINEMA DIRECTING.

IN 2015, HE WROTE AND DIRECTED THE SHORT HORROR FILM, WHAT GOES UP, WHICH WAS AN OFFICIAL SELECTION IN 13 FESTIVALS AROUND THE GLOBE AND EARNED NUMEROUS NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS INCLUDING BEST SHORT, BEST DIRECTOR AND BEST EDITING FOR BRIAN. HIS MFA THESIS FILM, MAKING BEETHOVEN PROUD, IS CURRENTLY MAKING ITS FESTIVAL RUN AND WAS FINALIST FOR BEST SHORT AT THE INDEPENDENT SHORTS AWARDS. AFTER GRADUATING FROM DEPAUL, BRIAN WAS HIRED TO BE THE MANAGER OF NEW TITLES AND SENIOR VIDEO EDITOR AT QUESTAR ENTERTAINMENT. WHILE THERE, HE DIRECTED AND EDITED A NUMBER OF NARRATIVE TELEVISION SHOWS AND MOVIES. IN 2020, BRIAN RECEIVED THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ON THE INDEPENDENT

FEATURE FILM, ONE WOMAN HAMLET, AS THE CINEMATOGRAPHER AND EDITOR. THE FILM PREMIERED AT A SPECIAL SCREENING ORGANIZED BY CINEMA FEMME, A PLATFORM THAT HIGHLIGHTS AND SUPPORTS FEMALE FILMMAKING. IN 2022, ONE WOMAN HAMLET SCREENED IN NEW YORK AS AN OFFICIAL SELECTION OF THE NEW OHIO THEATRE'S NYC INDIE THEATRE FILM. HE CURRENTLY WORKS ON BROADCAST ADVERTISING COMMERCIALS FOR CUTTERS STUDIOS AS AN ASSISTANT EDITOR.

# CONTACT INFO

## **KSENIA NAUGHTON**

[HTTPS://WWW.KSENIANAUGHTON.COM/](https://www.ksenianaughton.com/)

[KSENI.AVONAVI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KSENI.AVONAVI@GMAIL.COM)

312.757.9914

IMDB: [HTTPS://WWW.IMDB.COM/NAME/NM10657837/](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm10657837/)

FB: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KSENI.NAUGHTON](https://www.facebook.com/ksenia.naughton)

INSTAGRAM: [HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/KSENI\\_A NAUGHTON/](https://www.instagram.com/ksenia_naughton/)

## **BRIAN NAUGHTON**

[HTTPS://BRIANNAUGHTON89.WIXSITE.COM/BRIANNAUGHTON](https://briannaughton89.wixsite.com/briannaughton)

[BRIAN.NAUGHTON89@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BRIAN.NAUGHTON89@GMAIL.COM)

630.408.4182

IMDB: [HTTPS://WWW.IMDB.COM/NAME/NM6306177/?REF\\_=FN\\_AL\\_NM\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6306177/?ref_=fn_al_nm_1)

FB: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BRIANNAUGHTON5](https://www.facebook.com/briannaughton5)

INSTAGRAM: [HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/BNAUGHT5/](https://www.instagram.com/bnaught5/)

TWITTER: [HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/BRIANNAUGHTON5](https://twitter.com/briannaughton5)