



THE
LOST
ONE

IRON FORGE PICTURES AND HALESTORM PRODUCTIONS "THE LOST ONE"

EMILY ROWBOTTOM STEPHANIE RANTY DANIEL NELSON MICHELLE BRASS ADAM COUPER DAVID COOK

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY NATHAN JERMYN MUSIC BY CHRIS ARMSTRONG PRODUCED BY DAMIAN HUSSEY JOSH HALE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ROBERT SADEGHI

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DAMIAN HUSSEY



Running Time: **106 minutes**

Aspect Ratio: **2.39:1**

Shooting Format: **Blackmagic RAW Q0**

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Production Companies: **Iron Forge Pictures and**
Halestorm Productions
550 Studios

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/522136780>



www.facebook.com/thelostonemovie

Website: www.damianhussey.com/the-lost-one

LOGLINE

While tracking down a missing teenage girl, former police officer Shae Conway uncovers shocking secrets of the elite, who will do anything to keep them hidden.

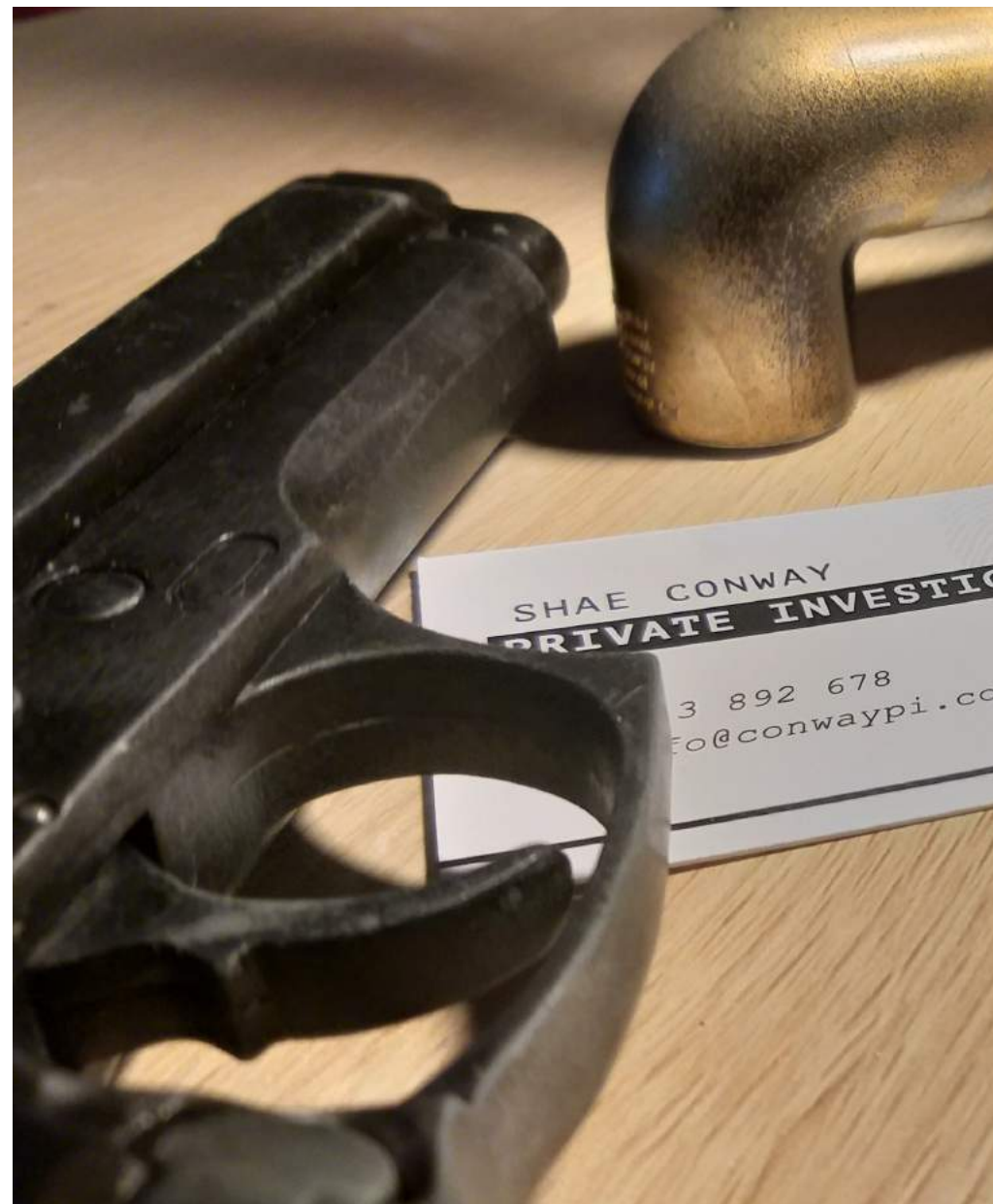
ALTERNATE LOGLINE

While tracking down a missing teenage girl, former police officer Shae Conway becomes caught between a child abuse ring and a vigilante who is hell-bent of exposing them

SUMMARY

The film follows Shae Conway who has become an apathetic private investigator since being kicked out of the police force. In an attempt to solve her mother's financial troubles, Shae agrees to search for missing teenager, Max Cartwright.

Her investigation becomes entangled in the horror and conspiracy surrounding an underground paedophile ring. After Shae is accused of being her accomplice, she teams up with Riley, a vigilante, who is hell bent on hunting down the culprits one at a time. Together, they must fight to find a way to uncover corruption at the highest levels of power.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The Lost One is the story of apathy; it explores the idea/question of how far people are willing to go if put in a horrible position.

Our story takes Shae, a disillusioned former police officer, on a journey where she discovers a child abuse network run by the rich and powerful.

She meets vigilante Riley; whose mission is to expose the ring at any cost. Shae initially rejects Riley's philosophy but over time forms the opinion that maybe the only way to deal with evil is to kill it. At the same time, Shae challenges Riley who is headed down her own dark path.

The film was inspired by the corruptions and cover-ups pervasive in the highest levels of our society; why is it that some individuals are untouchable and scandal after scandal gets swept under the rug? Do we need vigilantes of our own?

What would you do if you had the worst of humanity in front of you? Would you hand them to the police and risk them walking free? Or would you take matters into your own hands? I can't answer this moral question. Everyone will have their own answer depending on their unique worldview.

The title "The Lost One" refers to the girl Shae is searching for, and the other missing girls she finds during her search. It also refers to Shae herself, apathetic and adrift since being fired from the police force. She is "lost" until this journey gives her a new purpose and a cause worth living and fighting for.



RELEVANCE

Australia is still dealing with the impacts of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, so the story is topical. Most people have an opinion on the topic, especially on how guilty parties should be dealt with.

We are also going through a pandemic and another financial crisis, which has again highlighted the inequality between the rich and poor. The last Global Financial Crisis left many worse off, unless you were one of the fortunate elite.

The film is not meant to get people to hate the rich, but it is intended to start a conversation. If a viewer completely disagrees with the actions of any of the characters in the film, great!





PRODUCTION

Being an indie film, "The Lost One" had a shoestring budget with a limited window to shoot. Most cast and crew worked on a deferred payment basis.

Filming took place in September 2020 under the shadow of COVID-19. It was shot on location across the Gold Coast, Australia using local cast and crew.

The pandemic drastically changed the filming process. Various locations became unavailable, and we were limited to ten people in private residences. Temperature checks were carried out daily and all cast and crew were required to track their movements.

While adding extra processes, it also forced us to get creative with achieving our goals. Crew were used as cast and lens choices were critical to help with the illusion of a large-scale production.



Extensive pre-production during the lockdown period put us in a good position for production. Filming wrapped at the end of September and took a total of eighteen days.

Despite a budget of only \$30,000, we hope to pull off a big-budget look. We had over twenty locations, meaning almost every day was somewhere completely new. We carefully selected locations which required little to no production design so we could get straight into shooting.

Our entire cast, including extras, was over eighty people (not including the crew jumping in!). This presented extra logistical challenges but the overall scope pays off.

Favours were called in to incorporate stunts, weapons and special effects. Actor and stunt performer Daniel Nelson, who plays Angelo, was an invaluable asset in choreographing fight scenes beyond the scope of the average indie production. Prior to production, Emily, Steph and Daniel worked tirelessly in rehearsal to bring the action packed vision of "The Lost One" to life.

Emmy Award winning Stingray Sushi Studios were hired to take the special effects to the next level.





SHAE CONWAY

After failing to expose police corruption, Shae left the police force and became a Private Investigator. Her new reality has left her disillusioned with the world.

Shae takes care of her alcoholic mother and tolerates her insensitive father. She's worried about following in her parent's footsteps but she's on track to do exactly that.

During her investigation, Shae initially refuses to acknowledge the signs of abuse around her. It soon becomes impossible to ignore.



RILEY JOHNSON

As a journalist, Riley's first big story explored sex trafficking and its prevalence in society. Despite intense research and sources, her superiors refused to run the story.

Following threats to her family, she went off-grid and tracked down one of the offenders. She went too far in her questioning and killed him. Riley got a taste for it and concluded that the only way to deal with the bad in society is to kill it.

ANGELO

A former soldier whose time spent in conflict zones shaped his grim world view. As the head of security for the city's elite, he's no longer fazed by criminal activity and believes that world is a cruel and unforgiving place.

Angelo is the mastermind behind the plan to flush out the vigilante and is happy to get his hands dirty. He's a survivor.



KYLE

Shae's former partner and mentor on the force. They were close and Kyle fought for Shae to keep her job. Despite this almost costing his, they remain close.

He won't turn a blind eye to corruption, but he recognises the value of choosing your battles. He feels he can do more good by not rocking the boat. His wife, Jess, is pregnant and he can't risk his family.





WRITER / DIRECTOR

Damian Hussey

Damian joined the Australian Army in 2001 as an Avionics Technician and was deployed to Afghanistan in 2006. He then travelled extensively throughout the world before beginning his filmmaking career. He uses these experiences to tell unique and authentic stories that can make a difference.

Since 2011 he's worked on a large slate of commercials, music videos and online video marketing productions, as well as creative short and feature films.

He is an accomplished cinematographer with a number of films credited to him, including a post apocalyptic film called Gunpowder and indie features Ashburn Waters, Alice and Bliss of Evil (In Post-Production). His films have screened in international film festivals and taken out numerous awards.

He is also the owner/operator of his own production company, Iron Forge Pictures.

"The Lost One" is his feature film directorial debut. His follow up film, Girls' Night Out goes into production in 2022.

PRODUCER

Josh Hale

From producing the #1 rated Australian Professional Baseball broadcast for the Australian National Champion Brisbane Bandits, to volunteer media work with the Gold Coast Special Olympics, to personal cameraman for Tony Hawk during the Queensland leg of his Australia tour, Josh brings a breath of experience to production.

Josh's previous projects include features, music videos, commercials and short films including the Award Winning Short Film- entitled [Insert Words Here]. His debut feature film Digital Athletes: The Road to Seat League was created on a \$5k budget. It had a World Premiere at the Gold Coast Film Festival in 2017, where it was nominated for Australian Independent Film of the Year. The film went on to take out numerous awards during its festival run.

Josh has recently completed his Second Feature Film, an indie horror film entitled House of Inequity, financed by investors that approached Josh on his festival run for his debut feature. The film had a budget of \$150K. Shot on the Gold Coast of Australia featuring a local and international cast, House of Inequity was an Official Selection at the Gold Coast Film Festival 2020 and will continue its festival run in 2020.





EMILY ROWBOTTOM

Emily got her start in school and community theatre, performing in many plays and musicals. During this time, she won several acting accolades which gave her the opportunity to compete in larger cities. After graduating high school, she obtained a Bachelors Degree in Criminology but found herself returning to her true passion of acting.

She moved to the Gold Coast to further her career, performing in several features, short films, stage plays and musicals. In 2017, she travelled to Los Angeles to complete her Advanced Diploma in Acting. This experience was invaluable and remains the highlight of her studies.

The Lost One was her first lead role in a feature film. She followed this up in 2021 as one of the ensemble cast of the indie horror, Bliss of Evil. She's also appeared on screen in NBC's Young Rock Season 1 & 2, and Portable Door by The Jim Henson Company.

Emily has been writing since 2018 and is expanding her skills behind the scenes. In 2022 she'll star in and produce feature film, Girls' Night Out.

STEPHANIE RANTY

From the Gold Coast, Australia, Steph has impacted the industry with her uncanny ability to naturally absorb characters within her performances. Steph has been pursuing her passion for acting since 2018.

In two short years, Steph's resume has grown more and more diverse with numerous short films and music videos. In 2019, Steph was cast as a lead actor in independent feature film "House of Inequity" which marked her first starring role in a feature.

Steph has a thirst to hone her craft as she continues to grow her prowess. Steph is just getting started in the industry and her future is unstoppable.





DANIEL NELSON

Daniel Nelson has a film career spanning more than 10 years. He began his career acting and quickly put his physical skills to use as a stunt performer.

Most recently he played a villain in blockbusters *Godzilla Vs Kong* and *Mortal Kombat*. Since 2021 he's jumped from set to set including *The Lord Of The Rings* TV series, *Marvel's Thor: Love and Thunder*, *Nbc's Young Rock* season 2, *AMC's Firebite* and *Disney's Nautilus*.

With Daniel's qualifications as a Stunt Actor he has physical and action experience to bring to the table.

Daniel has written and directed his own short films and has a passion for bringing characters to life on screen.

Outside of screen work Daniel is a surf life saver and competitor at Northcliffe Surf Lifesaving club on the Gold Coast.

SPECIAL EFFECTS

There's nothing better than good practical special effects. And who better than the Emmy Award team at Stingray Sushi Studios!



Jac Charlton and Chad Atkinson have been working in the industry for decades. They provided the amazing blood effects, as well as building weapons and prosthetics for the film.

While in the festival circuit, *The Lost One* won Best Thriller at the Toronto Independent Film Festival, was awarded runner up Best Feature, Best Director and Best Female Actor Melbourne Underground Film Festival, was a semi-finalist in the Calgary Independent Film Festival and finalist in the Across the Globe Film Festival. It also screened around the globe as part of the Lift-Off Global Network.



TARGET AUDIENCE

The main target audience is over 25 females. The film boasts two strong female leads who have been put through tough situations and prevailed. The world can be unforgiving and it's up to them to forge their own path.

Despite this being a work of fiction, fans of true-crime also enjoy the film. Unfortunately this kind of story occurs in society and people like to discuss the moral ambiguity of being fascinated with true crimes.

The film is a thriller with action elements so this also appeals to male audiences.

There has been an overwhelming positive response from our screenings, especially from over 50 females.



FULL SYNOPSIS

The film follows Shae Conway, a disgraced police officer who was kicked off the force after exposing police corruption. Since then she has become a private investigator, leaving her apathetic to societies problems.

When her alcoholic mother is served an eviction notice, Shae becomes desperate for money. This leads to her taking on the case of missing teenage girl, Max Cartwright.

The investigation takes Shae to Max's school where she learns that many of the students come from wealthy families and rarely turn up to class. She follows a student to a skate park where a friend of Max's tells her about "pervs" who take advantage of troubled kids.

She discovers a warehouse which holds and drugged girl. It isn't Max. While she's helping the girl, a stranger appears and holds Shae at gun point. Before she can react, another shadowy figure emerges, and the two shoot at each other. Shae rescues the drugged girl but doesn't get a look at either of the assailants. Shae is seen as a hero for rescuing the girl.

In the meantime, Max has returned home. Apparently, she was just acting out and her parents want to put the ordeal behind them. Shae is paid for the case, solving her money problems. This also leads to an opportunity of being reinstated in the police force.

The whole situation is confusing. Against the advice of her one friend, former partner Kyle, Shae returns to the warehouse.

She discovers Riley, the person who aimed a gun at Shae the previous night. Riley is a vigilante trying to expose a paedophile ring and was shot during the shootout. Shae makes the decision to help her.

In an attempt to help Shae learn the truth, Riley shows Shae a house called "The Mansion" which is used by the rich and powerful to abuse and traffic girls. They're spotted and are forced to flee.

Riley takes Shae to a commune for runaway teenagers and Shae discovers she has been accused of being involved in the kidnappings.

Attempting to learn more, Shae returns to Max's school. Max explains that she was held captive at The Mansion and her parents are involved. Shae is confronted by an assailant and barely escapes.

She receives a message from Kyle who says they need to meet up. Kyle is being held at gunpoint by Angelo, who was the other assailant in the warehouse. Shae walks into the trap and is captured, but Riley arrives in time to save the day. In the chaos Kyle is shot and Angelo escapes.

Having witnessed first-hand the lengths the paedophile ring will go to; Shae convinces Riley to take down The Mansion. They fight through hired guards and discover a soundproofed basement. Inside are Angelo and the Mayor. They rescue a captive girl who shoots the Mayor but Angelo escapes again.

A car chase ensues and ends at a wrecking yard. Shae and Riley have to fight together to defeat Angelo. Before he is defeated, Angelo reveals other paedophile rings across the country.

When the dust settles, Shae and Riley are branded as fugitives. They now have a strong underground network of supporters and take it upon themselves to do what our justice system can't or won't.

FAQ

What was the total budget of the film?

Total costs to date totalled approximately \$30,000. Owning our own film gear was a significant factor in reducing expenses on hiring costs.

On such a low budget, how did you manage to film a feature film in just eighteen days?

Lots of pre-production! The entire film had storyboards, shot lists and camera and lighting maps. We carefully selected locations which required limited production design and we walked through them weeks in advance. We only went over the scheduled 10-hour day once due to weather.

What camera did you shoot on?

The film was shot on two Blackmagic Pocket Cinema 4K cameras. Most were single camera setups but we shot multi-cam during the action scenes to cut time and reduce risk of injuries. The Pocket 4K's are also great in lowlight, so we were able to capitalise on this and not hire any extra lighting.

How did you go about casting?

At the time I worked at a film school which meant I kept an eye out for upcoming cast and crew. We also put a casting call out via social media, where we found a lot of great talent. Due to the border closures, we were limited to keeping the cast local, but this worked out to our advantage.





FAQ

How big was your crew?

The largest day consisted of about thirty people. These were action days requiring stunts, safety personnel and the extra camera crew. Other days we were limited to ten people total (including cast), so most of us wore multiple hats.

How did you approach the dark themes in the film?

We were very up front with everyone we approached to get involved. We're dealing with child abuse and most people agreed that it was an important story that needed to be told. Despite it being completely made up, these atrocities are unfortunately happening in society. I wanted to pose this question to the average person; What would you do if you had someone like Jeffery Epstein in front of you? Would you hand him to the police and risk him walking free, or take matters into your own hands?

How did COVID-19 affect the film?

The border closures prevented us from using cast and crew from interstate. We had our own COVID Safety Plan, but we were always prepared for possibility of a full lockdown any day. Our First AD performed temperature checks daily and tracked our movements whenever someone came to set. Any time anyone had the slightest symptoms they went for testing. There was a few anxious days when we waited for results, but they all came back clear.



FAQ

When can we see the film?

The edit was completed in early 2021 and we held a cast and crew screening in March. It's since screened at festivals around the world and we're in talks with distributors for a world-wide release.

What advice do you have for someone looking to shoot their own film?

Just go out and do it. Find a way to shoot it cheap and simple. But also make it look like you have more money than you really do. Spend as much time as you can planning and surround yourself with a strong core crew. You might spend years trying to get a full budget, so shoot what you can in the meantime. That way you've made mistakes and grown as a creative on something small.

What's the future got in store?

I kept busy writing throughout 2021, and we're currently in pre-production for our follow up film, Girls' Night Out. I'm also in talks with developing factual content, and DP'ing other films. You've got to stay busy!





CREDITS

Written and Directed by: **Damian Hussey**

Produced by: **Damian Hussey and Josh Hale**

Director of Photography: **Nathan Jermyn**

First Assistant Director: **Courteney Osbourne**

Unit Production Manager: **Nicole Leo**

Script Supervisor: **Millie Rowley**

Stunt Coordinator: **Danny Baldwin**

Choreographer: **Daniel Nelson**

Stunts: **Timothy Frost, Ethan Ruddy, Garreth Hadfield, Alex Time, Chris Matheson**

Special Effects: **Stingray Sushi Studios, Jac Charlton, Chad Atkinson**

Key Makeup Artist: **Alisha Hennessy**

Makeup Artist: **Lidya Al Yonani**

"A" Camera Operator: **David Mace-Kaff**

"B" Camera Operator: **Vito Leo**

First Assistant Camera: **Luke Speech**

Second Assistant Camera: **Patrick Ryan**

Sound Mixer: **Callum Taylor**

Boom Operator: **Daniel Domaschenz**

Additional Sound Mixer: **Lara Briddon**

Set Dresser: **Lauren-Ann Smith**

Wardrobe: **Daniel Wright**

Graphic Designers: **Stephen Osborne, Tegan Hale**

Stills Photographers: **Josh Hale, Lauren-Ann Smith
Patrick Ryan**

Editor: **Damian Hussey**

Composer: **Chris Armstrong**



Shae Conway: **Emily Rowbottom**
Riley Johnson: **Stephanie Ranty**
Angelo: **Daniel Nelson**
Kyle: **David Cook**
Amelia Cartwright: **Michelle Brass**
Ian Cartwright: **Adam Couper**
Max Cartwright: **Sarah Diana**
Brian Conway: **Patrick Doyle**
Janet Conway: **Susan Cary**
Ray: **James Grace**
Lucas Hamilton: **Stuart Lumsden**
Joe Carlin: **Rob Horton**
Sophie Taylor: **Lainey Baldwin**
Danny: **Sophie Arthur**
Alex Kelly: **Robbie Reitano**
Jess: **Brittany Bell**
Domonic Cooper: **James Sargent**
Elaine: **Janelle Bailey**
Building Manager: **Joe Feeney**
Neil Dempsey: **Stephen Walker**
Gary: **Daniel Wright**
Jeremy: **Josh Nixon**
Pills: **Bailey Purse**
Derrick: **Eamon Kingston**
Wendy Hamilton: **Katy Charles**



Liz Baker: **Chantal Elyse**
Lucy: **Alika Bedford**
School Receptionist: **Julia Johnson**
Sydney Cartwright: **Sophie Ashley**
Jordan: **Rebecca Saunders-Smith**
Gisele: **Abigail Rayner**
Gate Guard 1: **Timothy Frost**
Gate Guard 2: **Ethan Ruddy**
Mansion Guard 1: **Alex Time**
Mansion Guard 2: **Garreth Hadfield**
Mansion Guard 3: **Josh Hale**
Waiter: **Luke Speech**
Traumatised Girl: **Tommie Thomas**
Drugged Girl: **Ashleigh Rhodes**
Sam: **Prem Sagar Krishnan**
Guard: **Vito Leo**
Official: **Sam Hayden-Smith**
Girl in Yellow House: **Monica Stroud**
Boy in Yellow House: **Isaac Jenkins**
Assassin: **Chris Matheson**
Private Security Guard: **Cameron Dean**
Bullied Man: **Damian McCoy**
Bully 1: **Hogo Smit**
Bully 2: **Daniel Domaschenze**
Micky: **Daniel Ilija James**

Carl: **Dimitri Blake**
Skate Park Kid: **Corey Simpson**
Reporter 1: **Charlotte Laine**
Reporter 2: **Ebony Kendra**
Reporter 3: **Daniel Domaschenz**
Commune Guard: **Chris Hindle**
Commune Girls: **Brie Bond, Ivy Oberle**
Commune Workers: **Tabitha Oberle, Derry Beavis, Catherine Kent, Ian Simmons**
Restaurant Patrons: **Harry Clarkson, Courteney Osborne**
School Students: **Carolina Cerezo, Skye Schokman**
Yellow House Girl: **Susannah Inverarity**
Yellow House Boys: **Joshua Lunt, Tim Stevenson**
Doctor: **Patrick Ryan**
Cheating Woman: **Kelsey Curtis**
Cheating Man: **Adam Latrobe**
Diana Danvers: **May Nelson**
Carjacked Driver: **Damian Hussey**

