




DARKEST KELLY

Witch, Brothel Keeper and the first Irish Serial Killer...

PITCH

WITCH



Based on real events & Irish folktale.

An Esoteric Period Drama about human condition, secrets and silent wars,
How the high classes that take over the underclass, torments and tears them apart
For their own beliefs.

INDEX:

Logline, Tone & Mood, Themes and Summary	1
Series Overview, Appealing, and Why	2
Synopsis	3
Visual References.....	4
Characters	5
TV Pilot and episodes.....	7
Further Seasons.....	8
Research: Real facts, Timeline.....	10
Potential Locations to shoot.....	12
Writer's Statement.....	15
Contact.....	16

[Full scripts sent separately]





LOGLINE:

A 18th-century mystic life-story of an unlovable pagan woman who thrives as a brothel keeper, in a politically unstable Ireland, threatened by death and secret societies.



TONE & MOOD:

THE WITCH (2015) meets TABOO, but with two strong female characters like ALIAS GRACE and HARLOTS, and a dark Sherlock-Holmes crime investigation like THE ALIENIST. A series that mixes paganism, Irish folklore & mythology, superstition, war, pride and love.



THEMES:

Social / Ethical: Is it right to sacrifice a few in the name of eternal-life knowledge to help the many?

Existential: If one could remember all past lives, what kind of person would one be? Is it evolution, or selfishness?



SUMMARY:

...A young woman raised as a pagan and forced to become a nun escapes the abbey to start a new journey as a brothel-keeper...

...An ex-noble who lost everything, lies in order to find a wealthy suitor, but thrives as a harlot instead...

...A conflicted man AND a naïve young priest must work out their differences when stumble in a murderer-investigation that leads into a satanic and powerful secret society... and the enemies are everywhere.

All against the background of a divided Ireland, with the “orange protestants” against the rebellion who fight against the Act of Law and the English influence.



WHY NOW?

This is a medieval real story that never was told, in a period and a country not exposed enough. A story that offers justice for all women who were hanged and burned as a witch, with a more realistic input about the old religion.

With the current after-pandemic situation we are living now, *Darkest Kelly* is the perfect escapism for the wide audience of *The Witcher*, with a more mature approach of fantasy/historical series such as *Vikings*, *Taboo* and *Outlander*, but with mainly strong-female cast and a dark twist. Besides, it is also current in its inclusive message intrinsic in isolated and lonely characters who come together towards a common goal.



SERIES APPEALING:

Puzzled structure, double-faced villains and Paranormal mixed with important historical figures such as: William the Orange, Jonathan Swift, the poet Laetitia, the pirates Anne Bonny and Mary Read, the Luttrell's, and other nobleman's, musicians, and real secret societies who will have a very important presence in the narrative.

Adding a historical meaning that makes it more attractive not only to the viewers eager for entertainment, romance and terror but also to an audience interested in a more cultured product that invites reflection.



OVERVIEW:

Darkest Kelly is a returnable TV drama based on true events and Irish folktales about Dorcas Stuart Kelly (Darkest Kelly), who was publicly hanged and burned in 1761 for being a witch, brothel keeper and the first Irish serial killer!

The series portrays real events and embellishes the Irish culture matched with a fast paced, thrilling murder mystery and fight for human rights.





SYNOPSIS:

In 1761, Ireland, a woman is accused of being a Witch, Brothel keeper and the first Irish serial killer.

This is her story!

A mixed of fiction with reality about an unlovable pagan woman who runs away from a prison-like nuns' abbey where she was being tormented, to start a new life in Dublin.

There she will engage in dangerous relationships, rise in nobility, start her own business as a brothel keeper and try to find and save other pagans from the scaffold, while the town is threatened by mysterious deaths during a tense period of political instability and Masonic secret societies, which members are rich, powerful and fanatic with the occult.

A sacrifice must be made. . .

Enemies are everywhere. Trust no one. . .

They're above the law and do not play by the rules...





CHARACTERS:



DORCAS KELLY (UNKNOWN – 1761)

From a nun to a witch and a brothel keeper serial killer!

A selfish, stubborn, intelligent and rebel girl who is in constant search for herself and determined to live a free and full life, while struggling with a traumatic past. Soon she will understand that life means nothing if we don't work for the good of others.

While she's climbing the ladder from being a wild and free pagan to a successful woman with her own business as a brothel keeper, she will witness cruelty, poverty, ignorance, pride, corruption but also love, straight and will share a friendship with people that came from all walks of life. As a young adult, she finds herself trapped in a forbidden love with the older man and married writer Jonathan Swift. Later, she will also engage in a dangerous relationship with the Sheriff Simon Luttrell that may cost her life.

Biography:

Dorcas Stuart Kelly was a real Irish witch, brothel keeper and serial killer who lived in Dublin and died in January 7th of 1761, partially hanged and burned at the stake for the murder of the shoemaker John Dowling on St. Patrick's Day. Investigators then found the bodies of five men hidden in the vaults of her brothel. Rumours has it that she became pregnant with the child of Sheriff Simon Luttrell, who was also a member of the Hellfire Club. She demanded economical support for the child and the Sheriff not only refused but also accused her of witchcraft, claiming that she killed their baby in a satanic ritual. The body of the child was never found.

...It is said that her ghost still haunts the city...