



Logline: A college journalist must save her friends from a psychopathic clown which lives and kills through Augmented Reality filters.

Genre: Slasher Horror.

Summary: Two college kids making a social media video prank about local creepy clown sightings are killed by Carny, a supernatural clown that can only be seen through Augmented Reality and go missing. A group of friends agree to go to the park to find the missing pair including Erika Wallace, a college broadcast journalist, her sorority sisters (Briana and Ashley) who only want to boost up their social media video blog, her journalist colleague (Jay), obsessed with his Virtual Reality gaming system, and her boyfriend and roommate. When looking at the posted online footage, Erika sees something only someone with experience behind a camera would notice...Carny's appearance in and out of frame.

At the park, two teenagers playing Pokémon Go are brutally killed by an 'invisible force', as they see Carny only through their Pokémon Go AR filter. Once the gang arrives they split up to look for their friends. The Sorority Girls set up for their live video blog and while Jay is away, Carny shows up on the live feed in the background, killing Ashley instantly in front of Briana, who can't see him and gets away. Later, when reviewing monitor footage, they see Carny for the first time, striking Ashley with a claw hammer then pulling her body out of frame. All are dumbstruck wanting to find their missing friends, but discover that one by one, they are hunted and taken by this virtual killing machine.

After several attempts at killing Carny with 'conventional weapons', Erika discovers that he's only vulnerable in Augmented Reality and decides that's how they need to kill it. With Jay's help, they reconfigure his Virtual Reality gaming system to interact with Carny's reality and go 'clown hunting' with an arsenal of AR weapons. It seems to work, but in a flurry of events, Carny takes Jay to his 'funhouse fortress,' a tent of midway horrors in his virtual world. Here, we see what he's been doing to his victims; cutting them up and making them part of his own freakshow funhouse of carnival horrors. Erika finds three of her captured friends about to get butchered, and rushes in to save them only to confront Carny in a horror-house showdown, eventually merging the augmented and real worlds in her final stand.

By the end, we realize that nothing on social media is ever really 'dead', especially when it 'goes viral.'

Setting and Scope: Any park and small college, and this horror script at 92 pages is very low budget. There is franchise potential based on the ending, including a prequel, as well as other stories built on the Carny Horror Universe, with franchise characters appearing in different stories.

Author: Rich is a two-time winner and fifteen-time finalist with two features in development. He won the Screencraft True Story Competition with his inspirational bio-pic ENDURANCE, currently in development with Noble Story Co, placed Silver in PAGE with his family feature RESCUE DOG, and is working with Redwoods Studios with his Austin After Dark Finalist horror-comedy NAMASTE ALIVE! He resides in Los Gatos, CA.