

CREATED BY WILLIAM WEDIG & JEFF WOLVERTON

THE HIVE

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Many species of animals live in hives.
...bees, ants, mole rats...

And under extreme circumstances:
HUMANS.



LOGLINE:

A city raised teen returns to her young, childhood town and discovers the forest holds a secret about her true origins and, potentially, humanity's dark past.

GENRE: Horror | Thriller
FORMAT: Hour-long, Anthology TV
NICHE: Horror, mature audiences
DIRECTOR: William Wedig
CREATORS: William Wedig & Jeff Wolverton

SYNOPSIS:

In an isolated West Virginia town, 16 year-old Anna Leigh settles into a new and unfamiliar home; a home that also holds a dark secret. As she struggles to fit in, Anna learns of a slew of mysterious disappearances and deaths that have gone unsolved in the dark forest surrounding Slender Creek.

When Anna is challenged by local teens to test her courage and touch the water, she gets tricked and ends up lost on the wrong side of the creek. She soon encounters a mute, animal-like girl in the wilderness. A feral teen that, curiously, appears to be Anna's exact duplicate, minus the experience of modern society.

As Anna and her friends investigate the origins of her animalistic twin, she discovers an entire colony of women existing in a pre-civilized form living in caves, in a community dubbed "The Hive." The women communicate instinctively by reading each other's movements, while their language and sounds mimic the wilderness around them.

When Anna's brother disappears, the entire town tries to destroy The Hive, putting the modern and a pre-historic world's against one another. This reveals the dark secrets behind Anna's own origin, as well as whose really civilized and whose really the monster.



CAST OF CHARACTERS



ANNA LEIGH

15 year old, rock-n-roll, city girl who's been relocated to the small town of Hacker Valley, West Virginia. Anna struggles with her city pride when fitting in with the local kids of the Appalachian Mountain. She's also afraid of the woods, a detail that doesn't exactly endear her to the country folk of West Virginia.

Her mother's new job has brought them back to the town where Anna was born before her father mysteriously vanished and they fled to New York City.

While prideful and tough, Anna's

bravery is challenged by the local kids and she ends up on the other side of the waters of Slender Creek. There, she discovers a strange creature living in the woods: a lost, feral teenage girl living without the experience or contact of the rest of the world. And, most scarily, the feral child appears to be Anna's *exact* twin.

As Anna rounds up a gang of her new friends to investigate what, or who, this creature is, she begins to connect her past to her present and reveal the true origins of her identical duplicate.

TIMMY LEIGH

Anna's introverted, quiet and geeky 12 year old brother, Tim is slightly threatened by his new surroundings. As he begins to explore, he becomes more comfortable in his skin, but it's a testy process. With multiple hurdles back and forth with what seems like one step forward and for multiple steps back.

Tim is sensitive, wearing his immaturity on his sleeve and vanished alone from time to time. A habit which causes problems for Anna, who has been tasked with protecting him.

But inside that shell of an untainted and bright eyed young man lies a dark desire for importance and recognition. A desire that an existence inside the "civilized" world may not be able to achieve.





THE HIVE

A large group of human women who have been living in secret, cut off from the modern world. Deep in the mountains and caves surrounding Hacker Valley, West Virginia, the women live off the land, experiencing extreme suffering for their prehistoric ways.

Their dedication to the group over

self is apparent as they communicate and operate with one another as if controlled by a larger, central brain.

Self-sacrifice is done without question if the larger group's goals can be advanced, and though they live in grime and squalor, their group dynamics and hunting techniques are highly advanced.



ANNA'S HIVETWIN

The feral teenager and identical twin of Anna, the HiveTwin has been living in the forest with no contact with modern society, existing in a pre-civilized form.

She uses a foreign and undeveloped language based off the sounds of other animals or the forest. She

wears loose animal furs for warmth or paired down for hunting and mobility.

Heavily skilled in physical movement, she moves more like an animal and understands only base emotions like aggression and fear.



“CRIMSON” / SARA ROSE

The self-named Crimson, 16, is a pariah among the farming and woodland community in Hacker Valley. A black wearing, cigarette smoking Goth-chick obsessed with heavy metal music, online chat rooms and the macabre, her dark sensibility and excitement for adventure draws her to help with Anna's predicament.

She is the first person to show Anna some of the less boring traits of West Virginia, even if Crimson personally hates everyone there.

Her upper-middle class parents are near non-existent in her life, preoccupied with their self-ran business and Crimson's two younger sisters. This leaves Crimson to her own devices and allows her the freedom to explore the darker sides of Hacker Valley.

Along with her friend Kevin, Crimson mounts her own investigation alongside Anna to find Anna's duplicate and discover the secrets behind the Slender Creek Murders.



KEVIN TOWNSEND

Kevin is Crimson's Mousey, semi-closeted friend. While out to his friends, he'd never challenge his parents expectations of who they want him to be.

A "theater kid," simply because of his out-casted exterior, Kevin is quiet but highly intelligent. His understanding of technology and deep research into conspiracy theories comes in handy while searching for clues surrounding The Hive.





DANA LEIGH

Anna and Tim's single mother, mid-40's. Dana is a tough, successful mid-western born geologist and researcher. Her expertise in rock formations has brought her back home to the Appalachian Mountains.

While work has always come first for Dana, her husband's intent to raise a family meant that when the opportunity arose with a mysterious lost baby, they opted to adopt the

young girl, naming her Anna, and vowed to never tell the young girl. A secret, yet to be revealed.

All of this, however, was made moot when the family was thrown into chaos when her husband, Michael, mysteriously vanished roughly 10 years ago. But not before leaving one gift: a surprise pregnancy which Dana opted to keep, naming the boy Tim.

MICHAEL LEIGH

The family's missing father who was in his late 30's when he was last seen. Michael was a writer, creative type and stay-at-home father when the family originally lived in West Virginia.

After venturing out for a regular jog he mysteriously vanished, a reality which has struck the family hard, but maybe even Anna the hardest.





DR. STEPHENS

Anna's new history and science teacher at Hacker Valley High. Dr. Stephens is calculated and educated, a stark contrast to the good ol' boy culture of the small town.

SHERIFF CARL

Good ol' boy to a tee. Distrusting of the academic type and big fish in a small pond of the backwoods town. Sheriff Carl has never wanted anything beyond to live in this area, maintain the peace and have an authority that deserves to be respected. A bully in sheep's clothing.





“FATHER”

Father is the self-proclaimed leader of The Hive. An anthropologist by trade, in the 1960's he discovered that for hundreds of thousands of years humans were a matriarchal society, with males only living long enough to procreate. Females, however, lived in tune with nature and each other, but more animalistic.

So Father began a sick, decades-long experiment to recreate a new

human Hive and raise women wordless from birth, an experiment that went wildly awry. Blinded by his power over the susceptible followers he'd found, he slayed the men and raised generation after generation without language in a pre-historic state.

He believes that when the world destroys itself only the Hive will remain.

SEASON 1

EPISODE 1: FIRST DAYS

Anna and the Leighs move back to Hacker Valley where Anna and Tim were originally raised. Their Nana, a kind woman, ran an orphanage until old age got the best of her. Dana, their mother, has a new job and thus their life has been uprooted. Stuck in the hills of nowhere, Anna is homesick almost immediately.

But as Anna begins to connect with a new friend, Crimson, she begins to feel more comfortable in the rural environment. She did grow up here until she was about 10 after all.

Almost immediately, Anna learns about the rumors of Slender Creek and mysterious deaths. Experienced hikers have gone missing if they cross the creek and strange attacks with bodies torn to pieces have been blamed on wild animals. Some claim it to be a Native American killing tree, but others call it coincidence.

When Anna has her courage tested by the preppy, slightly redneck popular girls at school, she gets double crossed and accidentally ends

up on the wrong side of the Slender Creek. There, she soon encounters a mute, animal-like figure in the wilderness. A feral girl that, curiously, appears to be Anna's exact duplicate, minus the experience of modern society. A girl that recognizes Anna's scent as her own.

And a girl that takes a liking to the young Anna.



EPISODE 2: OPPOSITES COLLIDE

While Anna struggles with what she has seen, the creature begins to seek her out, having found a kindred spirit in Anna. Not knowing whether the creature is human, a clone or *something* else, Anna recruits the help of Crimson and her Goth boy friend, Kevin, to uncover the mystery.

When Anna's mother makes her

watch over Tim, he tags along as the teens discover there are hundreds of pre-civilized females living the forests of Slender Creek. They are real. And they are human. The Hive

Unfortunately, while escaping the horrors of Slender Creek, the gang suffers a terrible ATV accident, and Tim is badly injured.



EPISODE 3: THE DISCOVERY

Tim sulks depressed over his broken femur and a limp he'll never recover from. Meanwhile, Anna is punished and disbelieved for her recklessness. If only cell phone photos had not been destroyed in the ATV crash...

Now stuck at home, Anna finds secret documents pertaining to

Nana's orphanage, and revealing that Anna was in fact adopted!

When confronted about her secret, Dana retreats, stressed by her children's rejections, and the family begins falling apart. But all this means nothing when Tim vanishes, and runs away with the family ATV.

EPISODE 4: THE LOST BOY

Now things are serious. The entire town is searching for Tim and Sheriff Carl and Professor Stephens try to question Anna. But, still, no one believes Anna about The Hive.

That is, until the townspeople find

and abduct Anna's Twin, and struggle to communicate with her.

Anna escapes the police, and rounds up her friends to find Tim on their own. They venture to where they know the HiveWomen are located.

EPISODE 5: THE TOWN RISES

Anna's crew ventures deep on the other side of Slender Creek, discovering an abandoned coal mine where the Hive has been living. Anna yells at the forest to get her brother back, but her presence only angers the HiveWomen as they prepare to attack.

As The Hive is about to attack, Sheriff Carl arrives and saves the teenagers, bringing them to safety in town. But Sheriff Carl also mounts an attack

into the caves and his men are slaughtered.

Then The Hive shows up to town, the first time they've left their territory, and offer a barely alive deputy as a trade to get Anna's twin back.

But Sheriff Carl tries to double cross The Hive and a melee ensues. Anna is abducted by members of The Hive, and dragged into the woods as a prisoner.

SEASON FINALE: NEW BEGINNINGS

Anna wakes deep in the mine and meets a completely blind man calling himself Father. An 87-year-old former professor of anthropology, he explains that he is, in fact, the architect of The Hive.

Father explains his plan to create an earlier form of human civilization., one that pre-dates modern history and is "more pure" in his view.

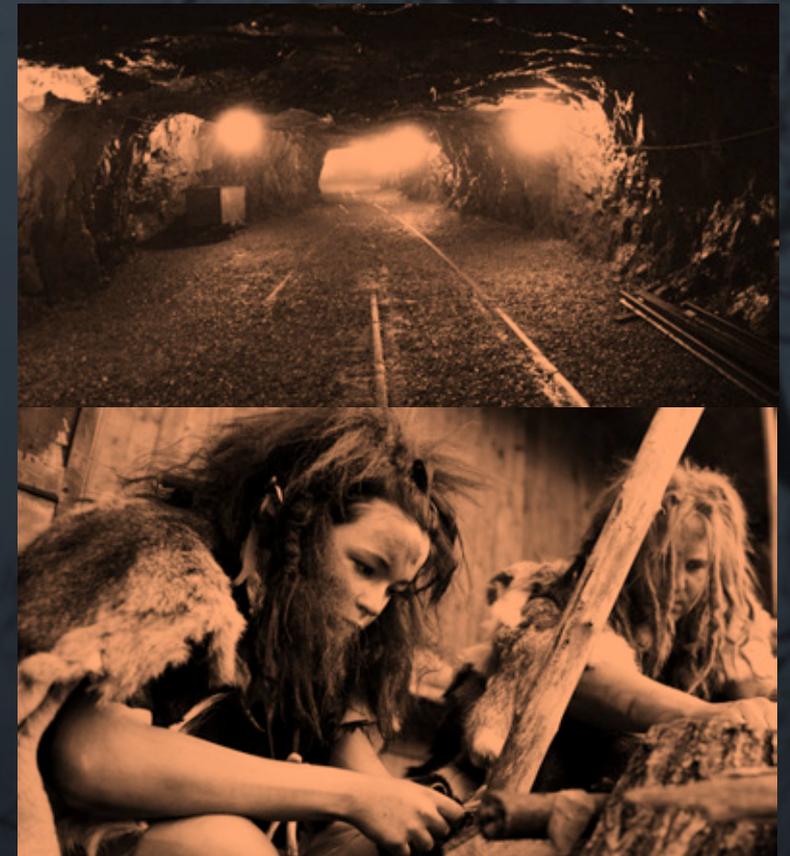
And Anna is the one that got away.

Years ago, one of his hive daughters had twins and secretly got the second baby out into the world. But

now, found again, Father says Anna is home.

Father offers a deal: Anna comes back into The Hive in exchange for the release of Tim. Reluctant, Anna agrees and his girls prep her for the rite of passage all HiveWomen go through: consummation with Father.

But during the ceremony Anna strangles Father while The Hive goes WILD, directionless and insane with the loss of their King. Anna's escape is helped by HiveTwin, who fights to save her sister. In the melee support beams of the rickety mine are



knocked loose and the mine begins to collapse.

Anna finds Tim but is unable to get him out as the mine implodes. Barely, Anna's Twin is able to save her and lays on Tim to protect him. Anna, barely alive, escapes the mine.

But deep inside the Mine: Tim's legs are crushed beyond repair. He curses his sister for abandoning him. But helping hands lift the boy up in the darkness, and Tim hears Father's voice telling him that he has a new family now. ...And that, in time, he will be King.

SEASONS 3-4

SEASON 2: ORIGINS

Season Two jumps backward in time to chronicle the Hive's origin: from Father's academic beginnings to the brutal loss of his family, and finally his descent into his own brand of 'moral madness' as he implements a plan to preserve Humanity by creating a new, endless family underground.

We witness a decades-long creation of the Hive, and Father's discovery of the amazing abilities his wordless-from-birth daughters manifest.



SEASON 3: THE LOST SISTER

Season Three jumps forward to the years leading up to Anna's birth, and her courageous birth mother's silent pact with an outsider - Nana - to rescue children from Father's grasp.

Culminating with the final battle that takes Father's eyesight, his permanent retreat underground, and finally Anna's birthmother's escape and sacrifice to get one last child out:

Her own.



SEASON 4: THE NEW KING

Season Four jumps forward past the events of Season One, where we find Anna a few years older, trying to put her life and sanity back together despite being haunted by nightmares and visions of the Hive.

Finally she learns that these are not visions. In fact, much of the Hive survived, even Father himself, and in his dying days he is passing the crown to a new, much bolder & brutal young King:

Anna's own paralyzed brother, Tim.



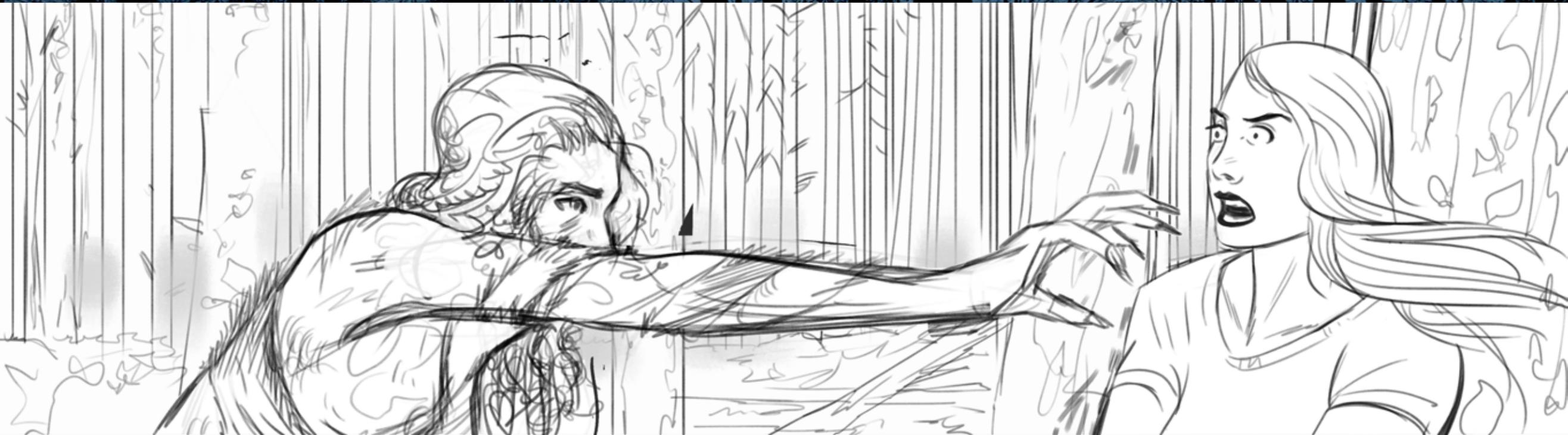
MOODBOARDS



EXT. FOREST — NIGHT

Anna trudges through the trees using her cell phone as flashlight. Silence.

And then, like before, CHIRPS, CLICKS, HISSES... Come back, but with something wrong with them. ...the sounds of The HiveWoman.



EXT. DEEPER IN THE FOREST - NIGHT

...The creature rises. But it's not a small animal; it's the size of Anna herself. And female. Human.

The creature tilts its head as it surveys Anna's face, more curious. But Anna can see it's identical as her own. An identical copy of Anna with the exact same face. But without the experience of modern society...





INT. COAL MINE — CHAMBER

...a LARGE CENTRAL CHAMBER of the mine. Decorated, revered, a special place. A 'wedding chamber.' In the center is a raised central area, a massive mound of animal skins, dirt, twigs and matted leaves. A Nest.

OVER a HUNDRED HiveWomen are here on their knees. They are arranged in concentric circles around the Nest, praying, chanting, rocking back and forth.



EXT. FOREST - BEYOND THE OPENING

...Sheriff Carl hears clicks of men prepping their rifles, yells over the hiss.

SHERIFF CARL

Nobody fires a shot unless I say
so! We got a kid out here somewhere!

He pushes aside brush to reveal a GAPING BLACK HOLE in the middle of a hillside. Its sides framed by thick wood pilings.

--It's the entrance to an abandoned coal mine. The HISS of the forest abruptly stops.

EXT. FOREST - DEEPER STILL - DAY

...They pass at another marking. This one even more extreme: a woman's face in extreme pain. A carving of a bosom below her with what appears to be a baby ripping out of her.

Anna shudders as Tim snaps off pictures.

They drive past more carvings-- seen as they whip by it's almost a crude animation. Always female faces, always different, detailed expressions: laughter, fear, anger, joy, violence.



INT. MINE - TUNNELS - NIGHT

...Anna fights her way through the madness of the HiveWomen.

They're confused, lashing out wildly. Some chase Anna while other clans of two or three fight against different groups.

Anna runs the next tunnel--

CREATIVES

WILLIAM WEDIG [creator/writer/director]

William is an award-winning writer, director, editor.

His last film, FORGED, which he wrote, directed and edited, won Best Picture at the HBO New York Latino Film Festival and starred 3X Emmy winner Margo Martindale and Manny Perez. New York Times wrote, "Mr. Wedig is sure of his material. 'Forged' is nasty, brutish and short, in all the best ways."

His television series, TEAM TOON, was produced for Cartoon Network

and is currently on Netflix.

Will's debut feature, RISE OF THE DEAD, was released through Lionsgate Entertainment and was described as a "smart and original take on an equally old genre" (Fangoria.com).

His work in films, documentaries, music videos and commercials has been shown in theaters, on television, and in festivals like Sundance and Toronto International Film Festival.



JEFF WOLVERTON [creator/writer]

A BAFTA-nominated writer, Jeff wrote the Academy Award-winning film, The CHUBBCHUBBS!, which helped to found Sony Pictures Imageworks.

Additionally, Jeff wrote the film SINBAD: BEYOND THE VEIL OF MISTS which was voiced by Brendan

Fraser, Mark Hamill & Leonard Nimoy.

Jeff also created visual effects for major motion pictures including STAR WARS EPISODE 8, IRON MAN 3, DEADPOOL, DR. STRANGE, as well as over two dozen more.



Together, William and Jeff have completed two screenplays, a page one rewrite of another, and two treatments. Their feature script, EVERGREEN, was recently accepted to the Breakthrough Series in New York.

THE FIVE

FOR INQUIRIES:

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