
New Coventry

A feature film by Matt Devino



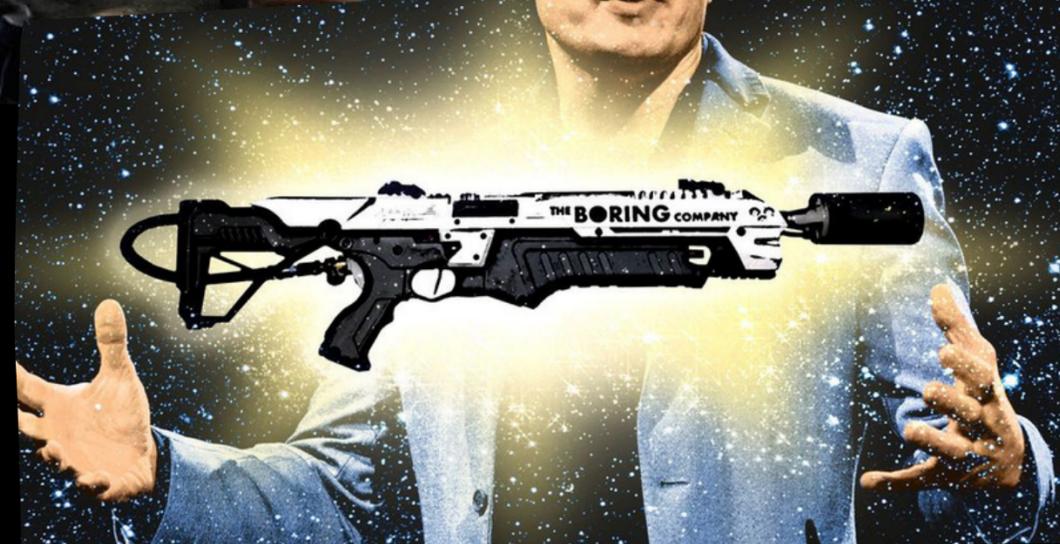
New Coventry

Pitch/Tone:

New Coventry is a fast paced horror film loosely based on the historical events of The New England Vampire Panic and Salem Witch Trials, and their lasting effects on small town life in New England. It's a mix of genuine scares along with plenty of fun moments, similar to the energy and pacing of *The Lost Boys*, set against the stark world of Puritanical New England.

Log Line:

Amy, a teenage girl from a secluded New England town, and her four best friends go searching for her younger brother after he vanishes in the woods. In doing so, they discover an ancient creature that threatens to consume her brother's life, and unleash a plague of evil on their small town.



Vampires, witches, and flamethrowers... oh my.

Hundreds of years ago, the colonial village of New coventry was taken siege by a plague of vampires conjured by a coven of witches. On the brink of annihilation, the Puritan settlers vanquished the witches, and the vampires with them, just before they could complete a dark ritual.

Fast forward to modern day, New Coventry is a sleepy rural town, the dark history is simply a fairytale for the locals. Seventeen year old Amy, and her friends Johnny and Abigail spend their days looking for anything to fight the boredom of small town life. Then the same ancient evil is reawakened when twelve year old AJ, Amy's younger brother, discovers the witch's ritual site deep in the woods while playing manhunt with his friends Beaver and Chris.

AJ is infected by the same dark magic that created the vampires, and he begins spreading the plague of the undead by feeding on his parents in their sleep. The next morning, Amy wakes up to discover her dead parents, and her brother covered in their blood. She rushes to her friends for help, and they begin to realize the folktales of their town aren't just stories used to scare little kids.

Amy, Abigail, Johnny, Beaver, and Chris race to find a way to stop the threat. As night falls on New Coventry the vampires begin infecting the town, and it becomes apparent that the witch's plot is even more insidious than they could have ever imagined. Beaver arms himself with a Boring Company "Not a Flamethrower" (it's a real flamethrower, seriously, google it), that his brother bought on the internet. Will some modern age tech be what they need to stop the ancient threat?

CAST



Amy

17, AJ's older sister. Wants out of small town life desperately, but won't leave AJ alone with their toxic parents. Her love for her brother is both her greatest strength and weakness.



Johnny

18, He presents a tough exterior, but drives a Prius and is a hardcore leftist vegan. He has a no fucks given attitude toward the outside world, but he'd do anything to protect his friends.



Abigail

17, Chris's older sister, and Amy's girlfriend. She's the voice of reason and skepticism in the group, but doesn't mind getting her hands dirty when it comes to killing vampires.

CAST



AJ

12, Amy's younger brother. He's smaller and skinner than other kids his age. He hates his home life and spends his time outdoors with his friends to escape as often as possible.



Beaver

12, The trouble making wise-cracker of the group. He's always pushing his friends to get into trouble with him. He also likes to "borrow" his older brother's paintball guns... and flamethrowers.



Chris

12, Abigail's younger brother. He's cool and collected, and keeps Beaver in line as much as possible.

Director's Statement

Growing up in rural New Hampshire, I was constantly surrounded by reminders of the creepy history of New England. The Salem Witch Trials, the New England Vampire Panic, and more. Most people I knew lived in houses that were a hundred years old surrounded by dense woods, and most likely had a graveyard or two nearby. I personally think the New England woods at night is the scariest place in the world. It feels like anything could be lurking out there. So it's pretty natural that I keep coming back to this setting for my filmmaking.

With New Coventry, I want to make a film that embodies everything that makes New England a destination for dread, and I wanted to do it while sending the audience on a thrill ride similar to some of my favorite films, like *The Lost Boys* or *Evil Dead*. These are films that are genuinely scary, but you're smiling and having fun the whole time as well. I think the script rides that razor thin edge between fear and fun, and will take audiences on an unexpected thrill ride that combines some genre favorite tropes in a way that's never been done before.



VISUAL STYLE



VISUAL STYLE



VISUAL STYLE



Director's Bio and Work

Matt picked up his first camera when he was 13, and started making short films with his friends immediately in the small town of Derry, New Hampshire.

Fast forward to today and he's been working in the Los Angeles Film industry for over 15 years. He started out at Deluxe as an editor, and while he loves post, writing, directing, and cinematography are his main focuses as a filmmaker. After Deluxe he moved into a successful freelance career helming commercial and documentary projects, but making narrative film has always been his main goal.

In 2019 he co-founded the Assorted Kinds filmmaking collective, where he Executive Produced over 20 short films in two years, writing and directing three of those shorts which all had successful festival runs. His short film "Last One Screaming" is currently playing on the Shorts TV network as well as the Alter YouTube channel where it has over 180k views.



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