

# Ghost Writer



A horrifyingly terrifying, really really scary, comedy.



## Logline

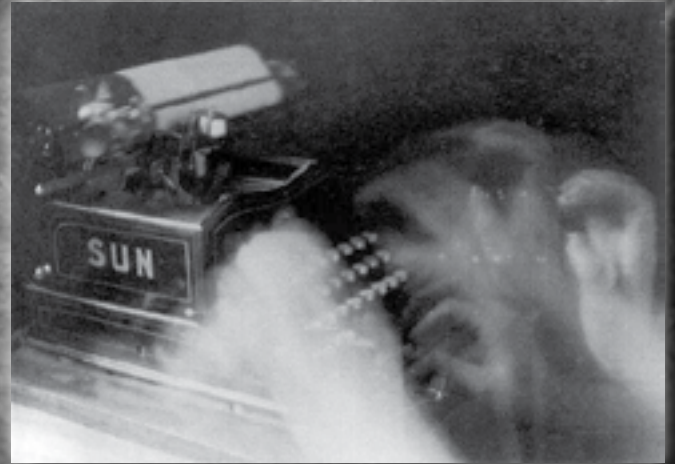
What does a horror writer with a serious case of block do when she meets a real ghost?  
Collaborate, of course!





# Story

Jill Watson is a writer with a terminal case of block. Her sanctimonious husband, Jack, gets her a deal to write a children's novel called "The Painted Lady". The problem is she only writes horror movies, hates children and is coming up with bupkis! With a deadline looming, Jill rents an isolated cabin. This retreat proves less than ideal when she discovers it's haunted by a terrifying ghost bent on murder! But when this ghost proves to have a penchant for writing, she sees an opportunity to finish "The Painted Lady" and meet her deadline. There's no way this ghost can be scarier than the blank page. Right?



Ghost Writer is a Funny and Scary take on the perils of collaborating with the recently deceased. It's Woody Allen via "The Conjuring". It's also a story within a story as "The Painted Lady" children's book comes alive (so to speak) with the ghosts assistance. Although not quite as Jill's holier-than-thou husband had hoped!



# Characters

There are characters who exist in the main story and characters who exist in the story-within-a-story of "The Painted Lady". Let's start with the the haunted cabin story, and meet our main characters...



# Jill Watson

A smart horror movie writer with a sarcastic wit and a fascination with the macabre. Bookish but beautiful despite sloppy loose-fitting clothes and an obvious disregard to putting them together.



# Jack Kane

A smug politician more eager to court the religious right than support Jill's writing. Jack is handsome in an all too conventional way wearing profoundly boring suits.

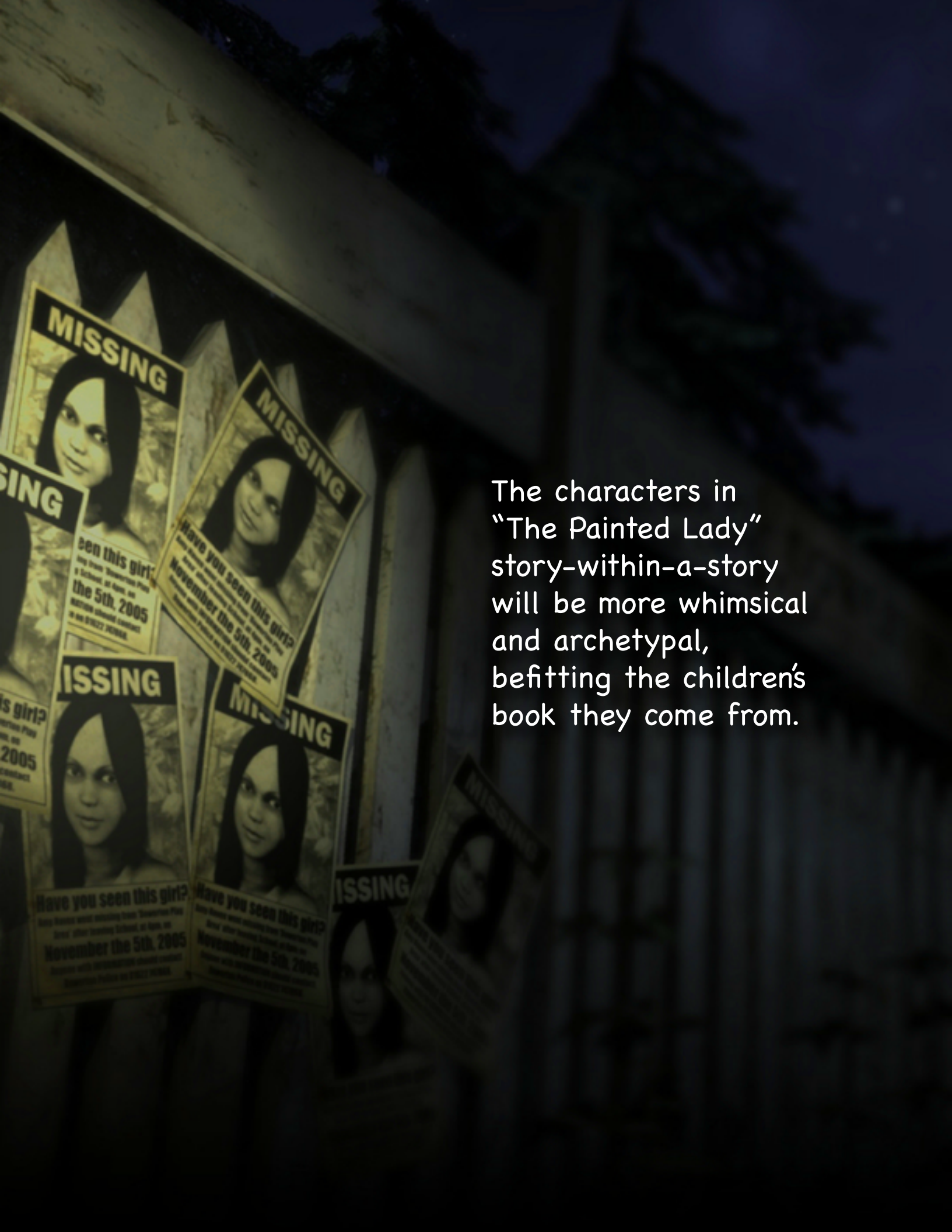




# The Ghost

A novelist in life, this ghost has some serious anger management issues in death. While it's a petulant, vindictive hell-beast from another realm, it does have quite a charming writing style. It will be played as shadows on the wall and have an eerie whispering echoey voice. This will make it both scary as it haunts Jill and provide comic juxtaposition as it helps Jill write "The Painted Lady".





The characters in "The Painted Lady" story-within-a-story will be more whimsical and archetypal, befitting the children's book they come from.



# The Painted Lady

Jill's alter-ego in "The Painted Lady" children's story-within-a-story (she will be played by the same actress who plays Jill). A grotesquely over made-up woman who hunts children while playing bridge. She wears an over abundance of evening wear.





# Janie

A cute-as-a-button Dickensian-style orphan girl. Janie is almost the cardboard cutout version of the adorable plucky child in bleak circumstances. She wears the latest in rag-based fashion.





# Riley

A pudgy ragamuffin of a child with the ability to open locks with his mind. Riley is easy-going and a true friend.



# Trenton

A scrawny but sweet street urchin with the ability to create a disorienting light display. Trenton rounds out the threesome who must defeat the Painted Lady.



## Look and Feel

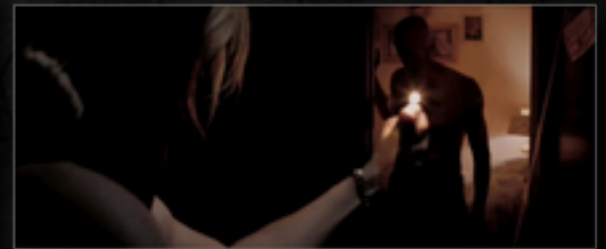
Ghost Writer will have two distinct visual styles. One for the haunted cabin sections of the movie and one for the story-within-a-story, "The Painted Lady". When Jill first arrives at the cabin, the ghost is doing its utmost to scare her away. This is the haunted cabin story...



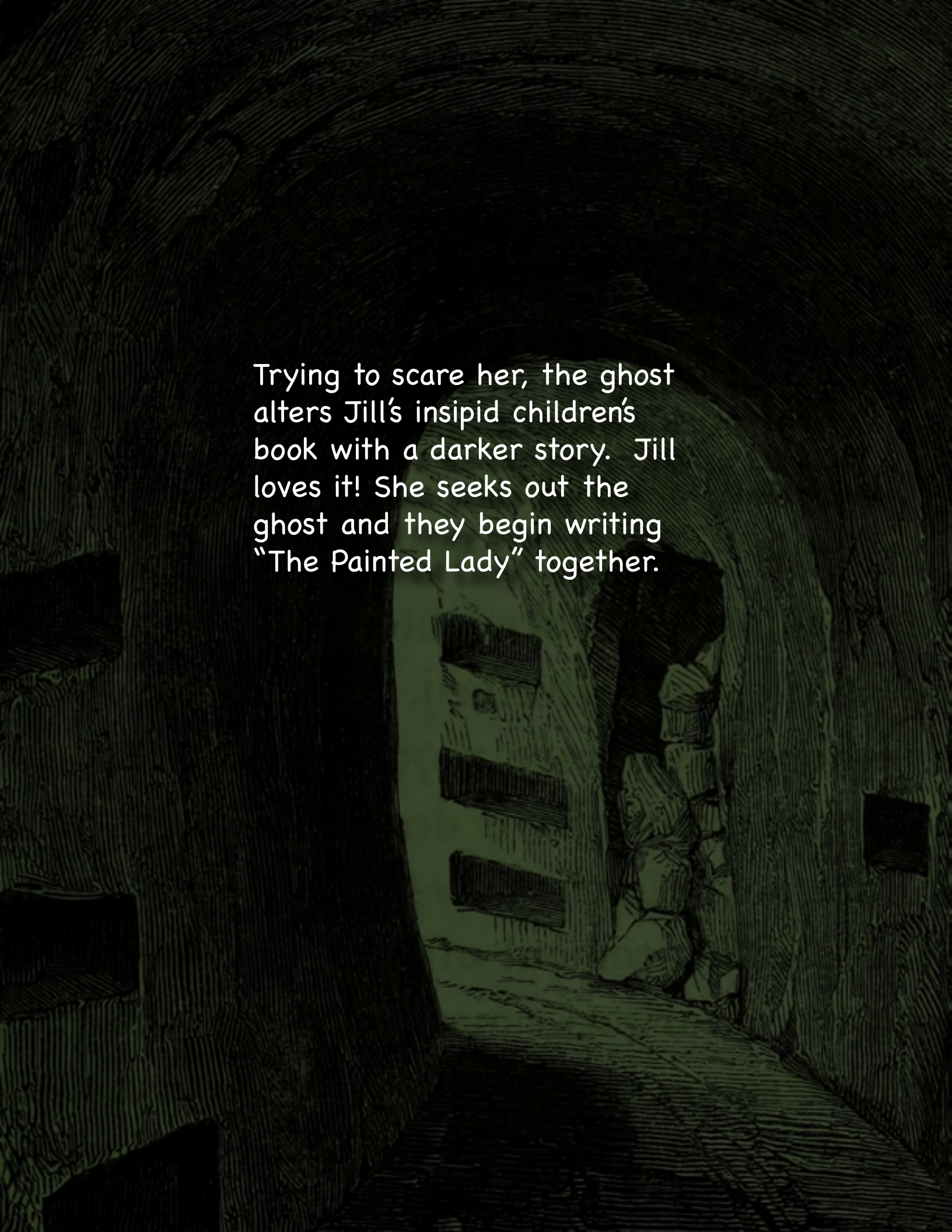
# The Haunted Cabin Story



This will have a modern day film noir style. Contrasty lighting filled with shadows will emphasize the haunted house feeling. The effect will be more creep than horror.







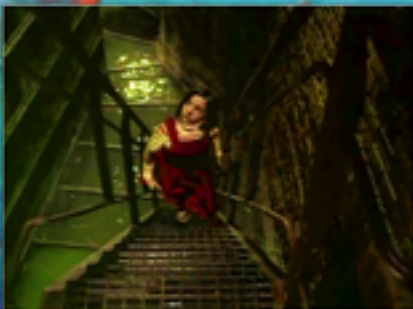
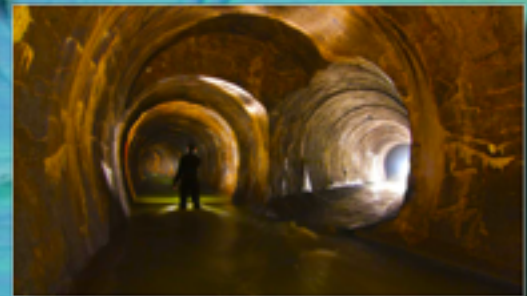
Trying to scare her, the ghost  
alters Jill's insipid children's  
book with a darker story. Jill  
loves it! She seeks out the  
ghost and they begin writing  
"The Painted Lady" together.



# The Painted Lady Story

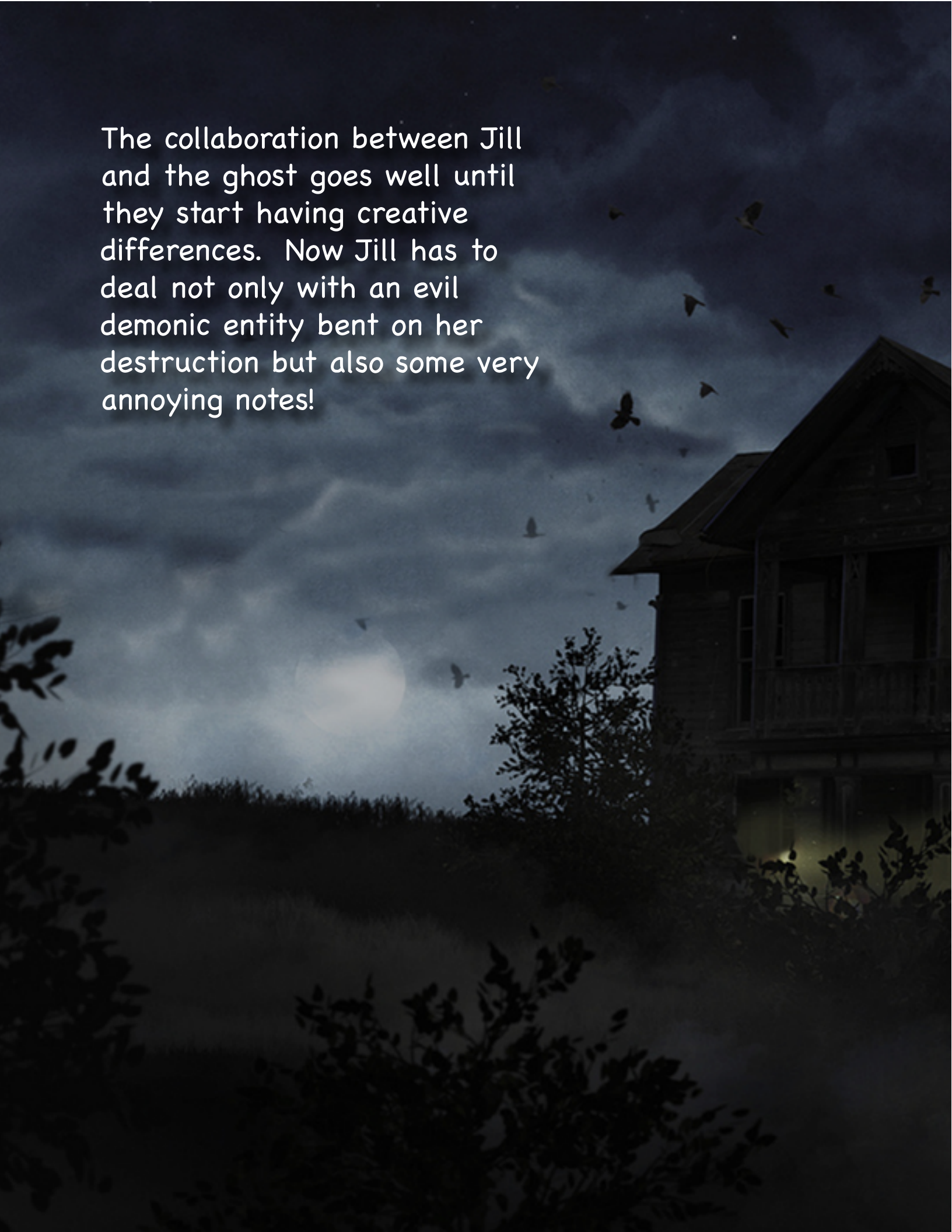


This will have a more saturated, hyper-real look. It will be as if the illustrations in a children's book had come to life.



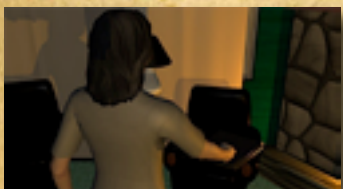


The collaboration between Jill and the ghost goes well until they start having creative differences. Now Jill has to deal not only with an evil demonic entity bent on her destruction but also some very annoying notes!





# Storyboards

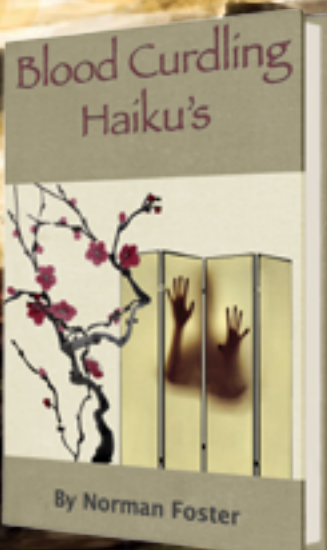




# Ghost Stories



The ghost had quite a productive literary output in life. Here is a sampling of titles. Let's hope death does nothing to diminish productivity.





# The Cabin Location

Much of Ghost Writer takes place in the cabin of the famous writer, Norman Kane. This is no accident as it was inspired by another not as famous writer...me. It is owned by me and will be a wholly controllable location as a result.



# Steve Ansell - Writer/Director

I have spent twenty-five years in Hollywood working on such movies as Xmen-3, Rise of the Planet of the Apes, Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters, Spawn, Freddie Vs. Jason, Exorcist: The Beginning, October Skies and many more as an editor and a visual effects editor. After spending a career of fixing other peoples mistakes, I've decided I'm perfectly capable of making a few of my own.

