

Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor

Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor is a 2023 American found footage horror film written and directed by Stephen Cognetti and produced by Joe Bandelli. It serves as both a sequel and a prequel to Hell House LLC (2015) and is the fourth installment in the Hell House LLC franchise. It stars Bridget Rose Perrotta, Destiny Leilani Brown, James Liddell, Gideon Berger.

Plot

The film depicts a documentary using found footage recovered from filmmaker Margot Bentley, her girlfriend Rebecca Vickers, and brother Chase Bentley. The three all died whilst spending four nights investigating Carmichael Manor, a remote house in Rockland County, New York, mentioned to be one town over from the Abaddon Hotel. The recovered footage was edited together by Margot's friend Bradley Moynahan, who provides commentary alongside journalist Alicia Cavalini. The film's narrative provides connections to previous films and the franchise's lore involving the hotel and cult leader Andrew Tully.

Margot and Rebecca travel to the manor to investigate the infamous Carmichael family murders that happened in 1989. The Carmichaels' daughter Margaret, an actress, died in a car crash months before. Her sister Catherine and mother Eleanor were murdered, but her father Arthur and brother Patrick disappeared. Margot's own interest in the paranormal began after a man in a clown costume tried to abduct her at a funfair when she was a child. Margot and Rebecca are joined by Chase, who has a history of psychosis, drawn to help Margot following another episode. They find a locked storage room full of paraphernalia from the funfair, including three clown mannequins.

Learning artifacts from the hotel are being exhibited at a local antique store, Margot and Rebecca investigate. Rebecca recognizes a grandfather clock from the hotel, finding film reels, letters, and a cross pendant in a hidden compartment. Chase is frightened by the clowns and a masked woman, convincing Margot and Rebecca that the manor is actually haunted.

Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor



Official release poster

Directed by	Stephen Cognetti
Screenplay by	Stephen Cognetti
Produced by	Joe Bandelli
Starring	Bridget Rose Perrotta
	Destiny Leilani Brown
	James Liddell
	Gideon Berger
Cinematography	Josh Layton
Production companies	Cognetti Films Marylous' Boys
Distributed by	Terror Films Shudder
Release date	October 30, 2023
Running time	98 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English

The recovered film reels are sent to Bradley, who includes them in the documentary, depicting footage recorded by Catherine prior to and after Margaret's death; revealing Margaret to be the masked woman. Patrick survived the crash, but grows withdrawn and disturbed. Catherine gives him the pendant to protect him. Further footage reveals Patrick joined Tully's cult with the hope to resurrect Margaret, moving the clowns into his bedroom, keeping Margaret's costume as a memento. Later, the cult members invade the manor, where Catherine is killed by Margaret's ghost.

In the present, Rebecca's presentation to a real estate partner is disrupted by Catherine's ghost. Though Margot agrees to leave the manor in the morning, Chase disappears over night, leaving his possessions behind. Footage reveals Chase was approached in his bedroom by one of the clowns, who pursued and killed him. Margot and Rebecca leave the house, but find their car battery is dead. An attempt to walk to the nearest town through the surrounding woodland is thwarted by members of the cult, forcing the two to flee back to the manor.

Disturbing text messages from Chase drive the two women to flee into the car, but the cult members surround them. Returning to the manor once again, Margot hears Chase calling for her, leaving Rebecca, who is killed by Catherine's ghost. Margot finds Chase's eyeless corpse, before being stalked by the clown, who corners and attacks her. Patrick is identified as the clown and the one who tried to abduct Margot as a child. In a final scene, Patrick apologises to a camera, before yelling at an unseen man to be quiet, departing through a doorway into a red-tinted room, implied to be another gate to Hell as seen in previous films.

A mid credit scene reveal Alicia mentioning the fair is coming back to town. An image of a clown is seen peeking through a window in the background.

Cast

- Bridget Rose Perrotta as Margot Bentley
- Destiny Leilani Brown as Rebecca Vickers
- James Liddell as Chase Bentley
- Cayla Berejikian as Catherine Carmichael
- Victoria Andrunik as Margaret Carmichael
- Gideon Berger as Patrick Carmichael
- Darin F. Earl II as Bradley Moynahan
- Searra Sawka as Alice Harper
- Thomas J. Cipriano as 80's News Anchor
- Michael Caprioli as Donald
- Celeste Cicon as Antique Store Clerk
- Marlene Williams as Eleanor Carmichael
- Dayna Michelle Kurtz as Linda
- Joe Bandelli as Hell House Clown
- Robert Savakinus as Arthur Carmichael

Production

In October 2022, Terror Films announced that Stephen Cognetti is set to continue the Hell House LLC franchise with the prequel titled *Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor*.^[2]

Filming

On April 15, 2023, Stephen Cognetti began filming.^[3]

Release

The film had its limited release on October 24, 2023, and was released on October 30, 2023, by Shudder.^[4]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 87% of 15 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 6.70/10.^[5]

Phil Hoad of *The Guardian* rates the film 4 out of 5 rating and he said: It isn't just Cognetti's solid deployment of the backstory that impresses; he and cinematographer Josh Layton also show a devious command of camera mechanics, vital to the subjective found-footage experience.^[6] Maegan Navarro of *Bloody Disgusting* gave the film a rating of 3.5 over 5 and wrote: While the effective, goosebump-inducing scares and refreshing expansion of the story feel like a return to form for this franchise, *The Carmichael Manor* is hampered by its found footage format. The intrepid Margot makes the familiar missteps into found footage trope territory that seals her group's fate.^[7]

References

1. T, Amber (October 16, 2022). "HELL HOUSE LLC: New Franchise Entry Will Explore Origins Of THE CARMICHAEL MANOR" (<https://www.fangoria.com/original/hell-house-llc-new-franchise-entry-explores-origins-in-the-carmichael-manor/>). *Fangoria*. Retrieved October 31, 2023.
2. Squires, John (April 17, 2023). "'Hell House LLC Origins' – Filming Has Begun on Franchise Prequel" (<https://bloody-disgusting.com/movie/3758489/hell-house-llc-origins-filming-has-begun-on-franchise-prequel/>). *Bloody Disgusting*. Retrieved October 31, 2023.
3. Hamman, Cody. "Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor is now filming" (<https://www.joblo.com/hell-house-llc-origins-filming/>). *JoBlo.com*. Retrieved October 31, 2023.
4. T, Amber (September 20, 2023). "Creepy Clowns Return In New HELL HOUSE LLC ORIGINS: THE CARMICHAEL MANOR Trailer" (<https://www.fangoria.com/original/hell-house-llc-origins-the-carmichael-manor-trailer/>). *Fangoria*. Retrieved October 31, 2023.
5. "HELL HOUSE LLC ORIGINS: THE CARMICHAEL MANOR (2023)" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/hell_house_llc_origins_the_carmichael_manor). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Retrieved October 31, 2023.
6. Hoad, Phil (October 25, 2023). "Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor review – backstory of horror haunting" (<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2023/oct/25/hell-house-llc-origins-the-carmichael-manor-review-backstory-of-horror-haunting>). *The Guardian*. Retrieved October 31, 2023.
7. Navarro, Maegan (October 25, 2023). "'Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor' Review – A Scary Return to Form for the Franchise" (<https://bloody-disgusting.com/reviews/3>

[785641/hell-house-llc-origins-the-carmichael-manor-review/](#)). *Bloody Disgusting*. Retrieved October 31, 2023.

External links

- *Hell House LLC Origins: The Carmichael Manor* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt22796890/>) at IMDb
-

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Hell_House_LLC_Origins:_The_Carmichael_Manor&oldid=1222696901"

▪