



Don't Move In



*'They can have their dream of a happy marriage and a family...
All they have to do is Don't Move In.'*

SUPERNATURAL HORROR SHORT FILM

Project Overview

They can still have the life they dream of—a happy marriage, a future, a family. All they have to do is, Don't Move In.

TITLE	Don't Move In
FORMAT	Short film
GENRE	Supernatural horror
RUNTIME	8 minutes 4 seconds
YEAR OF RELEASE	2019
COUNTRY / LANGUAGE	United Kingdom / English
WRITTEN BY	Madeline McQueen
DIRECTED & PRODUCED BY	Madeline McQueen
FILMING LOCATION	Maidstone, Kent

Project at a Glance

CONCEPT A young couple discover that their dream home is already occupied—by the dead.

SETTING An elegant, isolated house whose polished rooms conceal unfinished lives and buried horrors.

TOPE Intimate, atmospheric and increasingly uncanny, with domestic aspiration turned into supernatural dread.

Logline & Synopsis

Logline

John and Sarah Jenkins believe they have found the perfect house for their future—until restless spirits begin tormenting Sarah, some trying to warn her away and others determined to make her stay.

Short Synopsis

John Jenkins and his wife, Sarah, arrive to view a beautiful, isolated house owned by the enigmatic landlord Nathan Edwards. The property appears to be everything they have been searching for, but Sarah soon senses an unease beneath its polished surfaces. The house is not empty, and its dead occupants have very different plans for the couple.

Expanded Synopsis

From the moment John and Sarah step inside, the house feels like a dream—elegant, inviting and seemingly made for the life they hope to build. Yet as they become increasingly captivated by it, Sarah feels something she cannot explain: an unease that crawls beneath the floors and lingers in the shadows. The walls seem to watch. The silence feels deliberate. The house begins to whisper its secrets.

Trapped within are restless spirits, bound to the property by unfinished lives and buried horrors—including the late Mrs Edwards, whose presence still clings to every room. Together, the dead share a single purpose: to drive John and Sarah away before it is too late.

But the house has its own plans. If Sarah and John move in, they may never leave.

Creative Vision

Don't Move In began as a feature-film idea that I condensed into a short. As a lifelong admirer of horror and paranormal stories, I was drawn to the contrast between an apparently perfect home and the unseen histories held within it.

The film takes a familiar aspiration—a happy marriage, a future and a family—and turns it into a warning. The house is beautiful enough to inspire trust, while its stillness and isolation allow doubt to gather slowly around Sarah.

The spirits are not presented as a single threat. Some are frightening, some tragic and some are trying to protect the couple from something worse. Their unfinished suffering gives the supernatural imagery an emotional purpose beyond the immediate scares.

The creative aim was an intimate supernatural horror story built through atmosphere, performance and practical imagery, with inspiration drawn from ensemble ghost stories and haunted-house cinema.

MADELINE MCQUEEN

Creator & Writer

People Behind the Project

Principal Cast

NATHAN EDWARDS Peter Frost

JOHN JENKINS Robert Dye

SARAH JENKINS Kelsey Parker

THE HANGED MAN Andrew Green

THE POISONED Gary Fuchs

LATE MRS EDWARDS Debra Hensman

THE BROKEN Madeline McQueen

THE DROWNED Eliza Rose

THE BEATEN Katya Gleeson

THE GRIEVED LOVER Jamie Alexander Gleeson

THE ANGUISHED FATHER Dave Kast

Key Crew

WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER Madeline McQueen

CO-CINEMATOGRAPHER Kelsey Parker

MAKE-UP DEPARTMENT HEAD Rebecca Taylor

MAKE-UP ARTIST Les T

COMPOSER Tom Rickerby

ADDITIONAL MUSIC Aakash Gandhi and Myuu

ART DESIGNER Andrew J. Parker

Production Stills

Selected stills from Don't Move In.



Sarah senses a presence in the house.



Sarah is confronted by a spirit.



A restless spirit closes in.



Peter showing Sarah and John around.



The spirits getting restless



The Spirits taking control.

Behind the Scenes

A selection of photographs from the production in Maidstone, Kent.



Cast on location.



The ensemble between set-ups.

Awards & Press Information

Awards & Festival Recognition

WINNER · 2025 London International Filmmakers Festival — Best Short Script

WINNER · 2025 Santa Barbara International ShortFest — Best Comedy

WINNER · 2026 Denver Movie Awards — Best Short Horror

SEMI-FINALIST · 2026 New Orleans International Film Awards — Best Short Film

Creator Biography



Madeline McQueen is a UK-based actress, writer, director and producer whose work spans screen, voice performance and immersive theatre. Trained at Rose Bruford College, she is also a published author developing original projects across feature film, short film and television.

Press Contact

Madeline McQueen • Actress / Writer / Director / Producer

EMAIL Madeline.McQueen1+Press@gmail.com

WEBSITE www.Madeline-McQueen.com

INSTAGRAM @_madeline.mcqueen_

YOUTUBE @MadelineMcQueen1

X @MaddyMcQueen

Materials Available

Film link • Project information • Key art • Cast and crew information

Watch Don't Move In on YouTube

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