



# GRENDDEL

A Film Project by Matthew Parvin

## — Overview

- ***Grendel*** is a new project by writer/producer Matthew Parvin and is a reimagining of the classic *Beowulf*, only transplanted into the world of modern-day Detroit.





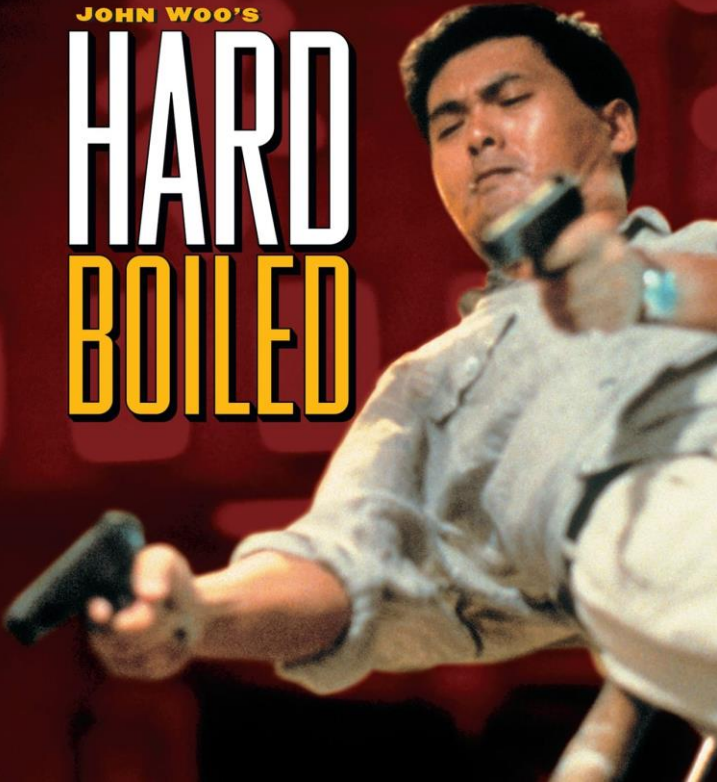
# Logline

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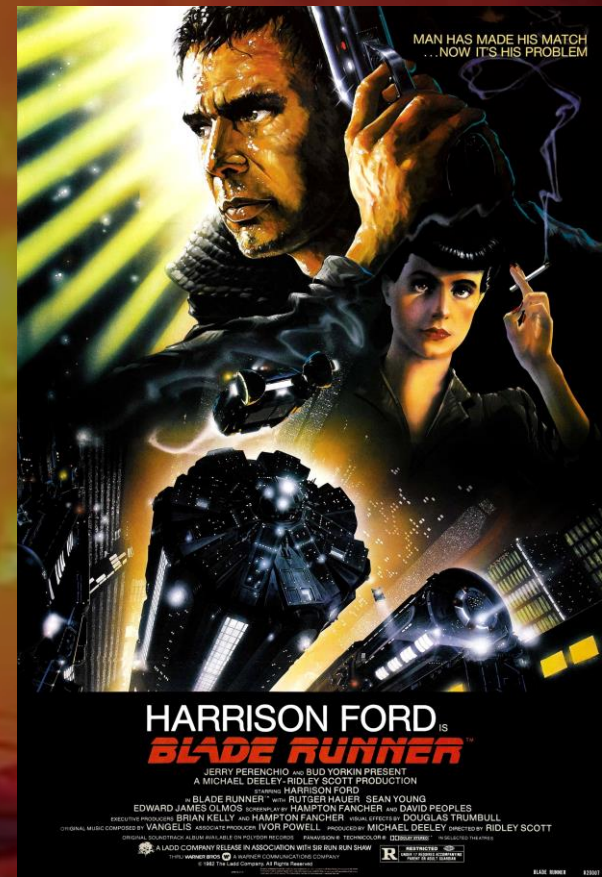
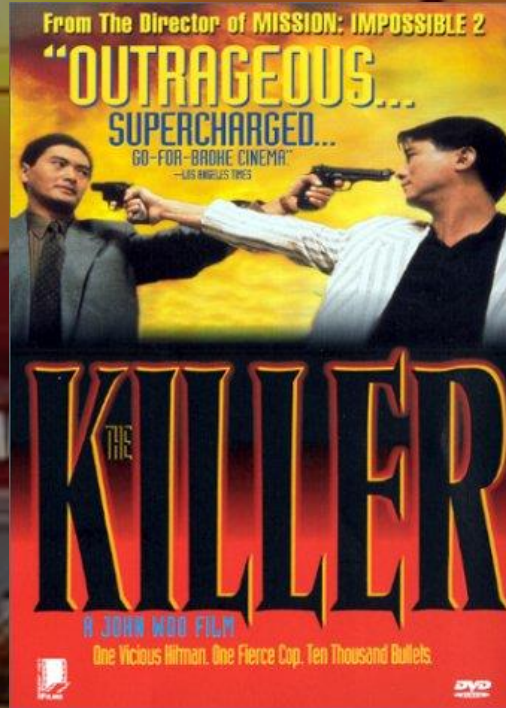
A monstrous, albino mob enforcer turns against his family and his associates when he falls in love with the daughter of a rival Yakuza faction. After her father discovers the affair, both organized crime syndicates turn on the two lovers who must now navigate present-day Detroit to make it out alive.

JOHN WOO'S

# HARD BOILED



# Influences



This tale is a stylized throwback to the film noir/crime thrillers of the late eighties or early nineties.

## Synopsis

Detroit. Hub of the old French Connection drug corridor from Quebec all the way to Louisiana. This “heroin highway” is now controlled by the Gabriels, a ruthless criminal organization headed by **Lillian**, or “Mother” as she’s called. **Isaac**, Lillian’s youngest son, own’s a popular club in the city and is the public face of the organization. He is her “Narcissus”.

Her oldest son, **Alex**, was born with Chédiak–Higashi syndrome, a rare genetic disorder that, among many ailments, has made him without pigment in his skin. To overcome a sickly childhood, Alex has built himself into a massive, dangerous individual. On the street, he’s known as a monster. To his mother, he has another name: “**Grendel**”.

The Hiroto Clan, a member of the Yakuza in Japan, have arrived in Detroit in exile. **Katashi**, the head of the family, defied the other clans and lost his wife and son in an assassination attempt. Though surrounded by loyalists and advisers, he only has one family member left: **Ren**, his daughter. But she has not come to Detroit for her safety. The Hirotos and Gabriels are forming a criminal alliance. Katashi and Lillian plan to solidify their bond with blood. Isaac and Ren will marry.

But something happens that no one intends. Alex and Ren grow close. He rescues her from a kidnapping attempt. One night, after a fight with her father and a violent outburst, Ren runs away. Alex finds her and tries to convince her to come home. She refuses by kissing him. After a night of passion, Ren and Alex make plans to run away.

Isaac betrays his brother and future wife to Lillian and Katashi. The two parents then plan a brutal punishment. Ren is taken by her father, tortured, and planned to be sent back to Japan. Alex is betrayed by his mother and caught in an ambush. But it doesn’t kill him. Now, Alex needs to be a hero for the one person who sees him as one. To do it, he’ll have to be the monster everyone else fears he is.



# Alex Gabriel “Grendel”

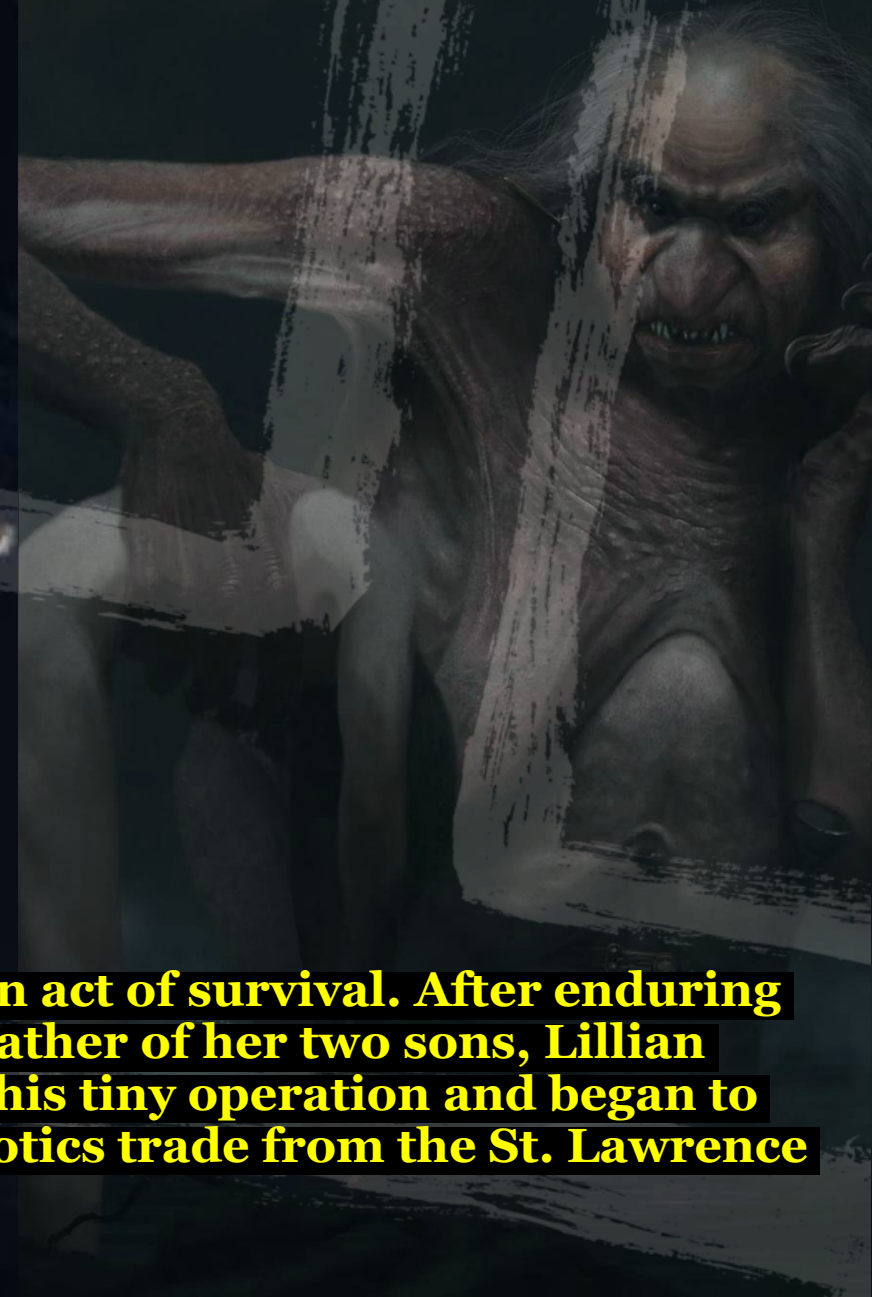
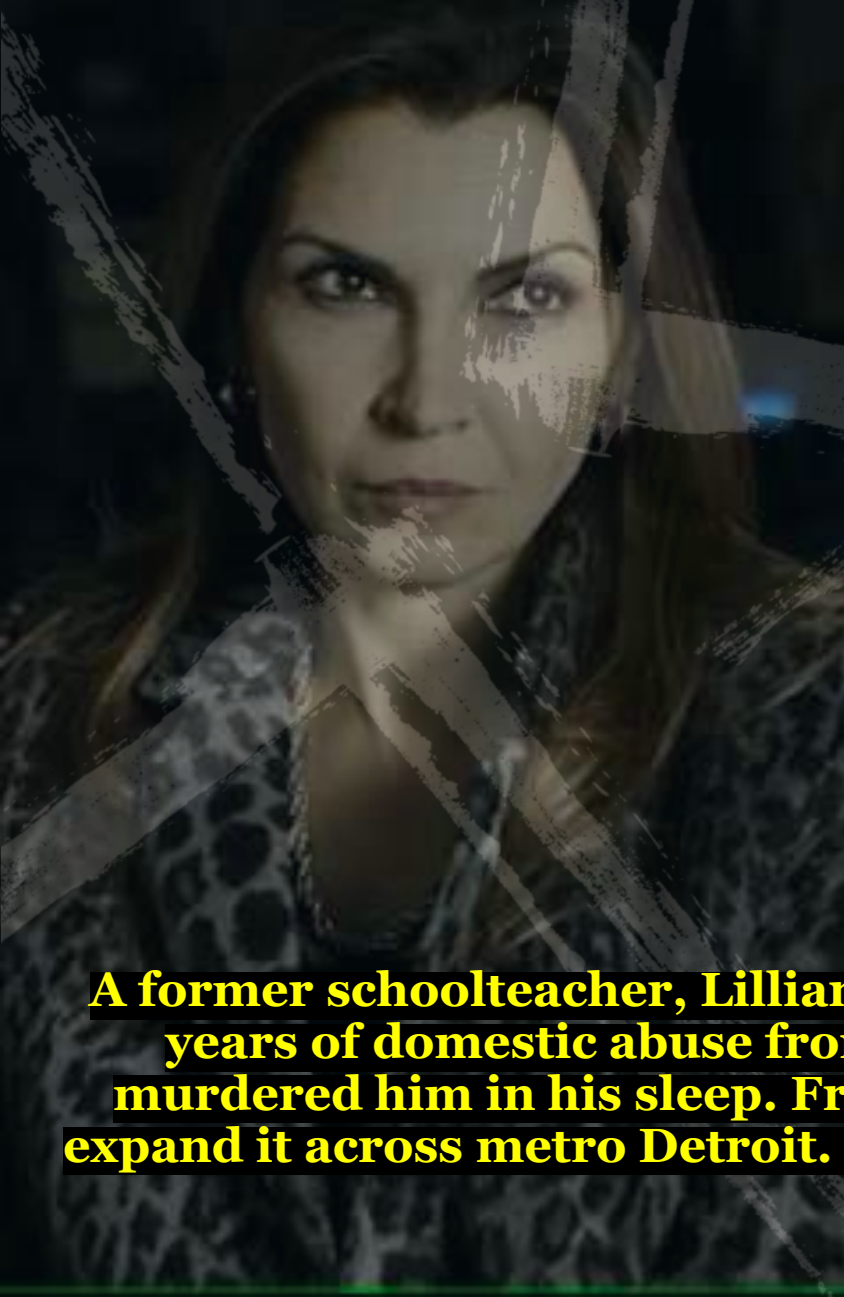
**Alex (29-32) is born with Chédiak–Higashi syndrome, a rare genetic disorder. Among many ailments (*light sensitivity, weak eyesight, congenital heart disease, etc.*) is a loss of skin pigmentation. To overcome a sickly childhood, Alex has built himself into a massive, dangerous individual. Learning from masters in several disciplines, he is the enforcer for his mother’s criminal enterprise.**

# Ren

**The oldest daughter (28-30) and only surviving child of Katashi Hiroto. She is a free spirit, fiercely independent and disdainful of her father's business. She is to be married off to one of the Gabriels to solidify a criminal alliance in the city of Detroit.**



# Lillian Gabriel “Mother”



**A former schoolteacher, Lillian (50) has learned that success is an act of survival. After enduring years of domestic abuse from her meth dealing husband and father of her two sons, Lillian murdered him in his sleep. From there, she assumed control of his tiny operation and began to expand it across metro Detroit. Now, the Gabriels control all narcotics trade from the St. Lawrence seaway to the Mississippi.**





## Katashi Hiroto

Head of a Yakuza clan originally based in Osaka. The Hirotos have been exiled from Japan by the other clans for Katashi's "crimes against the order". Though exiled, the Hirotos still have power and connections in Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam that provide plenty of product (heroin, cocaine, etc.). His wife and other children have been slain, yet Katashi is willing to offer his only surviving child as collateral to secure his clan's future.



# Isaac Gabriel “Narcissus”

Youngest child (23-25) of Lillian, Isaac is the public face of the Gabriel organization. He is the proprietor of Club 27, a popular nightspot in Detroit’s waterfront district. Isaac is a playboy, man-about-town and his mother’s favorite. Despite his status and protestations, however, Isaac is forced into an arranged marriage with Ren Hiroto.

# Project Analytics

- **Length:** Feature Film
- **Genre:** Crime Thriller
- **Estimated Budget:** \$500k - \$1M

# Demographics

- **M/F ages 18-50 :** 60% movie going audience target
- **Diversity:** Multicultural cast
- **Genre Appeal:** Crime/Thriller/Action/Revenge
- **Cultural Significance:** Romeo and Juliet story trope

# Ext. CITY/WATERFRONT - DUSK



Light loses its never-ending battle with the dark.

Dots of neon bounce off the black water of the Detroit River.

Nighttime, our time, has finally come.

# INT. REMEMBER WHEN/MAIN FLOOR – DAY

They enter; Alex first, Ren following.  
She freezes in the doorway. A neon cacophony plays off her pale skin.  
Pink and yellow fluorescence fill her corneas with pop goodness.  
The decade, her decade was stretch out before her like a neon beach.

REN

My God! It's like the mothership has called me home.



# INT. THE MEAD HALL - NIGHT

The tiny dive is packed wall to wall. East siders, Best Friends from the Brewster-Douglass projects. YBI from Mound, Micks from Corktown. All packed for the wild hunt.

Thirty hired guns, Gabriel and Hiroto alike. Ready for war.

Tindler stands behind the bar, pouring imported beer from the tap three mugs a t a time.

TINDLER  
(shouting)

This is the last round! After this,  
we hunt us some—

The door to the bar opens.

Alex walks in, closing the door behind him with a quiet thud.

TINDLER (CONT.)

--monster.

Alex leans against the door, grasping the nob. He wrenches his massive hand.

SNAP! The doorknob falls to the floor.

# About the Author

**Matthew Parvin is an award-winning screenwriter (*Becoming, Young Goodman Brown, Long Time Comin', Dear Caroline*). He currently resides with his wife, two children and puppy in suburban Detroit, Michigan, where he has lived most of his life.**

## Contact Info

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