

Villette

A FILM BY LAURA PARVIN AND MATTHEW PARVIN

For every storm, there is a story.



Villette is a new film project by the writing/producing team of Matthew and Laura Parvin, based on the novel by Charlotte Bronte.

The story of a young woman who, despite the societal pressures and expectations of others, finds her own strength and true voice is one of inspiration, tragedy and fulfillment on one's own terms.

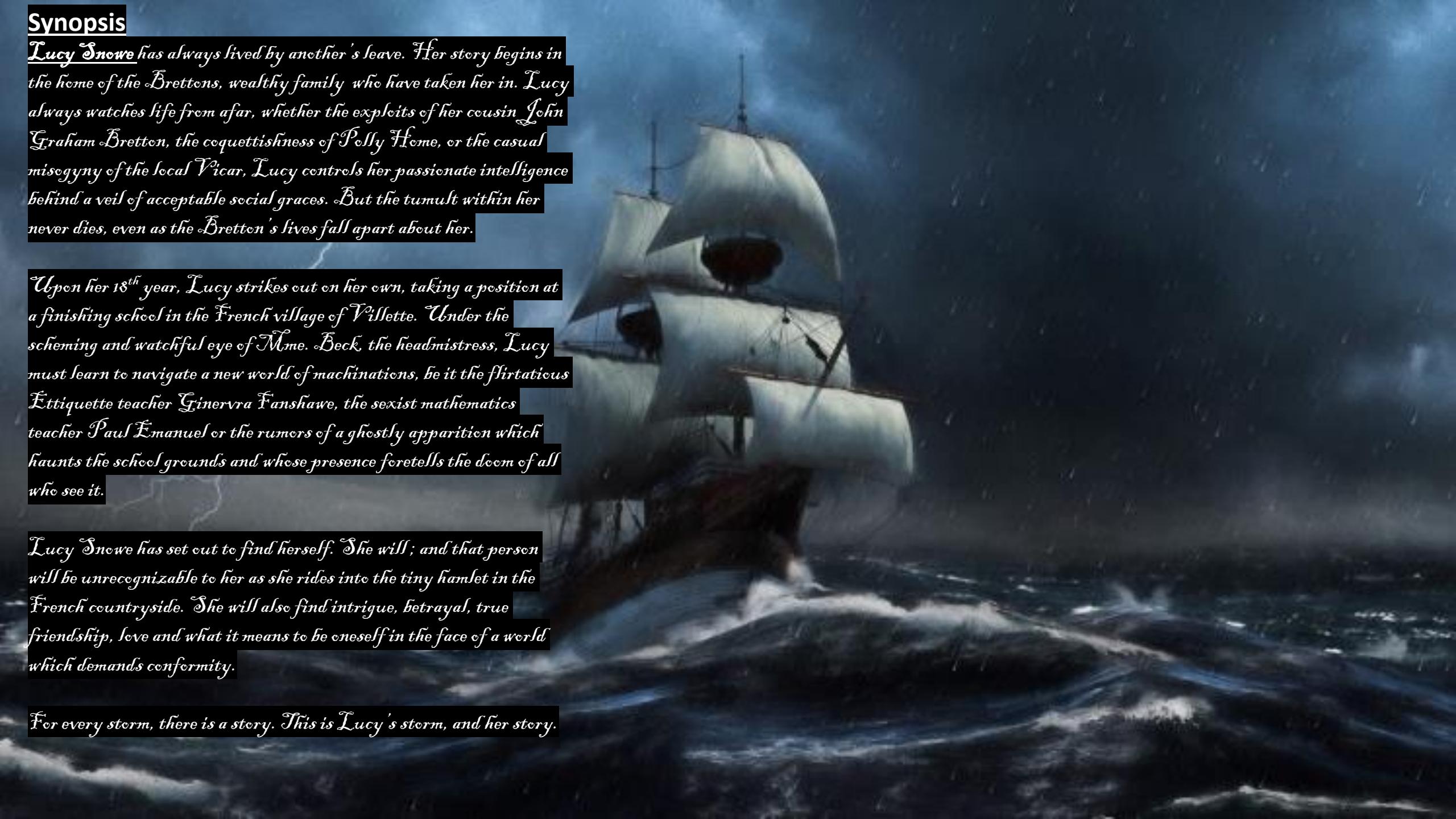
Synopsis

Lucy Snowe has always lived by another's leave. Her story begins in the home of the Brettons, wealthy family who have taken her in. Lucy always watches life from afar, whether the exploits of her cousin John Graham Bretton, the coquettishness of Polly Heme, or the casual misogyny of the local Vicar. Lucy controls her passionate intelligence behind a veil of acceptable social graces. But the tumult within her never dies, even as the Bretton's lives fall apart about her.

Upon her 18th year, Lucy strikes out on her own, taking a position at a finishing school in the French village of Villette. Under the scheming and watchful eye of Mme. Beck, the headmistress, Lucy must learn to navigate a new world of machinations, be it the flirtatious Etiquette teacher Ginevra Fanshawe, the sexist mathematics teacher Paul Emanuel or the rumors of a ghostly apparition which haunts the school grounds and whose presence foretells the doom of all who see it.

Lucy Snowe has set out to find herself. She will; and that person will be unrecognizable to her as she rides into the tiny hamlet in the French countryside. She will also find intrigue, betrayal, true friendship, love and what it means to be oneself in the face of a world which demands conformity.

For every storm, there is a story. This is Lucy's storm, and her story.





Dickinson draws from the grand tradition of the Bronte sisters and their wit, passion and social commentary of Victorian gender politics. In a world where people are crushed under the expectations of everyone around them, this story redefines what acceptance, love and individuality can be as long as they are pursued with courage.

LOVE NEVER PLAYS BY THE RULES.

Demi Lovato · Michelle Pfeiffer · Winona Ryder
LAWRENCE FERLINGHETI AND RONALD L. HORNICK

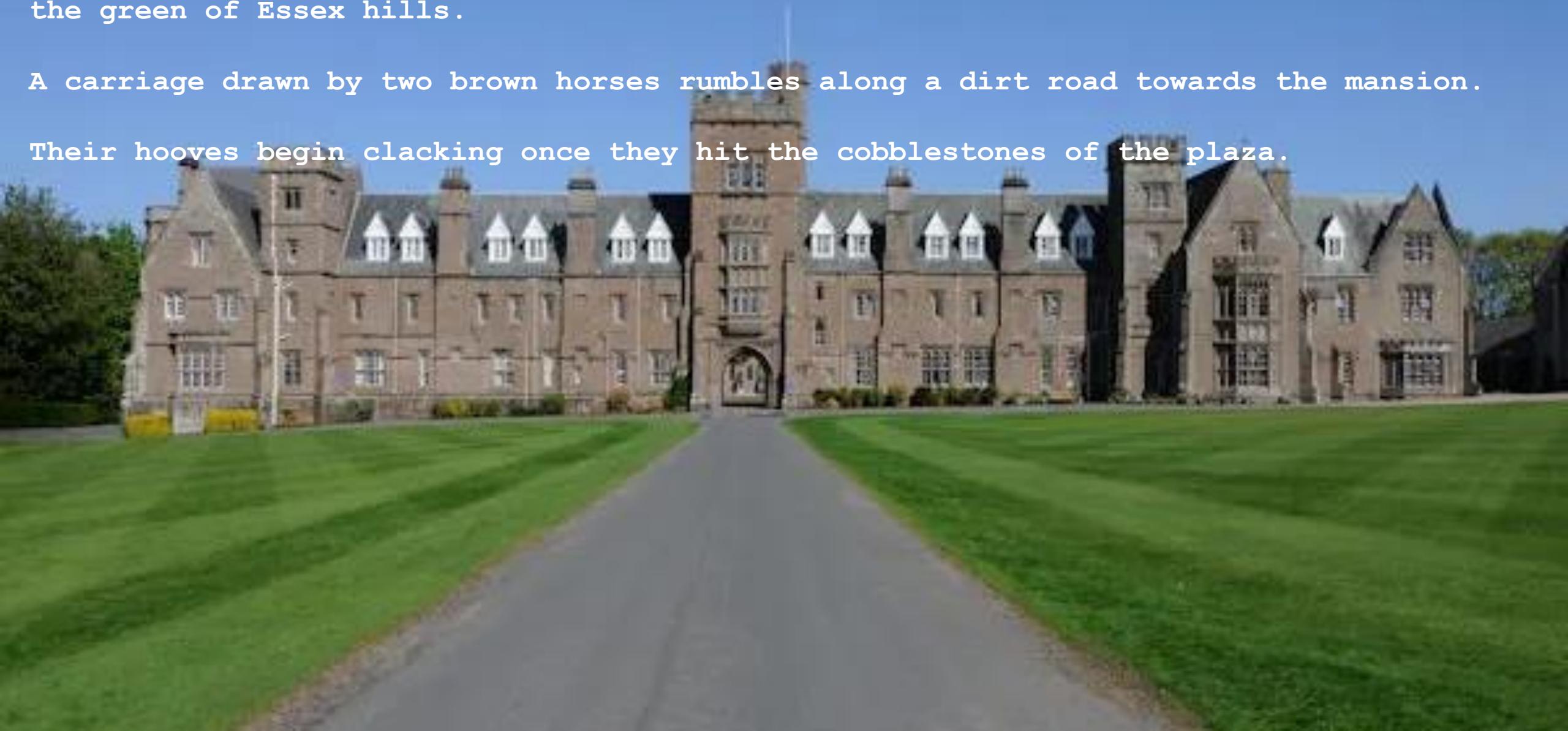
IN A SMALL TOWNSHIP IN NEW YORK STATE IN THE EARLY 1800'S
THE AGE OF INNOCENCE

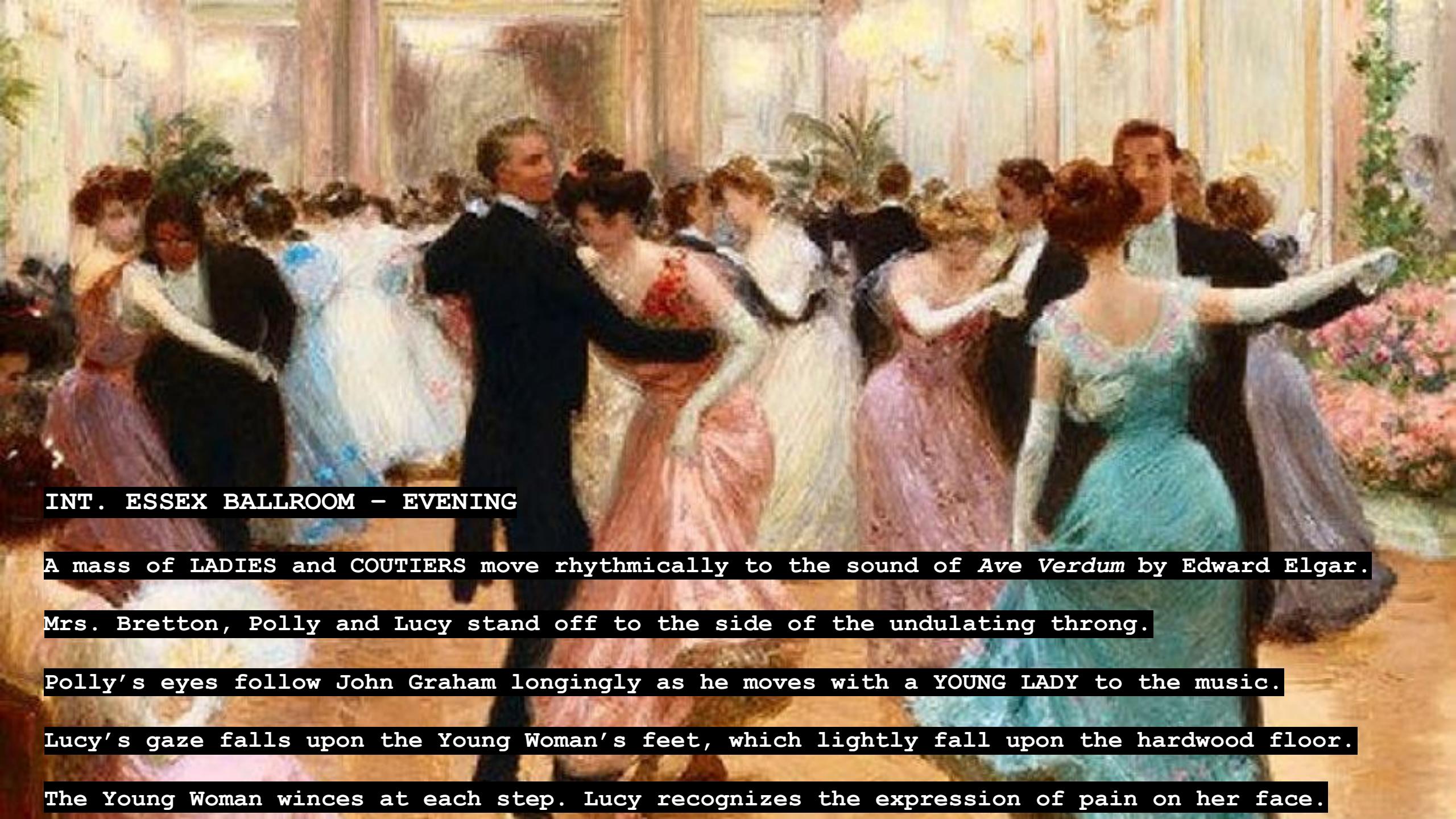
EXT. BRETTON ESTATE/COURTYARD - DAY

The bright English sun shines down on magnificent home. A virtual palace, nestled in the green of Essex hills.

A carriage drawn by two brown horses rumbles along a dirt road towards the mansion.

Their hooves begin clacking once they hit the cobblestones of the plaza.





INT. ESSEX BALLROOM - EVENING

A mass of LADIES and COUTIERS move rhythmically to the sound of *Ave Verbum* by Edward Elgar.

Mrs. Bretton, Polly and Lucy stand off to the side of the undulating throng.

Polly's eyes follow John Graham longingly as he moves with a YOUNG LADY to the music.

Lucy's gaze falls upon the Young Woman's feet, which lightly fall upon the hardwood floor.

The Young Woman winces at each step. Lucy recognizes the expression of pain on her face.

EXT. PENSIONATT/GARDEN - NIGHT

Night has overcome the day. The school is silent.

Moonlight and a million stars keep a watchful eye on the sleeping girls in their mausoleum home.

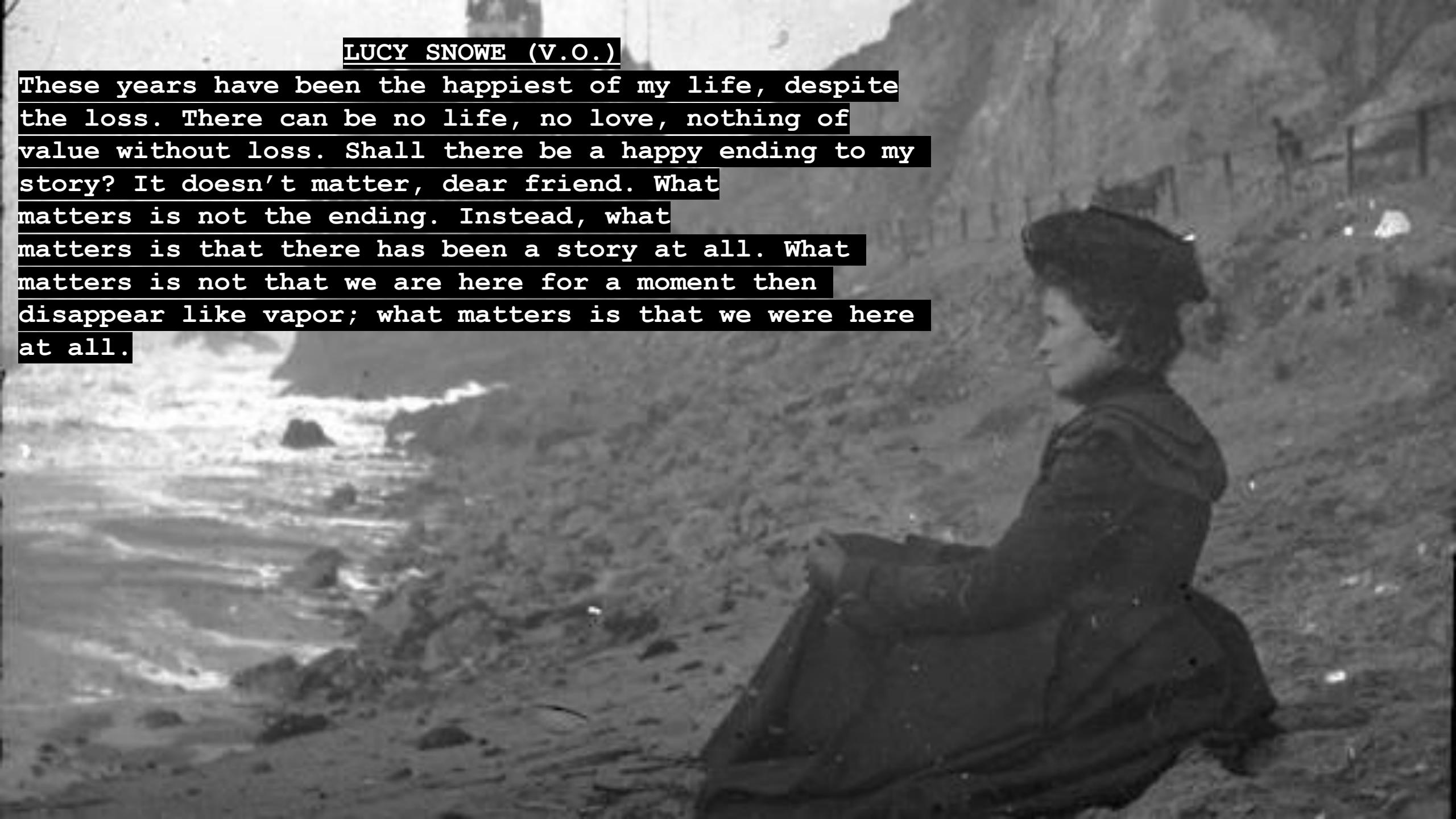
In the silver sheen cast down from the sky, bare feet press silently into the cold grass.

Lucy, overcoat pulled tightly about her and gas lamp in hand, strolls among the flowers. Searching.



LUCY SNOWE (V.O.)

These years have been the happiest of my life, despite the loss. There can be no life, no love, nothing of value without loss. Shall there be a happy ending to my story? It doesn't matter, dear friend. What matters is not the ending. Instead, what matters is that there has been a story at all. What matters is not that we are here for a moment then disappear like vapor; what matters is that we were here at all.





R-Dub Productions

R-Dub Productions was founded in 2022 by Matthew and Laura Parrin. Based in Michigan, we are an independent film production company interested in producing original and challenging projects for domestic and international release.

Films in development include *Becoming..*, *Masks*, *Young Goodman Brown*, and *After the Deluge*