

# SCRATCHED

A short film  
written by  
Lienad Notna

yourfilm  
5 cours Charlemagne  
69002 Lyon - France

## 1. EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAWN

CLAIRE takes out her handbag and briefcase from the trunk of his car and closes the hatch.

## 2. INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

In front of her agitated 10<sup>th</sup> grade, CLAIRE tries hard to teach her lesson. Pieces of paper flying through the classroom, pupils talking without paying attention to her. It's a mess.

CLAIRE

To resume, we can say that the novel is an invented prose narrative of considerable length and a certain complexity that deals imaginatively with human experience, usually through a connected sequence of events involving a group of persons in a specific ...

Tommy puts his hand on Anthony's head. Anthony jumps up, his chair falls backwards.

ANTHONY

Fuck you, don't touch me, fucking son of a bitch!

The whole class loughs.

CLAIRE

Next time I through you out.

ANTHONY

Fuck, it's not me, it's him!

Tommy sniggers

CLAIRE

(tries to stay calm)  
you prefer me to expel you both? I'm fed up,  
you behave like childish 3<sup>rd</sup> grade...

The class protests loudly.

JENNIFER

That's how boys are.

LAURIE

You will say boys are fucking stupid!

ANTHONY

Shut the fuck up, bitch!

LAURIE

Poor ass.

CLAIRE

(shouting)  
Get out! Go to see Ms. Girardo. Out!!!

## 3. INT. HIGH SCHOOL CORRIDORS - DAY

Claire follows the long corridors lit by pale neon lights. Exited students shove each other.

CUT TO:

4. INT. CLAIRE'S APPARTMENT - NIGHT

A key turns in the entry door (SOUND ONLY). Claire comes in, overwrought, she drops her handbag and briefcase. She puts her coat with one hand on a hook and enters the kitchen. Denis eats cornflakes at a small table with his university courses spread out all over, reading the riddle on the cornflakes box.

CLAIRe

I'm fed up, tired, pissed off.

DENIS

Hi my poor Honey, come and sit here.

Hi hits his thighs with his hands inviting Claire to sit on his lap. She ignores his invitation, but takes a glass of water to baste tomatoes and basil in front of the window.

DENIS

Your students again...?

Claire remains silent, puts the glass on the table and sits in front of Denis.

CLAIRe

This job is crappy shit. 5 years of University, hardest competition, for what? To teach these nits enough literature to be able to unscramble the riddles on their cornflake box!

She wipes the box off the table. Denis observes her without knowing how to handle the situation. She gnaws her nails and casts a dark look on Denis.

CLAIRe

That's all you can say?

Denis remains silent.

CLAIRe

So then...

She looks around.

CLAIRe

What are we supposed to have for dinner?

DENIS

Don't know, perhaps salad, some ham...

Taken aback she stares at him, and then jumps up.

CLAIRe

Well, I'll have dinner outside.

She leaves the kitchen. We hear the entry door slam.

## 5. INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

The bell is ringing. The students pass in front of Claire and enter slowly the classroom. They bicker and lough. Claire observes them while they take place loudly. Dylan smites his chair. Loughs. The last one closes the door.

CLAIRe

That's it? May we finally start now?  
(she waits until the last ones sit)  
Ahh, after all! Let's begin.

The door opens. Anthony enters and walks wordless straight to his place.

CLAIRe

(weary)  
You're late.

ANTHONY

Well, yes...

CLAIRe

Well, no. I don't accept latecomers. You get out.

ALEXIA

But Mam, we even haven't started yet...

CLAIRe

I don't have to justify myself. And I especially don't have to accept non excused latecomers. And ...  
(she turns towards Anthony)  
You've already disturbed the last course, then twice, no! Good bye.  
(she makes him a sign with her head to leave)

Anthony gets up, walks very slowly towards the exit and slams the door behind him.

## 6. INT. HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER'S ROOM - DAY

Lonely at a table, Claire corrects schoolwork. Some tables behind, other teachers are talking.

She gets up, takes her belongings and walks out.

## 7. EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

Claire arrives at her car. It's an old car, but shines like brand new. It was her grandpa's car. Now it's scratched all around.

CLAIRe

Fuck...

Claire goes round her car, following with her hand the scratch, like a caress to touch a wound. Tears are filling her eyes. She puts her belongings into the trunk and closes carefully the hatch.

8. INT. CAR, CITY - DAY

She drives, caressing the wheel, her eyes filled with tears.

9. INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Claire arrives in front of the desk. A policeman is looking for a file in a metal locker. Claire waits patiently until he interrupts his search.

POLICEMAN

How can I help you?

CLAIRE

I want to file for a claim.

POLICEMAN

A claim for what?

CLAIRE

Somebody scratched my whole car.

POLICEMAN

Wait here please. I have to finish report first, then I will be yours.

The policeman disappears in an office.

Claire sits down.

She is pacing round the small reception room in front of the desk.

She is leaning on the desk, watching towards the office, where the policeman disappeared.

She scans an old computer behind the desk, a gun besides the screen, a police uniform on a coat hanger.

She follows the clock hand at the opposite wall moving second by second.

She reads the a poster for crime prevention on the entry door.

She sits, wiggling her hair.

The clock on the wall again. The ticking gets louder and louder.

The noise of the entry door.

The reception room is deserted. The scenery leaves the impression that something important is missing.

10. INT. CLAIRE'S APPARTMENT / BEDROOM - NIGHT

Claire lies sleepless on her bed. She turns towards the bedside table. The clock radio shows 5:17. She gets up and leaves the bedroom.

11. INT. CLAIRE'S APPARTMENT / BATHROOM - NIGHT

Claire's face basted by a shower spray.

She makes up her face.

Powder on her cheeks, chin, forehead.

Eyeliner. Eyelash. Lipstick. She moves her lips to test.

She finds herself pretty.

## 12. INT. HIGH SCHOOL CORRIDORS - DAY

Claire follows the long corridors lit by pale neon lights. She is in a good mood. She greets the students and teachers she crosses.

## 13. INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

The bell is ringing. As usual, the students pass in front of Claire and enter slowly the classroom. But now, Claire welcomes them one by one. Stunned, they greet back. The last one sits down.

CLAIRe

Hallo everybody, I've prepared for U an exam about the definition and the characteristics of the novel.

Protest in the classroom. Cool-headed, she moves between the rows, distributing the photocopies of the exam.

The door opens. Anthony enters and walks wordless straight to his place.

CLAIRe

(returning slowly to her desk)  
Good morning Anthony, you're late. I don't accept you in my class. We have an exam today, which you may catch up tomorrow, if you wish.

ANTHONY

(catches her up at her desk)  
Fuck sake, I'm not late, the bell just finished ringing!!

Claire's hands clench on her briefcase.

CLAIRe

(calm and cool)  
Stop it now. It does not matter anyway.

ANTHONY

Stop your bad trip first, you prune.

Claire opens her briefcase and takes out the gun she has stolen at the police station, and points it on Anthony. She pulls the trigger, nothing happens. She watches the gun. Some students lough. She finds and unlocks the safety catch, points on Anthony and pulls the trigger again. Bang. Anthony collapses on himself like a potato sack.

Absolute silence. The classroom is like frozen.  
Jennifer sniffs.

CLAIRe

(softly)  
Jennifer...

Jennifer hides her face in her arms and starts sobbing. Other girls follow. Claire crouches behind Jennifer, caressing her blond hair to calm her down. Jennifer raises her head. The students behind observe her, petrified. Claire stands up slowly, points the gun into Jennifer's hair and fires in

her rear head. Jennifer's head falls forehead first on the desk. Blood extends under her head on the white paper of the exam.

Cries and tears.

CLAIRe

(yelling)

Silence!! If a single of you wimps makes a noise, I blow up his brainless shithead. Any comment?

Silence again. Laurie and Melody are sobbing. Claire stops in front of them, spreads slightly her legs like a killer, puts the canon of her gun on her lips and makes "hushhh". Then she points her gun down on Laurie, shoots in her forehead, directs it on Melody and fires in her unbelieving face. Starts a huge jostle. The students throw themselves under desks, or jump up to escape from Claire.

#### 14. INT. HIGH SCHOOL CORRIDORS - DAY

A elderly teacher hurries along the corridor, heckled by the noise. The sound of 2 shots. He puts his ear against a door. It's not the right one. 3 more shots. He continues slowly to localize the noise. 5 quick shots. The teacher fastens his path. He hears Claire yelling.

CLAIRe (V.O.)

OK, I'll leave now. The first I see come out behind me, I'll blast his face off. Got it?

Before the teacher reaches the door, it opens brutally. Claire comes out without paying attention to her colleague, closes the door and walks away, crossing the teacher. While walks away following the corridor, the teacher opens the door, puts his hand on his mouth and vomits. Claire turns round, shoots in his back and continues her way, while her colleague first wavers and then collapses.

#### 15. EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

Claire arrives at her car. She opens the door, throws her briefcase on the rear seat, sits behind the wheel, and puts the gun on the passenger seat.

#### 16. INT. CAR / HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

She puts her hands on the wheel. For a while she looks into the mirror. The school building behind the parking seems deserted. She breathes heavily. She opens the handbag on her knees. Slowly her hand grasps the gun on the passenger seat. She slips it carefully into her bag. Then she switches on the radio.

RADIO (V.O.)

"... and now the weather report with Marc Lauban. Today it will be another cold day for the season, Marc?" "Yes, indeed..."

## 17. INT. CLAIRE'S APPARTMENT / BEDROOM - NIGHT

The clock radio on the bedside table shows 6:30.

RADIO (V.O.)

"... after some rain in the north, heavy sky in  
the center, temperatures will hardly get over  
twelve, thirteen degrees even in the south..."

Claire's hand hits the radio to turn it off. She switches the light on. She is sweating.

## 18. INT. CLAIRE'S APPARTMENT / BATHROOM - NIGHT

Claire's face basted by a shower spray.

Make up on her face.

Eyeliner. Eyelash. Lipstick. She moves her lips to test.

## 19. INT. CAR / CITY STREETS - DAWN

Claire drives through dense morning traffic. Furtive impressions of shop windows, traffic lights, people in hurry.

She arrives in front of the high school.

## 20. INT. CAR / HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

Claire turns off the engine and bends towards the glovebox. She opens it and grasps a gun. She holds it in both hands and stares at it for a long while, before slipping it in her briefcase. She gets out the car and closes the door. Behind the windscreen we see her walking towards the high school.

CUT

ENDING CREDITS