



SCIONS OF GOD

THEY TOLD HER SHE WAS NOTHING...BECAUSE SHE WAS EVERYTHING



KindredQuest, Inc.

**A GRIPPING SUPERNATURAL/ACTION FILM
ABOUT A FEARLESS HEROINE.**

RUNNING TIME: 1:29:00

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Synopsis

After watching her mother's murder at the hands of the police, a frightened Tabitha Murren grows into a young woman who always obeys the law. But she finds herself bearing a new perspective when she is shot by a hostile police officer and finds herself with gifted powers that could save disheartened civilians from their oppressors.

The Story

Present-day. Bronhe, IL. The weather is unpredictable. Jobs are scarce. Abandoned buildings are everywhere. And police officers are constantly murdering people of color.

Tabitha Murren was raised to be a Scion Of God, a religious sect that holds true to the belief that its followers are the true descendants of God. These believers follow the testament of an ancient Egyptian pharaoh, Hatshepmose, who taught her followers that human beings and the universe become united through invocation. By speaking in the Pre-Coptic Egyptian language, these believers are able to manipulate the world around them. During this prayer, a Scion has the power to do what they want. And be who they want.

When Tabitha was a child, her mother taught her how to move physical objects with her mind by believing in the words of Hatshepmose. Soon after achieving these powers, Tabitha watched in horror as her mother was murdered by the police. Blaming herself and her religious beliefs for her mother's death, Tabitha turns away from the sect.

But years later when she becomes a woman and is attacked by the police herself, Tabitha realizes that the powers that she obtained as a child were subconsciously hidden in her mind to cope with her mother's death. She chooses to become a Scion once more, and finds herself able to camouflage with walls, lift cars from the ground and understand the connection between the universe and living beings. No longer afraid of the police, she readies herself to challenge them as vengeance for what they did to her mother and other innocent civilians. But as she uses her powers more, she learns a terrible secret about the police attacks that she could never have imagined.



Producer's Message



"I've wanted to be an entertainer almost all of my life, literally from the time that I was five years old. But there was an issue: I was a woman. And, I was Black. Two strikes against me.

Well...that sucked.

Growing up, I saw that most of the roles given to Black actresses were characters who were prostitutes, drug addicts, single mothers. Roles that attempted to destroy the Black woman's image. I did not grow up seeing Black women that way, so I always envisioned being an actress who could kick an Alien's ass like Ripley, slay an entire gang like The Bride, be courageous enough to kick the crap out of a liquid metal villain like Sarah Connor. Who the hell were these single Black mothers who were drug addicts and prostitutes? Who made up this crap? To me, these characters were equivalent to the Loch Ness Monster.

Frustrated that I could not have the awesome roles that were presented to women who were not of color (and men, too), I was told by my aunt, also a writer (not a drug addicted prostitute, thank you) that since I enjoyed writing so much, I should create roles for myself and for others like me. This is when KindredQuest, Inc. began.

With this film, it does not just showcase women of color in positive roles; it also touches on people embracing their history, their true selves, and the horrors of so many persons of color being killed by the police. Although the film itself is fictional, it embraces facts. And asks viewers, as a community, to continue to strive to change those facts.

People of color are not animals. We are not less than. We are not slaves, immigrants, people from "shithole" countries. We are human beings who have provided this earth with culture, vibrancy, and have contributed to history in major ways. We are human beings who deserve even the most basic human rights. I hope that, through my art, I can bring persons of different backgrounds together as an entire human race."



Production Team



Alessandra Pinkston-Executive Producer/Writer

KindredQuest, Inc. CEO and President Alessandra Pinkston has been a professional member of the film industry for over ten years. A SAG-AFTRA member and award-winning filmmaker, she has been seen in television shows on major networks such as The Discovery Channel, Animal Planet and The Style Network. Through her films, Pinkston continues to establish herself as the go-to actress for the “tough-girl” roles in film projects. One of her most popular projects includes the film Dearly Departed, which also stars the leading actress of the Zane’s Sex Chronicles series.

Pinkston was selected out of five hundred contestants to perform in famed casting director Twinkie Byrd’s Monologue Slam at the Hollywood Black Film Festival. Pinkston also received a Best Supporting Actress nomination for her role in the film Swhadisthana. Shortly after her feature in Inked magazine, Pinkston lent her writing talents to the popular Los Angeles play Femmes: A Tragedy. The script went on to win the Jane Chambers Award for Playwriting.

Pinkston’s award-winning film, The Testament of Karma, was showcased on Magic Johnson’s Aspire network to thousands of audience members nationwide. The film was also shown at various film festivals nationwide, winning the Audience Award at the Black Harvest Film Festival and the Curator’s Choice Award at the International Black Women’s Film Festival.

Recently, Pinkston took a short break from the acting field to focus more on her writing, as she believes that creating scripts allows her to get closer to her goal of opening up more doors for women in entertainment. Her scripts include Relative Aim, a sci-fi film, The Sorrow, a horror film, The Final Days of the Law, a supernatural/action film, and she has also been working on a collaborated script that focuses on martial arts. Pinkston continues to strive to bring strong female characters to the genres of supernatural, horror, action and sci-fi projects.



Jennifer Walters-Producer

Jennifer Walters is an Emmy award-winning producer with a wide range of experience.

Her producing expertise includes a variety of film and television projects including documentaries, food, fashion, travel, home improvement, news and live talk shows. Jennifer won two Emmy awards - one for news and one for entertainment. In addition, she was nominated seven times. One of her Emmy nominated projects was the documentary *Van Gogh, Cézanne, Gauguin*. She traveled to Paris in 2010 and interviewed top curators at the Musée d'Orsay. The documentary focused on the stories behind the treasured works by the masters of post-impressionism.

In addition, her documentary *Monet, Renoir, Degas* looks at the birth of impressionism and how a group of artists broke free from classical painting to launch what has become one of the most prolific eras in the history of fine arts. She traveled to Giverny to interview Monet's great granddaughter-in-law. Besides airing on ABC7, both documentaries were used as part of San Francisco's de Young Museum's prestigious and successful impressionist exhibit. At the time, the de Young Museum ranked fifth in attendance for U.S museums.

Another Emmy nomination was awarded to Jennifer for her work with ABC7 and the Hawaiian tourism board. She created a fast moving fun special highlighting parts of Hawaii. Jennifer has pitched, created, launched, and developed television shows including *Food Rush*, which currently airs on Disney-ABC's Live Well Network. It's a fun show that highlights a chef through his food adventures. It too was nominated for an Emmy Award.

She developed *Good Cookin'* with Bruce Aidells and *Home* with Lisa Quinn, which both air on Disney-ABC's Live Well Network. She sets up shoots across the nation for multiple shows, been in charge of social media marketing and provided editorial content for four television shows on Disney-ABC's Live Well Network. She has worked for CBS, FOX and NBC as well.

Currently, she is producing the live talk show *Young Americans* with Jenni Jwoww Farley on TLC.



Brian Nelson-Director

Nkem Big Chief Brian Harrison Nelson is one of the youngest known big chiefs in the history of the New Orleans Black Mardi Gras Indian Nation. In 2014 he was crowned a Nkem (royal chief), within the N'weh Nation of Cameroon, West Africa. Early in his film career at 18 years old, Brian was selected as one of the Sundance Film Festival's Generation Y Young Filmmaker honorees for a short film he wrote and directed entitled Choices. Choices was a public service announcement which explored life in New Orleans from a teenager's perspective who refused to participate in crime, drugs and gang activity in order to be a Indigenous cultural leader within the Mardi Gras Indian and Social Aid and pleasure traditions.

In 2011, Brian earned his MFA in cinematic arts from the University of Southern California. His thesis film, Keeper of the Flame, has received local, national, and international awards and honors including the prestigious Paul Robeson Award for Independent Black Film, special honors at the Femi International Film Festival of Guadeloupe, San Francisco Black Film Fest Best Short Film Award, San Diego Black Film Festival's Best Short Documentary Award, and New Orleans Film Festival's Emerging Voices Honor to name a few.

Big Chief Brian currently is filming a documentary entitled Hail to the Queens, supported by a grant from the Independent Television Service Diversity Development Fund. The film explores the Black Indian tradition from a woman's perspective.

As a filmmaker, Big Chief Brian has been closely mentored by Academy Award-winning director Jonathan Demme, actor and Emmy-winning screenwriter Harold Sylvester, USC School of Cinematic Arts professor Helaine Head, Afro Pop PBS television series producer Angela Tucker, America's Next Top Model executive producer Anthony Dominici, screenwriter of the hit film Stomp The Yard Gregory Anderson, writer and producer of Robin Hood: Men In Tights Pen Densham, and Get On The Bus editor Leander Sales.

As an actor, Brian portrayed the character of Trail Chief Wardell on HBO's Tremé series. In addition to filmmaking, Brian currently coordinates youth anti-bullying and literacy campaigns throughout New Orleans.



Sean T. Long-Consultant

Sean Long is the Director of Programming for Weigel Broadcasting, overseeing 12 television stations including WCIU-TV, Channel 26, The “U”, WCIU.2 (U-TOO), WMEU-TV (ME-TOO), and WDJT-TV (CBS). He is only one of a few African-American Program Directors at a broadcast television station in the United States.

Mr. Long began his career at WGCI Radio in the JA-AM 1390 program. After completing the program, Sean attended the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, where he created and produced The College Box Music Video program, the University’s first all student ran television program, which was nominated for four Billboard® Music Video Show awards. He also served as Co-Publisher and Senior Editor/Operations Manager of “The Forum” magazine, which provided a fresh look into music, videos, fashion, and technology.

In 2001, Mr. Long served as Executive Producer and Director of the top selling, worldwide DVD, “Tupac Shakur: Before I Wake”. The documentary takes a look at the last year of Tupac Shakur’s life, the events surrounding his death, and follows up on the Las Vegas police investigation. “Tupac Shakur: Before I Wake” reached #1 in the charts in the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom.

In 2003, he was hired as Program Director of Weigel Broadcasting, where he has helped the launch of Heroes and Icons nationally, and Bounce-TV in Chicago. He also produced the very first “Les Brown’s Salute to Excellence”.

In 2007, Sean was nominated for an Emmy Award for producing the Chicago Public School High School Basketball Championship game. That same year, he also wrote and produced the Emmy® Award Winning Black History Month campaign, “Snapshots in Black History”, which featured rarely seen photos of famous African-American Chicagoans. In 2008, after the unfortunate passing of comedic legend, Bernie Mac, Sean wrote and produced an Emmy Award winning hour-long documentary featuring people who knew him best, in “A Tribute to Bernie Mac”.

Also in 2016, Sean organized Ques4Peace, which held several rallies and marches throughout the city of Chicago to raise awareness to end violence in streets. Through this effort, Sean and Ques4Peace were featured on the BBC documentary, “Reggie Yates: To Live and Die in Chicago”.

He has served as a board member at the Black Ensemble Theater, The Uplift Foundation, and Stomping Out Gangs and Drugs. Sean is also a Celebrity DJ, DJing for Doug E. Fresh, Special Ed, Chubb Rock, and Beyonce’s “Formation Tour”.



Zohra Hasta-Associate Producer

Chicago-born director/producer, Zohra, graduated with a B.S. in Engineering from Bradley University. From an early age, she was fascinated by what makes things tick and, in what is sometimes considered an odd mix of characteristics, she displayed a talent for performing. Today, this seemingly odd combination of gifts has rendered Zohra as comfortable behind the camera as she is in front, and has molded this multi-faceted Renaissance woman into owning her own production company and creating several projects.

Zohra also loves working with film festivals and has been for the past 7 years. From volunteering to creating two festivals from scratch, she is currently the Festival Director of the Various Artists independent Film Festival (VAiFF).

Zohra is a culturally rich and avid world traveler, speaking several languages and visiting over 100 countries/exotic destinations. Endowed with an abundance of energy and an insatiable lust for learning, Zohra is always on the lookout for new, exciting, and creative endeavors to sink her teeth into. Her work schedule is happily hectic, but when she's not immersed in a project, she can be seen tooling around town on her motorcycle or attending her favorite workout class.



Sara C. Carlson-Production Manager

Sara C. Carlson is an experienced founder, collaborator and manager. She has a demonstrated history in the non-profit organization management industry, and holds an array of expertise in fields including Nonprofit Organization Management, Coaching, Event Management, Media Relations, and International Relations.

Her consultancy, The See Collective, has been assembling teams of creative experts to provide solutions to dozens of small and midsize nonprofit organizations. Project management highlights include a 400 person international conference at an ashram in India, a multi-day/multi-site symposium in downtown Chicago, and the day-to-day coordination of a Division III athletic department comprised of 30 coaches and over 500 student-athletes.

Carlson also serves as the Experiential Director and Board Secretary for Creative Cypher, a nonprofit entertainment arts organization focused on highlighting and promoting the talent and creativity of minority and marginalized communities. She is primarily responsible for all of Cypher's live events, the capstone of which is an annual activation at the Sundance Film Festival. It is through her work with the Cypher that she has been immersed in the world of TV and film and realized that her experience managing events and projects could be translated to the entertainment sector, primarily production management.

Ten Fun Facts With Alessandra Pinkston

1. Scions Of God was inspired by a combination of Pinkston's personal experiences with discriminatory police officers, the struggles of being a Black woman in America, and her beliefs in Nichiren Buddhism.
2. Tabitha Murren, the film's protagonist, is an anagram of Harriet Tubman.
3. Some of the actors who portrayed police officers in the trailer for the film were initially uncomfortable to play the role, as they did not want all police officers to get a bad rep. Pinkston assured the actors that she knew for a fact that all police officers were not bad people, as Pinkston's mother, grandfather and several other family members were all police officers.
4. As a teenage actress, Pinkston could not understand why she could not have "fun roles" like her male counterparts. Her aunt, also a writer, told her to create roles for herself since she enjoyed writing as much as she enjoyed acting. So, Pinkston did.
5. Pinkston is notoriously known for eating all of the food at craft services during film shoots.
6. The first film that Pinkston ever produced and starred in went on to win awards and was showcased throughout America and was even shown in Europe.
7. A native of Chicago, Pinkston moved to L.A. for six years to better enhance her filmmaking style. Though she could not find any good deep dish pizza in L.A., she does not regret the decision and often travels back to the great city to visit her friends and to eat good sushi. She really goes for the sushi, though.
8. The film that made Pinkston want to be an actress? (Drum roll please!) School Daze.
9. Aside from opening up more doors for women in entertainment, Alessandra hopes to open a film school that could help hone the skills of young aspiring female filmmakers under the age of eighteen.
10. Pinkston's inspirations include Viola Davis, Angela Bassett, Cate Blanchett, Al Pacino, Robert Deniro and Pauly Shore.