

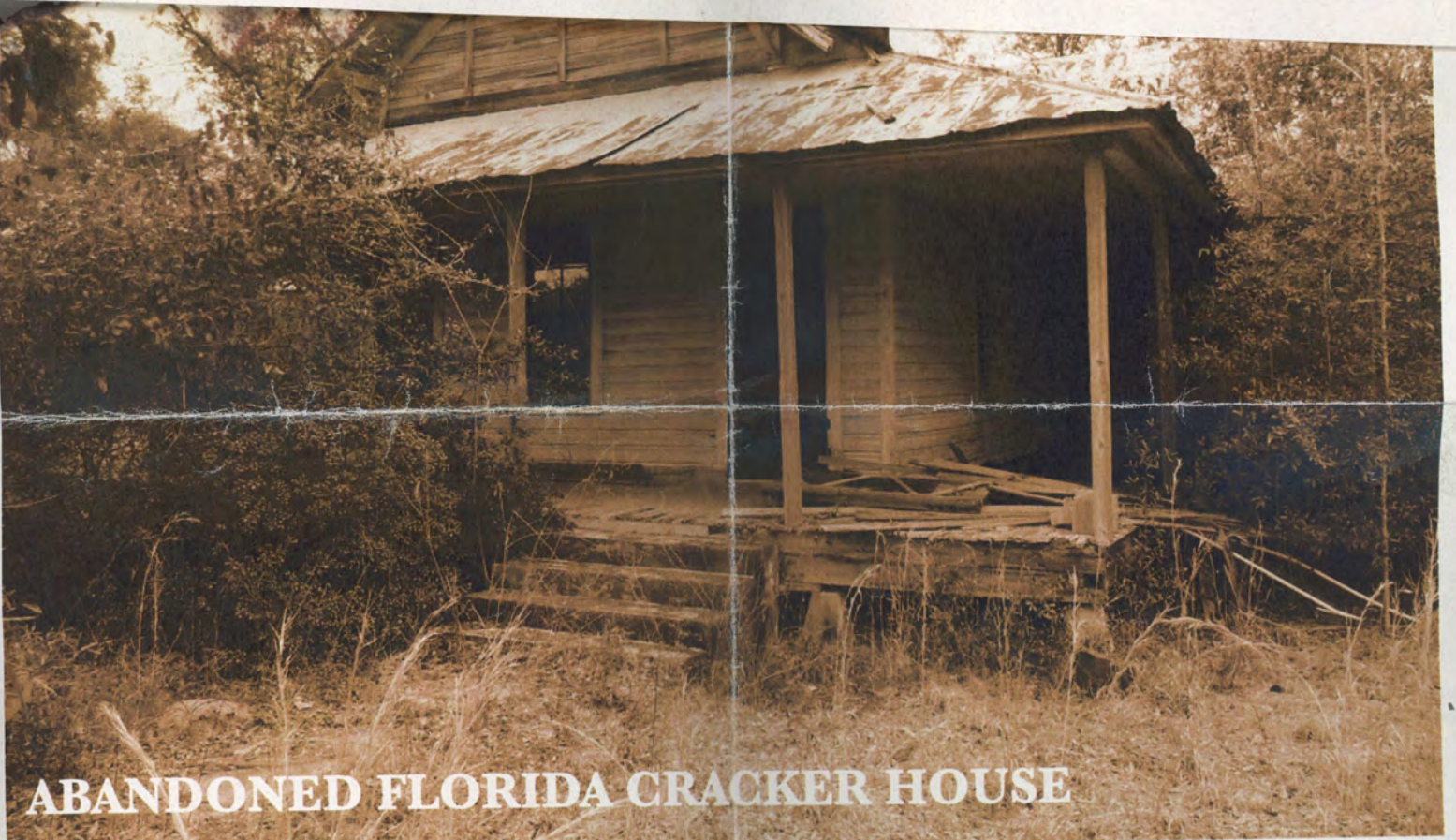
I'm sorry,

-Sam

Written By Sammie Zenoz



MIAMI, FLORIDA | EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK



ABANDONED FLORIDA CRACKER HOUSE

PREMISE

I'm Sorry, Sam weaves together the stories of two women's journey to find their way back to each other.

The one hour drama series follows Sam and Emma, a happily married lesbian couple living a cozy life in the mountains. That is, until one night Sam disappears without a trace. Desperate to find out what's happened to her wife, Emma starts an investigation into her dark past using a mysterious box of handwritten apology letters to lead the way. With the help of Sam's estranged brother, Tim, and her former childhood best friend, Bailey, the trio track down the people from Sam's letters.

As the ragtag team of misfits travel around the city of Miami unraveling Sam's dark and disturbing past, we also follow Sam who has been abducted by an unstable man and taken hostage somewhere deep in the Florida Everglades. There she is coerced into a twisted game of manipulation set forth by a mysterious man hellbent on revenge against Sam and a whole list of irredeemably bad men. It is up to Sam to figure out how these men are connected and the identity of the mystery man before it's too late.

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GENRE

When we are following the thread of Sam's story it should feel like we are in a psychological thriller with a southern gothic aesthetic.

When we are following the thread of Emma's story it should feel like a mystery drama with comedic moments.

By the end of the series the two story threads, along with their genres, will merge together.

THEME

*Identity. Redemption. Revenge. Corruption.
Found Family. Second Chances.*

TONE

Gone Girl meets Miami. Saw meets the Everglades Swamp.

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CHARACTERS

EMMA (mid 30's)

A lesbian artist living in Boulder, Colorado, where she grew up with an affluent family. Emma believes that shitty people never change and that the world is full of bullies who deserve to be punished. She's tough as nails, fiercely overprotective, with a fiery attitude. When Emma first met Sam while on a beach getaway in Miami, it was love at first sight. Seven years later, Emma is happily married to Sam and living a cozy life in the mountains making art. When Sam disappears in the middle of the night after some strange behavior, Emma will do anything to bring her home. Deep down, she knows something is wrong and she follows that feeling all the way to Miami. Here she'll learn terrible truths about her wife's former life and she will feel like she's married to a stranger. As Emma dives deeper into Sam's dark past she will begin to lose faith in their relationship and question everything she knows about her wife. In the end only fierce loyalty and true love can keep her going. Emma will need to change the rigid views she has in order to see Sam for the changed person she is. Emma will leave this story believing that anyone is capable of change so long as it's in their hearts, but first she must face everything that's meant to tear her relationship apart.

SAM (mid 30's)

A hunky brooding woman (think Jason Momoa but lesbian) working for a non-profit foundation in Boulder, Colorado for very little money. After a difficult childhood and a dark transition into adulthood, Sam feels an overwhelming sense of guilt for the terrible person she used to be. Sam lied. She cheated. She stole. She betrayed trust. She ruined lives. But after digging herself so deep into a hole of misery, Sam was desperate for a way out and found it when she met her kind and moral wife Emma. It was love at first sight for Sam too, and from one day to the next she found herself packing a uhaul truck and moving across the country, leaving her former life behind. Without a word to anyone except her beloved older brother, Tim, she disappears. For seven years, Sam lives a wholesome healthy life with her beautiful wife but the guilt of the past threatens to drag her back down constantly so she begins to write apology letters to all the people she hurt in the past but ultimately decides to never send them and keeps them hidden away much like her dark mysterious past. When Sam is given a prestigious award for her stellar character and service to the community on the same day a letter from her estranged brother arrives begging her to come back, she goes on a downward spiral of guilt. The

buzz around Sam's award ceremony has garnered her some unwanted attention and she is abducted by a crazed kidnapper. When Sam realizes she's been taken she knows deep down that she deserves to pay for the crimes she committed in the past. Sam believes that she doesn't deserve forgiveness. When Sam is threatened and coerced by the **mystery man**, she'll do anything to protect Emma and keep her out of this mess. When we learn the mystery man has made a list of people to take his revenge against, Sam is not surprised when she finds out her name is on there too. The mystery man forces Emma to act as his messenger in his cruel game of manipulation, sending her on a quest to blackmail and extort a group of irredeemably bad men one by one and deliver a threatening message from the mystery man. Sam later learns that each of the mystery man's messages is the same thing, an appeal to show up to an undisclosed location at a certain time and day. As Sam gets dragged further into the mystery man's games the line between good and bad blurs as she takes pleasure in watching douchebags get their comeuppance. Sam will have to fight for Emma certainly but she will also have to fight for herself. In the end Sam faces the demons of her past and learns to forgive herself but only after extraordinary hardship.

TIM (40's)

Sam's estranged older brother, a washed up former garage band rocker that sells pot and smokes too much weed. After a difficult childhood growing up alongside Sam, the two siblings haven't spoken in nearly a decade when Tim decides to send her a letter asking her to come home to Miami and be a family again. Tim is a father and a husband struggling to be a good man and take care of his family. He likes to think he has it all figured out but really it's just a show because he has a lot of growing up to do before the world sees him as something more than a failed, wannabe rockstar. The search for his sister will give him a second chance to get his shit together once and for all, but not before pushing him to the brink. His relationship with his wife and kids will suffer as Sam's disappearance dredges up the past. Tim starts the series lost and uncertain of his capabilities, and will end it knowing exactly who he and what he wants out of life, but will it be enough to keep his family safe and together?

BAY (30's)

Sam's former best friend, a tattooed foul-mouthed rowdy bartender with a drug problem. She is hot-headed but also a fiercely loyal friend. Bay is generous and kind with her bar guests but will bash a drunk asshole over the head with a bottle if he gets out of line. When the series begins, Bay is dealing with a heavy amount of trauma from her dark and difficult past while navigating her resurfacing emotions from

when Sam left her behind without ever looking back. Though Bay is tough as nails, she's still hurt from the past. As Bay deals with her spiraling substance abuse problem, she knows helping Emma find Sam is the best way to confront her former friend and more importantly get back the thousand dollars that Sam stole.

TJ (15)

Sam's sweet, young, naive, bullied nephew with a rescuer complex. TJ wants nothing more than to help find his Aunt Sam, but must battle through the woes of living within a dysfunctional family and a father who constantly lets him down. TJ begins the series as a freshman at a new high school, as excited as any teenager can be about school. He's proud and excited to be attending the same high school as his father and aunt, but is dejected when he is targeted by a group of vicious guys called the Alphas.

RICKY (17)

A horned up teenage boy desperate for male approval because of his absent abusive father. Ricky lives with his single mother who is on a constant string of dates with losers and douchebags, which causes Ricky to hate women and treat them like objects. When Ricky is tapped to join the Alpha's he is easily indoctrinated into a secret toxic alpha male society at his high school. Ricky begins the series as a deeply insecure teenage boy who will do anything to prove himself worthy. As the series progresses Ricky undergoes a series of tests and challenges to prove his loyalty and worthiness of being an Alpha.

PAUL ELLISON (50's)

The current principal of the high school, a calculated vicious man and the secret leader of the Alpha's. A former youth counselor when a younger Sam was still attending high school. An abusive man who is hiding a trove of dark secrets.

MYSTERY MAN (mid 30's)

Paul Ellison's son, Preston, a deeply disturbed man and the mastermind behind a violently dangerous plot for revenge against his father and others from his sordid past he has judged as "irredeemable". He's a terrifyingly brilliant psychopath who is always one step ahead of the game. He will stop at nothing to destroy his victims using blackmail and extortion to manipulate his targets and move them like pieces on a chess board. He is madly in love with his criminally insane male lover, Dulian, who he uses to stake out the high school and set a terrible trap. In the end the mystery man will have to choose between sacrificing his lover or executing his plan for revenge.

EPISODES - SEASON ONE

001 - "LIKE A BIRD"

When her wife, Sam, disappears in the middle of the night, Emma decides to start her own investigation into Sam's past using a mysterious box of handwritten apology letters to lead the way. With the help of Sam's estranged brother, Tim, Emma tracks down her wife's childhood best friend, a hot-headed bartender named Bailey and together they all form a pact to find Sam, wherever she is. Meanwhile, Sam has been abducted by an unstable man named Griff and taken somewhere deep in the Florida Everglades, two thousand miles away from her home. Sam makes a brave attempt to escape by stealing Griff's car and leaving him stranded on the side of the highway, but how far will she get?

002 - "Swamp Music"

Sam manages to escape in a stolen car but her abductor Griff is close on her tail. Sam tries to find help in a remote town off the highway named Alligator Valley, but she runs into some trouble with the locals who don't like visitors. Meanwhile, with Bailey missing in action, Tim and Emma track down an elderly neighbor named Grimelda, and learn more horrific truths about Sam's past, which produces an unexpected clue. Back in the Everglades, Sam is recaptured by Griff.

003 - "EVERYDAY IS EXACTLY THE SAME"

Sam is taken to a remote hideaway deep in the swamp where she learns the real identity of Griff who has been blackmailed to kidnap her by an unknown force. On the other side of the city, Emma tracks down Bailey and rescues her from a drunken bar fight but learns there is more to Bailey's troubles than what's at the surface. On his own, Tim chases another lead from Sam's letters all the way to the local high school, but juggling his sister's investigation and his own family problems starts to weigh down on him. Back in the Everglades, Sam makes another desperate attempt to escape that winds up killing Griff.

004 - "DEAD LEAVES AND THE DIRTY GROUND"

In the aftermath of his death, Sam tries to make use of Griff's cellphone to get help but instead receives a disturbing phone call from the mysterious man behind her abduction. Sam's hopes of returning home are destroyed when the man on the phone forces her to take part in his plans for revenge in exchange for Emma's safety. Sam is given her first task, to shakedown a shady stripclub owner named Terry and deliver a message from the mystery man. Somewhere close by, Emma, Bailey, and Tim follow up on their latest lead at the high school and help a janitor named Yolanda reconnect with her estranged daughter in

exchange for a vital piece of information that could lead them to uncover the identity of someone who would want to hurt Sam. As Sam successfully completes her first task, the moral line between good and bad begins to blur. Before she has time to process it, she's assigned her next task.

005 - "MASTER OF PUPPETS"

Emma, Tim, and Bailey hunt down Sam's former classmate, a difficult man named Felipe who refuses to help them because he holds a bitter grudge against Sam for ruining his life as teenagers. The trio must work together to convince Felipe that Sam has changed but tensions run high as they argue over whether Sam deserves to even be helped. Meanwhile, Sam is off on her next task, to shakedown a skeevy attorney named Greg, a surprisingly easy task until she spots Emma along with Tim and Bailey, which throws her off her game. Eventually Emma and the rest of the team convince Felipe to tell them what he knows, and they are rewarded with a huge piece of information: the name of a former teacher who had it out for Sam when she was younger. Sam calls Emma from a burner phone and tells her to stop looking for her and to go home.

006 - "SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL"

Emma makes the difficult decision to stop the search for Sam. Tim invites Emma over for one last dinner where Tim's teenage son TJ begs them not to give up on Sam. Somewhere on ocean drive, Sam works on her next task, a visit to shakedown a nice man named Raphael. When Raphael's sweet little family comes into the picture, Sam is devastated by her part in the mystery man's games and begins to have second thoughts about her involvement. Meanwhile, Bailey returns to the drudgery of her job as a bartender on the beach, convinced that she was right about Sam not being able to change. That is, until she has a chance encounter with a hysterical Sam who runs away in fear when she tries to approach. Finally convinced that something must be terribly wrong, Bailey finds Emma at Tim's and tells them both what she saw. Together they decide to keep investigating.

007 - "AERIALS"

Emma, Tim, and Bay search for the current whereabouts of Mr. Escobar, a retired teacher who hated Sam when she was younger and so far their only lead. On her end, Sam waits for the mystery man to reach out again with his next task and tries to quit but the mystery man doubles down on his threats against Sam and her loved ones. Curious as to how this mystery man knows so much about her life, Sam decides to continue working for him in the hopes of gathering enough clues to uncover his identity and put a stop to his manipulative games. Tim is called away

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from the search for Mr. Escobar to deal with TJ who is being bullied by a group of guys at the high school called the Alphas, led by a varsity athlete and senior named Ricky. Tim and TJ skip out on school and work to spend the day at the arcade, where they find another person from Sam's letters, a streetwise drug dealer named Chico, who may have some good information.

008 - "BEFORE I FORGET"

When the mystery man assigns Sam her next task to shakedown a violent and dangerous criminal, he sends someone to help Sam get the job done, a former boyfriend named Ziggy, a greedy selfish man only interested in looking out for his own shallow interests. Sam bitterly clashes with Ziggy as they are attacked by their new target. They barely make it out alive and must learn to work together if they're going to survive. Meanwhile, TJ makes friends with a new student at school, young freshman Judy, who quickly becomes a popular girl. When Ricky and the Alphas bully a smaller kid in the cafeteria, TJ stands up for him but gets the crap beat out of him again. Emma, Tim, and Bailey confront Mr. Escobar and learn they have been led down a false trail, but their luck turns around when they learn about the Alphas and the identity of their leader, Principal Ellison, who may be the key to this whole mystery.

009 - "DOWN WITH THE SICKNESS"

A deep dive into Principal Ellison reveals a disturbing pattern of abuse and violence, the discovery of which sends Emma, Tim, and Bay on a terrifying race to get to Sam, fearing that Ellison is responsible for her disappearance. Meanwhile, Sam and Ziggy get closer as they work their way through the final task, hunting down a crooked Miccosukee cop named Che who chases them down with gunfire when they deliver the mystery man's message. Ziggy saves Sam from certain death, and together they escape to their hideaway deep in the swamp where they share an intimate moment. Back at the high school, Ricky takes advantage of Judith, sexually assaulting her in an empty classroom. TJ along with a new friend named Jane, vow to help her get revenge on Ricky and the Alphas. Emma, Tim, and, Bay follow Sam to the hideaway where Emma witnesses Ziggy kiss Sam. The mystery man delivers the time and location of the final task to all his targets: the following day at the high school auditorium.

010 - "FORTUNATE SON"

Sam faces a heartbroken and furious Emma. Tensions among the group are at an all time high as they camp out for the night at their secret hideaway. Huddled together in the dark swamp house they all try to form a plan to stop this mystery man but before they can get far,

crooked copper Che returns with his hunting buddies to kill Sam and Ziggy. Together they run for their lives in a terrifying chase through the dark wet swamplands. The group manages to escape and find a safe haven somewhere for the night. Sam and Ziggy get rid of their cell phones so that the mystery man can't track them. Sam finally tells Emma the truth about her dark past, and is about to share information about Principal Ellison when they are interrupted by the rest of the group. Back at the high school, TJ and Jane console traumatized Judith and try to convince her to go to her parents for help but she resists. TJ experiences an unexpected kiss with Jane that Judith secretly witnesses, sending her into a spiraling depression because of her unspoken feelings for him. TJ and Jane go out in search of Judith when she goes missing and they find her dead body. Judith has committed suicide.

011 - "ANGEL OF DEATH"

A devastated TJ navigates his grief alone. Jane tries to talk to him but he is inconsolable. After school, TJ attacks Ricky but the fight is broken up and they are sent to Principal Ellison's office, where he tells the two boys they must settle their fight like real men. Principal Ellison locks TJ and Ricky in the gymnasium and tells them to fight it out and that he will be back to collect them once his award ceremony in the auditorium is over. Sam and Emma along with Tim, Bailey, and Ziggy stake out the high school but are careful not to enter inside the building for fear that there may be a dangerous trap set by the mystery man. Worried about the safety of innocent bystanders, Sam sneaks away from the group and runs inside to set off the fire alarms but is knocked unconscious by an imposter janitor named Dulian, who works for the mystery man. Dulian throws Sam into the auditorium with the rest of the "irredeemables" and an unwitting Principal Ellison, securing the doors with locks and heavy chains, effectively trapping them all inside. Meanwhile Ricky and TJ fight it out in the gymnasium, while TJ begs Ricky to settle things peacefully, Ricky attacks ruthlessly thirsty for blood and to prove himself dominant. As time ticks down to the final second, the mystery man's voice comes over the school's PA system.

012 - "RAINING BLOOD"

The mystery man delivers a speech over the PA system that tells the story of Principal Ellison's abusive and violent transgressions that stem back decades, which eventually loops around to Sam. We learn that Sam witnessed Ellison beat and abuse his wife because she was good friends with his son in the ninth grade. We learn that when Ellison's wife turned up dead, Sam never came forward with what she saw when confronted by investigators. Eventually the wife's death was ruled an

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accident, and the son Preston was sent away to a boarding school and then later disowned by his father. The irredeemables along with Ellison try to escape but they are trapped as a massive fire begins to burn causing the room to fill up with smoke. In the gymnasium, Ricky has pummeled the crap of TJ when smoke and fire start filling the room. Ricky tries to escape on his own but gets injured. TJ refuses to leave a stranded Ricky behind and thinks quickly to get them both to safety. Jane shows up just in the nick of time to get them out of the way of the roaring fire. Tim, Emma, Bailey, and Ziggy rush into the school to rescue Sam. They confront Dulian, the imposter janitor and learn about his connection to the mystery man. Just in time before the fire collapses the roof, the group manages to get the doors to the auditorium open. Emma and Ziggy get Sam safely out of the building. Ziggy sacrifices himself to save the group, dying in the perilous fire. Everyone makes it out alive miraculously, and Dulian is handed over to the police, but the mystery man, now known as Ellison's estranged son, is still at large somewhere out in the world.

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