

THANKSGIVING

by

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Shooting Script

1 EXT. HOUSE IN THE WOODS - NIGHT

A hand-held SLASHER POV of a secluded house in the woods. A light is on in the kitchen, where A GRANDMOTHER cooks a turkey. The POV creeps towards the woman in the house, peeking through the window first, then coming through the front door, slowly creeping up on her.

An 80's-style ultra-serious voice over begins:

NARRATOR

This holiday season...

The killer picks up a carving knife and raises it behind the woman, who's bent over the oven. She turns around and seeing the camera SCREAMS.

NARRATOR

Prepare to have the stuffing scared  
out of you.

We freeze frame on the screaming woman's face.

CLOSE UP - A beautifully roasted turkey on a silver platter in front of an empty black background. A black gloved hand STABS A CARVING KNIFE into the Turkey, which bleeds thick, red blood. A cheaply animated title splashes over black in red letters:

NARRATOR

Thanksgiving.

The word "Thanksgiving" splashes across the screen in a gory, blood animated type face that slowly drips blood down the screen.

2 EXT. PARADE - DAY

A Thanksgiving parade is in progress, complete with floats, banners, a marching band, and a Turkey Mascot in a man-sized costume, spinning a baton bringing up from the rear. People watch from risers as the parade passes through Main Street. They are mostly focused on the floats and marching band.

NARRATOR

In the town of Plymouth Massachusetts,  
the fourth Thursday in November is the  
most celebrated day of the year.

## INSERTS - DARK ROOM

Quick cuts: A killer wearing a Pilgrim hat zips up a black jumpsuit, slips on black 'Torso'-style fingerless driving gloves, and flips up an axe.

## NARRATOR

But an uninvited guest has arrived.  
And this year, there will be... NO  
LEFTOVERS.

THE PILGRIM KILLER steps out into the parade and LOPS OFF MASCOT'S HEAD WITH AN AXE. Chaos ensues. The marching band's music notes turn sour. People scream, panicking, running everywhere, including the fat tuba player. The fat tuba player and the other band members kick the mascot's head around as they run through the streets.

The decapitated turkey lays in the street, blood spewing out of its neck like a fire hydrant. The killer's black boots step through the blood as people run around, panicking and screaming.

CLOSE UP - BLACK ROOM - the carving knife stabbing into the turkey. Blood leaking. (Our title page - same shot as before.)

## NARRATOR

Thanksgiving.

## 3 INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - DAY

It's dark. Two teens are alone in the gymnasium. The guy wears a high school letterman's jacket, the girl wears a cheerleading uniform. The girl leads him out from the bleachers, up to a trampoline. The guy looks a little hesitant.

## VARSITY GUY

If we get caught in here before the  
big game, coach'll have my neck!

The cheerleader shushes him and starts to dance around on the trampoline in a cheerleader uniform. She slowly starts to strip, taking off her top. The girl turns around and takes off her panties, showing her ass to her boyfriend. His eyes are nearly bursting out of his head as THE KILLER grabs him from behind, yanking him out of frame.

The girl turns and bounces, doing a half-naked split in the air. As she lands down on the trampoline, a CARVING KNIFE stabs UPWARD THROUGH THE TRAMPOLINE, just as she's landing.

Just at the moment of impact, we hear a scream and cut to our:

TITLE SHOT - the knife stabbing into the turkey.

NARRATOR

Thanksgiving.

4 EXT. CAR - NIGHT

A car parked at make out point. Probably a convertible, depending on weather. A high school couple (played by people in their early 30's) kiss gratuitously, ripping each other's clothes off. The girl breaks the kiss. The guy looks around, annoyed.

MAKEOUT GUY

Come on, Judy, you gave me one for my birthday.

JUDY

Tucker, no! I don't feel like it.

MAKEOUT GUY

Come on, quit clownin' around, willya?

JUDY

I said no.

Tucker looks in her eyes.

MAKEOUT GUY

I love you Judy.

Judy looks up, all smiles. She spits out her gum.

JUDY

Happy Thanksgiving, baby.

Judy shoves the guy back, pulling his pants down.

NARRATOR

You'll come him for the holidays... in a body bag.

The guy leans his head back, out the driver's side window, positioning himself so she can go down on him. The girl starts to perform oral sex on the guy, holding one hand on his chest.

THE GUY'S UPSIDE DOWN POV - sees the killer approaching him, swinging an AXE. The killer CHOPS THE GUY'S HEAD OFF. The girl in the car does not notice, assuming he's having an orgasm. She reaches up to touch his face, and is met by a BLEEDING STUMP. She screams as the blood hits her face and turns around. We see the killer outside the passenger side window. He swings the axe and we cut to:

THE TITLE - "Thanksgiving." The knife stabbing into the turkey.

5 EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Judy cries in the arms of Bobby, a high school jock in a letterman's jacket and very tight acid washed jeans.

JUDY

Bobby, Bobby, it was terrible, he killed Tucker! He -

BOBBY

(interrupting)  
Cool it, Judy!

She shuts up. Looks in his eyes.

BOBBY

Relax. Bobby's here.

Bobby gives her a reassuring look. Judy nods, wipes away the tears, and starts making out with Bobby. She puts her hands on his cheeks and pulls her head away only to discover BOBBY'D DECAPITATED HEAD IN HER HANDS. She drops the head - screaming - to reveal THE PILGRIM, holding the bloody axe right in front of her. He chases after her.

NARRATOR

Thanksgiving.

6 INT. HOUSE IN THE WOODS - NIGHT

The same house from the opening credits. A grandmother answers the door, revealing a young couple holding baked goods and bottles of wine. They all hug and kiss hello.

The guy wears a holiday sweater.

NARRATOR

Arrive hungry...

An entire family is tied up in chairs at a Norman Rockwell-style dinner table. They have obviously been beaten up and look around each other terrified. The killer, wearing a pilgrim hat to hide his face, dramatically pulls a cloth which unveils the sweater guy's body prepared as if it were an actual Thanksgiving turkey. (Headless, on its back, arms severed at the elbows, knees up towards mid-section, legs bound with string, tiny chef's hat accountments on the feet.) The guy's decapitated head is filled with stuffing.

NARRATOR

...leave stuffed.

TITLE: the knife stabbing into a turkey, THANKSGIVING.

NARRATOR

Thanksgiving. Coming this February.