

Section 1: Television Series Information

Group Members:



Title:

- *Killer Woman*
- The title *Killer Woman* depicts a couple of the main plots engulfed in the show. The main character, Ashley Brown, has a twisted and complicated way of life. She may be a college student, but her occupation is really a hitman. The word killer represents Ashley's criminal career, but also gives way to her cunning personality and deadly looks. The word woman describes when the series is taking place: the growth into adulthood Ashley faces throughout the series.

Genre:

- Drama/Thriller
- This series is meant to be one that keeps the audience on the edge of their seats. *Killer Woman* is supposed to entice fear, and paranoia of never truly knowing the secrets peers keep hidden.

Synopsis:

- Ashley Brown, the protagonist of the show, is a 19-year-old college student starting her first semester of college in New York City, NY. Ashley looks like an ordinary first year student, except for the fact that she is a trained hitman. Brown grew up surrounded by murder and despair thanks to her family and starting at the age of thirteen she dove right into the pit of evil that is the "family business": murder. Just before Ashley leaves for college, her parents are brutally murdered. She sets out to avenge her parents' death in any way she can. During the first month of the semester, she received a target from an unknown source, but failed the mission entirely. Then two months later, the same number sends her the name and address of a new target. Ashley will face hardship, loneliness, loss, and fear throughout her journey of completing this mission. She will experience the highs and lows of being a hitman, the question is, will she prosper or fall?

Section 2: Character Bibliography

Character Name:

- Ashley Brown

Physical:

- Physically, Ashley Brown looks like the average 19-year-old girl. With her slight Southern drawl, she gets from her mother, she speaks with a sort of growl when addressing her prey. Her blue-gray eyes have a way of looking into the soul when making eye contact with others. Ashley has a decently normal build, but she towers over others. Standing at just over 5'10", even her sinister father was intimidated by her stature. Her luscious wavy black hair flows effortlessly down to the middle of her back, creating a sort of "V-shape". Ashley's clothing style is anything but predictable, but she feels the most confident in a sweatshirt and leggings. Her favorite colors to wear are black, green, and white. She thrives on simplicity but loves to accessorize with jewelry. She lets her natural beauty shine through, wearing little to no makeup on an everyday basis. However, when on a mission, Ashley sports all black attire and bright red lipstick that leaves a killer mark on her victim's foreheads. Lastly, Ashley has a tattoo of a python wrapped around a black tiger lily, and it takes up most of her back.

Personality:

- Depending on the circumstances, Ashley's personality comes in many different forms. She has mastered the art of manipulation which leads people to think fondly of her, until her facade is broken down. There is something about her personality that is captivating but daunting. She is sarcastic, narcissistic, and guarded. Every part of her personality is utilized to keep people out of her secrets but draw them in for the kill. She wants to know everything about you, and for you to know nothing about her. Narcissism is the main aspect of Ashley. Every mirror she sees, she looks in it; she is always right, for everyone else is wrong; et cetera. Ashley is not afraid to attack first even if it means losing a part of herself in the process. She is strong, independent, extremely confident, and exceedingly driven. Her childhood led her down a complicated path when it comes to her emotions towards others. There is a part of her that yearns for a normal life, and she sometimes wishes things could be different. But alas, this life was her destiny and she learned to embrace it.

Life Experiences:

- **Event 1:** When Ashley was a child, she used to be a phenomenal figure skater. She would practice 6 days a week for 5 hours a day. Figure skating helped her escape from stress and any sort of worry that came with her everyday life. It also taught her balance,

patience, and concentration. However, when she was 12 years old Ashley tore her ACL doing a triple axel and has not been able to skate ever since. She relied on figure skating as a means of survival, and after the accident she had nothing left to lose but time. For a year, Ashley went down a gnarly path of self-destruction and loss of hope, hope that was eventually revived through the murderous teachings of her father.

- **Event 2:** In the winter of Ashley's senior year of high school, she adopted a ball python named Monte. Monte taught Ashley that some things in life deserve to be loved, and she was going to make sure that Monte was never lonely. She spends every waking moment with her snake and loves him as much as she could. He is the one thing that could not hurt her. Although Ashley's occupation implies that she should not become attached to anyone or anything, Monte is more than just a pet. He saved Ashley from falling off the deep end during her senior year, and without him, Ashley would have no humility left. Ashley and Monte are soulmates, and she would be lost without him.
- **Event 3:** Before she left for college, Ashley's parents made a dangerous enemy. This person stalked them, harassed them, and overall made their lives a living hell. Two weeks before move in day, Ashley got a call saying her parents were brutally murdered. The only thing left at the crime scene was a red lip stain on both her mother and father's foreheads. Ever since that day, when Ashley was going for a kill, she put bright red lipstick on to warn enemies that she is always watching. Although her parents did detrimental harm to her mental state, she mourned their deaths like no other. And to this day she sees their cold, blue faces in her dreams. She vowed to avenge their gruesome deaths, and her determination is a force to be reckoned with.

Current Situation:

- Ashley is currently living in her college dorm in New York City. She is aimlessly searching for new targets and is even making a poster stating she is a hit man looking for work. It has been 2 months since her last mission, which she failed terribly, and three months since her parents' murder. School has taken on a new level of stress as finals season is approaching, and Ashley needs some sort of release. Out of nowhere, Ashley receives a message from an unknown number providing a new target and an address. This job is not one for the faint of heart. Ashley will face troubles throughout the course of this journey. Whether it is deception, betrayal, mendacious partnerships, and heartbreak, this assignment will not be completed without the tribulations. She will finally see the highs and lows of her criminal career, and she will have to do whatever it takes to succeed.

Section 3: Character Inspiration

Character Inspiration 1:

- Galina “Red” Reznikov: *Orange is the New Black*
- I chose Red as an inspiration for the character Ashley because of her domineering personality. I wanted the focal point of Ashley’s personality to be centered around Red’s. When Red is around people, new or old, she demands respect and reverence. She is unimaginably unapologetic, and it is one of my favorite things about her. I wanted Ashley’s character to make people feel her power. Like Red, Ashley is a force to be reckoned with. She is strong, independent, and unforgettable. She has a way of capturing attention when she walks by and enjoys every minute of the spotlight. When Piper Chapman insults Red, Chapman is served a tampon sandwich for a meal. When crossed, Ashley will attack twice as hard. No mercy is given until wrongs have been made right. And even then, the wrongs will never be forgotten. The intimidation involved in Red is exactly the kind of intimidation I want the audience to feel when in the presence of Ashley.

Character Inspiration 2:

- Don Drapper: *Mad Men*
- Don Drapper was a heavy influence towards Ashley’s attitude and work ethic. When Don Drapper walks into a room, he grabs people’s attention immediately. First off, because of his looks, but secondly, because of the way he presents himself. He presents himself as an assertive, self-reliant kind of businessperson. No one second guesses his work, and he never fails to impress those who doubt his talent. I wanted this exact ideology embedded into the soul of Ashley. Like Don, Ashley presents herself as confident and tenacious. She will not stop until she succeeds, and that is another thing she and Don have in common. In both Don and Ashley’s line of work, they need to be able to think quickly on their feet. They cannot forgo strategy at the hands of doubt. When stumbling across a problem, Don takes a moment to assess the situation at hand and makes sound judgments in a mere matter of seconds. Ashley is designed to do the same thing. Her code is to never crack under pressure. When something goes wrong on a mission, she does not choke. Instead, she takes action and gets the job done.

Character Inspiration 3:

- Joan Carol Clayton: *Girlfriends*
- I chose Joan Clayton as inspiration because of her self-worth. Joan is an independent, beautiful, and strong woman. When her coworker blatantly disrespects her, she does not bow down. Instead, she stands up for herself when confronted by him. In such a male-dominated profession, Joan is forced to put herself out there and make herself heard, and she is determined to stand out. I wanted to evoke that same determination and stamina

into the heart of Ashely. When Joan is treated coarsely, she makes it known that she will not tolerate it because she knows she deserves more than that. Ashley needs to be able to stick up for herself because no one else will, and I was determined to put a sense of self-worth into the hands of Ashley because she will need it the most.

Section 4: Techniques and Explanation

Technique 1: Color as a Symbol- An Abundance of Color- 21 seconds

- I wanted to create multiple versions of Ashley to represent the diverse ways in which people see her. In the opening scene, Ashley is seen surrounded by white and yellow lighting, which is used to represent purity and innocence that people expect from her. Then immediately afterwards the lights turn a deep red color. Red can be used to represent a myriad of things such as power, control, and sexual tension. In Ashley's case, I wanted there not only to be a power play when it comes to her and the audience, but I also wanted her to look like an enticer. She has the power to swoon men with just the sound of her voice, and the red accents/lighting help give that power. Furthermore, red is quite a dark color, and creates very dark pictures at times. Because of this, the darkness in the red emits a sense of danger, deceit, pain/suffering, and overall discomfort towards the future. Whether it is her red lipstick, or the red lighting, the red depicts multiple story lines for Ashley.

Technique 2: Extreme Close-Up- 20 seconds

- The extreme close-up in the video is utilized to show Ashley's emotion. In this shot, Ashley is seen in red lighting for the first time, and the camera is focused solely on her unnerving smirk. The close-up lets me show the audience her indifference towards human life. To her, they are nothing more than a mission. The audience can see the evil side of her that they did not see initially. This camera shot shows how deceitful she can be, but it also makes the audience feel a little uncomfortable. They cannot see any other part of her body except for the sinister smile, and this leads to various emotions. The viewers are supposed to feel anxious for what is to come. They are meant to feel apprehensive towards Ashley's character. The close-up allows me to get multiple points across in a matter of a couple seconds; therefore, it was my favorite shot to film.

Technique 3: Deliberate Choice of Music- 1 second

- The choice of music involved in the video is intended to evoke certain emotions in the viewers. Right at the beginning of the video, the music selection creates an eerie, and almost haunting type of connotation. The music that is heard is a song layered 3 separate times creating an everlasting sound. The piece implies that there is something going on, even if the visuals do not show this implication. Then the music switches to a drastically different genre of song. This song is much more upbeat and empowering. This helps elucidate the energy Ashley feels when getting ready for a new mission. It gets the viewers excited for what is to come. Then after a couple seconds, the music switches back to the original, somber piece. This reels the viewers' attention back to the initial point of the series. Ashley is getting ready for an assassination, and she needs to become grounded and calm. The somber, and slow progression of the melody makes the viewers

feel calmer than they were before. However, it does not exclude the underlying connotations involved in the piece: the dying heartbeat of Ashley's target.