

Suspense

Mystery

Surprise  
Ending

DEVIN NIKKI THOMAS JON PETERSON AKIRA JACKSON  
AND  
TOM WOPAT  
IN

# Taking Grace

a film by Randy Huckabone

Can a small town Detective stop a serial murderer  
before Grace becomes his last sacrifice?

HUCKABONE FILMS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS  
A RANDY HUCKABONE FILM DEVIN NIKKI THOMAS JON PETERSON AKIRA JACKSON "TAKING GRACE" WRITTEN BY RANDY HUCKABONE  
EDITED BY RANDOLPH BUCKLEY MUSIC BY ROBERT MANNERS COSTUME DESIGNER AMANDA PANDA PRODUCTION DESIGNER WILLIAM TODD PHOTOGRAPHER SANDY GREEN  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS RANDY HUCKABONE PRODUCED BY JAMES BROTHERS DIRECTED BY RANDY HUCKABONE



a film by Randy Huckabone



Randy P. Huckabone  
Writer | Director | Producer  
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SILVIA

So, how do we know this is criminal and not just a hobby? An artist sends body parts to the local Police Department. Why do we care?

Rooney looks off thinking.

ROONEY

A hunch Rhodes. A very strong hunch. I have it ... the Sheriff had it ... (Turning to Silvia) and I know you're feeling it too.

# Taking Grace



## Taking Grace

In a small seaside town, a serial killer is sculpting different body parts of his victims in order to create the perfect form to prove his worth and gain entrance into the kingdom of heaven. But when Silvia Rhodes, a small town Detective, arrives to take the case, and, Grace, a sassy high school student becomes his latest subject; the deranged artist begins to learn that sometimes life imitates art.

Can Silvia stop this serial murderer from making Grace, his final sacrifice and completing his masterpiece?



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Rated

**R (Anticipated)**

Film Status

**In Development**

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Genre

**Crime Thriller, Drama**

Cast

**Tom Wopat**

**Devin Nikki Thomas**

**Jon Peterson**

**Akira Jackson**

Shawndra wakes. This time she is bound in a different configuration. Her arms and ankles still bound, but this time her head in suspended so that her neck is slightly stretched in full view.

Shawndra tries to move her head but cannot.

Her eyes shift to Phillip who paces looking at her.

She swallows.

SHAWNDR  
(Emotional)

How did I get here? What do you want?

PHILLIP

You don't need to speak. The less you speak, the less you move, the faster the work.



## 'TAKING GRACE' SYNOPSIS

Phillip Mueller (Jon Peterson) is abducting young girls with specific body features to use as models to sculpt the 'Perfect Figure' in order to earn his passage into the kingdom of Heaven. When each body part is finished, he labels them with a word representing beauty, wraps the sculpt, and has it secretly sent to the local Police Department. Phillip then uses chloroform to render his victim unconscious and places them in a kiln, baking them until they are dust.

His work is nearly complete. Phillip only has one more body part to sculpt.

Detective Russell Rooney (Tom Wopat) has hired a young Detective, Silvia Rhodes (Devin Nikki Thomas), to help solve the puzzle of the mysterious wooden body part sculptures. He has been Detective of the small town of Seaside for several years and this is the biggest case this sleepy town has ever witnessed. Just when the case seems to have run its course, another girl goes missing leaving new clues as to whom the demented artist might be.

Phillip's latest victim is Shawndra, a smart, sassy, high-spirited student, who is new to Seaside and isn't easily controlled. Once captured, Phillip locks Shawndra in a cage and begins his process. His work however, is slowed by the constant interruptions from the young student. These interruptions soon turn into a conversation, which offers the young woman insight into Phillip's condition and hints of her fate.

Phillip soon renames Shawndra, Grace. The name of his final sculpt.

With every woodcarving that hits the Police Station floor and the valuable clues the Detectives discover, the events soon become a race against time. Can the Detectives put together enough pieces to find Phillip's lair before he completes his masterpiece, or will Shawndra...Grace...be lost like the victims before her?



**Detective  
Silvia Rhodes**  
Devin Nikki Thomas

**Detective  
Russell Rooney**  
Tom Wopat



**Shawndra Miller**  
Akira Jackson



**Phillip Mueller**  
Jon Peterson

MICHELLE

(To Rooney)

We heard you found a clue ... a carving of Julia Chase's hand. I brought pictures of Amy.

Michelle points at a photo of Amy Worth-child.

MICHELLE

You can see her hand in this photo. Does that look right?

The group behind her all start showing and pointing at photos.

Rooney raises his hands.

ROONEY

Please! Please! One at a time!

The crowd quiets.

ROONEY

(Speaking so all can hear)

We will address each one of you individually. But I will tell you that our search is for young adults between the ages of thirteen and nineteen. Females only. That's it for now.



## Taking Grace Cast



### Tom Wopat as Detective Russell Rooney

Tom Wopat is an actor and singer who shot to fame in the television hit show 'The Dukes of Hazard'. Since then, he has appeared in other films such as *Crisis Center*, *Django Unchained* and *The Hive*.



### Jon Peterson as Phillip Mueller

Jon Peterson is a British stage and screen actor who has appeared in San Mendes' two revivals of *Cabaret* on Broadway and Off-Broadway in *George M Cohan Tonight!* which won him the Drama Desk Award.



### Devin Nikki Thomas as Detective Silvia Rhodes

Devin is a New York based actress with an incredible range. The sincerity in her eyes and the strength in her voice give her the fundamentals needed to portray this young Detective trying to solve the biggest case of her career.



### Akira Jackson as Shawndra (Grace)

This newcomer to the screen was selected out of over four hundred submissions for the part of 'Grace'. Her fire and sassy performance made her the perfect candidate as the young high school student caged by a serial madman.

*"Art should be something that liberates your soul, provokes the imagination and encourages people to go further."*  
~ Keith Haring



## Randy Huckabone

Writer | Director | Producer

- Writer of over fifteen feature-length scripts
- Director of award winning commercials and promotional videos
- Director and Producer of four feature-length films

For the past twenty-six years Randy Huckabone has been developing his filmmaking process. Starting as a storyboard artist on the sci-fi feature *Yesterday's Target*, starring Daniel Baldwin, Stacy Haiduk, LeVar Burton and Malcolm McDowell, Randy quickly moved into writing feature-length scripts which eventually lead to directing and producing several low budget, without-a-crew, experimental films with some success. With these films, he gained experience in writing, all facet's of pre, post and production of a film, cinematography, editing, marketing, producing and of course, designing cinematic shots and extracting performances as a director of feature films.

Things soon changed, however, when a chain of events caused Randy to rethink his process. First, his attempt at shooting the sci-fi suspense thriller *Faces* failed, twice, and second, two questions that were posed to him by his peers.

Those questions were:

"Don't you want to use a crew?" and "Your movies look great! If you can do that with \$5,000, what you can do with \$500,000?"

Randy is now moving away from without-a-crew experimental features into a higher budget to present his stories as they were meant to be seen. All his years of creating have built up like a pressure cooker waiting to be released.

The best is yet to come.

SHAWNDR

My name is Shawndra. Shawndra Miller.

Phillip holds up a finger.

PHILLIP

Ah ... you my sweet .... Are Grace. Your beautiful neck is proof of that. You've been named incorrectly.

He flips a page of the drawing pad.

PHILLIP

And you are my subject. A subject that I will turn into a great work of art. The last piece of my work.

SHAWNDR

(Fearful)

Yeah? And then what?

Phillip pauses.

PHILLIP

(Casually)

And then you will be free.

## Randy Huckabone's Previous Work



*"Is it possible to shoot a feature film, just as good as Hollywood, with no money?"*

*Randy Huckabone would find out the answer to that very question through years of pushing to produce without-a-crew feature films on the smallest budgets imaginable, and some would say he succeeded. One actor even stated at the premiere of one of his films 'how did you do that?'"*

*He would gather equipment, use his car as a grip truck, write, cast (using mostly local talent), shoot, get locations, direct, market (he did all of the design work on the movie posters and website) and even cater the feature films himself. For Randy it was the love of the work that fueled him.*

*"The quick answer" He said, "is 'Yes'. You CAN make a movie with no money and make it look fantastic. I've done it. But it's like asking if you can make an automobile with four wheels and an engine. Sure." Randy continues, "Two things my features suffered from were, getting a name actor involved, and the broad stroke of collaboration. While the director has the vision, the four wheels and the engine, adding a creative team into the mix, including a name people would know, gives you more colors in the pallet. It's the difference between a Porsche and a Pinto. Who doesn't stare at a Porsche when it drives by?"*

*Fully confident in his new process, Randy isn't taking any chances when it comes to his work.*

*"A director knows when his movie is off; even just a little. And once a film is out there, you can't get it back. So, you have to make it right. The first time." Randy states, "You have to learn how to fail in order to see how to succeed. My previous films taught me that. Now school is out and it's time to go to work."*



SILVIA

It's interesting. Rooney told me I was the key to solving this thing.

She looks at Bev.

SILVIA

I couldn't feel more in the dark now.

Bev moves to Silvia and places a hand on hers.

BEV

Russ knew people ... look around. He hand picked all of us. And he hand picked you as well. Trust in that. And get this monster.



SHAWNDRRA

You need to let me go.

Letting out a sigh, he looks at the sculpt  
in thought and then takes a seat.

The man sits and wipes his brow.

PHILLIP  
(Quietly)

You know I can't do that. Why can't you  
understand what I'm doing?

Shawndra sits in the cage close to him.

SHAWNDRRA

Mostly because I think you're super crazy.  
Like ... really, super, crazy.

PHILLIP

That's because you've never been called to  
glory to complete a task of this magni-  
tude. Beauty often can't see it while  
those of us with afflictions desire to be  
it.

A woman is sitting inside a wire cage in a dark, wooden structure, possibly a barn or a large room with a high ceiling. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong blue tint. The woman is looking towards the camera. The cage is made of thin metal bars and has a circular opening in the middle. The background shows the wooden beams and rafters of the structure.

## THE BUDGET (\$800,000)

PRE-PRODUCTION: \$219,316 (20-Day Pre-Production Schedule)

PRODUCTION: \$475,050 (20-Day Production Shoot)

POST-PRODUCTION: \$104,500 (20-Day Post-Production Schedule)

SILVIA

Mrs. Chase, there are hundreds of missing persons in the area. We just started to put this together.

Mrs. Chase stands.

RYAN CHASE

What kind of Detective work is this?

Silvia stands.

SILVIA

It's much harder than you'd think ...

RYAN CHASE

That is the biggest crock of shit I've ever heard.

Ryan clenches at the photo.

Rooney stands.

ROONEY

Mrs. Chase.

RYAN CHASE

This is my little girl! You find her! Do you hear me ... Find her!

THANK YOU

Taking  
*Grace*

a film by Randy P Huckabone

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PHILLIP

Things happen as they are intended. But now we can bring closure to it all. And we both can be free.

Phillip thinks a moment.

PHILLIP

Ya know ... I always felt like a bird trapped in a cage. Only now, do I feel the door has been opened.

Shawndra looks over at the small cloth and bottle of chloroform sitting near by.

SHAWNDRA

I'm scared.

Phillip stops.

PHILLIP

I know. In all honesty, I am as well.